

**St. Petersburg College**  
**Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee Minutes**

**September 9 2014, 5:00 PM**

**EpiCenter, Room 1-326**

Present: Anne Ryan, Jackie Lang, Gail Ramsdell, Rosaria Pipitone, Deborah Smalbach, Yvonne Malague, Bonnie Fletcher, Angela Loring, Patty Lister, Mona Jackson, Janeel Shulmister, Danielle Jennings

Anne Ryan shared about the things happening with Full S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) Ahead and showed a slideshow of how this was implemented in Early Childhood Programs. There is a plan on putting kits together with materials to support S.T.E.A.M. in the classroom.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Anne Ryan welcomed those present. Each person introduced themselves and shared what agency they were associated with and their job title.

**Call to Order**

Yvonne Malague called the meeting to order.

**Read and Approve April 11, 2014 Minutes Meeting**

Patty Lister made a motion to approve the minutes; Deborah Smalbach seconded the motion. Motion to approve the April 11, 2014 minutes was passed.

**Old Business**

Innovation Grant follow-up - Materials and books available to centers for anyone who is interested. T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship funds are available to students

ECE Conference on April 26th - Was held at the Gibbs campus was a big success. Approximately 300 Early Childcare providers attended.

**New Business**

ECE/COE Classroom on Clearwater Campus NM 220 – NM 220 is the new area for Early Childhood Classes. Students are confused about going to a different campus. Committee was asked to share with Anne Ryan any questions or concerns students may have about what is happening on this campus.

Advising - There is confusion about how to attain the Staff Credential (formally known as CDA) and how EC Students want to pursue their career. Please call or send Anne Ryan an email about any questions or concerns students have. Students are doing both General Ed classes and attending Pinellas Technical College.

12 Credit Certificates - new Infant/Toddler course - The 12 credit certificate does not constitute the Staff Credential. This is for people who could not get through all the General Ed classes. It is a Specialization with an Infant/Toddler/Preschool focus (B-5 population). As soon as the four courses are finished, the certification is awarded. This will give students a sense of accomplishment in that they completed something.

Leepa-Rattner Exhibit - A reception will be held on September 12th at the Leepa-Rattner Museum representing Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead. A flyer was passed and the committee was encouraged to attend and pass out the flyer to their colleagues.

Hosted FCCECEN Statewide Meeting October 1-3 - At this meeting, SPC is hoping colleges will come together to share textbook ideas and to find out what other programs are doing. There are plans for discussions on issues across the state of the Early Childhood Degree. They will also be looking at pay ranges and the worthy wage campaign.

Pinellas AEYC Conference - This conference will be held January 24th at the Seminole Campus. There is a plan to have group meetings and breakout sessions.

### **Community Sharing**

Mona Jackson shared about the Advocate Meeting to be held October 14th. A flyer was handed out and committee members were asked to attend and to share the flyer with colleagues and asked to encourage them to attend. They are still working on getting candidates to attend. Go to the Facebook (Pinellas Advocates for Children and Families) page to keep updated.

Lew Williams doors are open. There will be a Head Start classroom for each age level. The one's and two's classrooms are full and there is still openings in the older classrooms. One month of professional development was offered to staff before the center was open. There is an application process for children to enroll. This will be a Lab School in the future which will allow childcare providers to observe, train and become a coach so they can help implement what they learn with their peers and their home center.

Pinellas AEYC Curriculum Fair is September 18th from 6:00 to 8:30 at the Lew Williams Site.

Early Head Start is hoping to add 23 new VPK sites in targeted ZIP code areas that will go year round. Sites now include R'Club, Building Blocks, and Lew Williams.

Florida AEYC Conference is October 23 - 25 in Orlando

### **Spring Meeting**

We will have our next meeting on April 10th at the Clearwater Campus of SPC (a meeting room will be determined). We want to get a Family Childcare Provider involved on this committee so if anyone knows someone who will want to join, please let Anne know.

Anne will send out an email once a month to update the committee so please send her any information you would like to be distributed.

### **Meeting adjourned**

At 6:00 p.m. Yvonne Malague made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned and it was seconded by Anne Ryan.