**Robeson County Partnership for Children, Inc. (RCPC)**



**Robeson County NC Pre-K Committee Meeting**

**August 13, 2019**

**RCPC Board Room**

**Immediately following the RCPC Board of Directors Meeting that begins at 12:00 PM**

**Approval of Minutes**

Review minutes from the April 9, 2019 committee meeting.

**Action Items**

1. **Tiny Tots Additional Classroom– NC Pre-K County/Regional Plan**

**Background:** The NC Pre-K Committee is responsible for approving the final plan for programming.

**Issue:** Tiny Tots currently has one approved classroom but has already collected enough applications to fill it and provide services for an additional 9 children through a second classroom (including a qualified teacher and necessary materials). DCDEE has confirmed that additional classrooms for existing sites can be approved if there is no waitlist of other approved sites without conducting the Site Selection Process.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Committee consider approving a second classroom for Tiny Tots.

1. **Robeson County NC Pre-K Site Terminations– NC Pre-K County/Regional Plan**

**Background:** The NC Pre-K Committee is responsible for approving the final plan for programming.

**Issue:** The 2018-2020 Plan that was approved included slots allocated to Green Grove Elementary, JC Hargrave Elementary & RB Dean Elementary. It was announced that due to school consolidation that these sites would no longer be operational.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Committee approve the removal of these three public school sites from the 2018-2020 Plan and consider reallocation of the slots (9 slots to Tiny Tots and the remaining to be redistributed among the other Title I classrooms.

1. **Annual Planning – NC Pre-K County/Regional Plan**

**Background:** As Contract Administrator for NC Pre-K, RCPC receives an annual budget to provide services and support administrative expenditures. Service delivery and slot allocations are dependent upon the budget which is aligned with community need.

**Issue:** As of August 6, 2019, there were 342 vacant slots totaling approximately $1,848,326. It is estimated that approximately 274 of the 342 slots will be filled. Over the past few years the NC Pre-K budget has reflected remaining funds at year end as a result of vacant slots and reduced teacher reimbursement rates. In years past, the NC Pre-K Committee has made one-time rate adjustments for Title I and Head Start to mediate the deficit caused by the vacant slots to begin the school year.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the committee review and consider approving a one-time rate adjustment for Title I (increase from $175 to $350) and Head Start (increase from $300 to $400) sites for the NC Pre-K County 2019-2020 school year.

1. **Rate Increase – NC Pre-K County/Regional Plan**

**Background:** The NC Pre-K Committee is responsible for approving the final plan for programming.

**Issue:** The General Assembly approved a rate increase of $13 (changing the base rate from $650 to $663 for qualified sites) for the 2019-2020 School Year for Private Sites. The intent of this increase is to:“increase the salaries of teachers working in child care centers as a means to address disparities in teacher salaries among teachers working in child care centers versus those working in public schools or Head Start centers”**.**

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Committee approve a new rate of $663 per slot for qualified Private Sites.

1. **Site Selection Sub-Committee Appointment**

**Background**: The NC Pre-K Committee is responsible for appointing a Site Selection Sub-Committee consisting of 3 or more non-conflicted members.

**Issue**: Site Selection will be re-opened for the 2020-2022 school years. A Site Selection Sub-Committee is necessary to complete the process. Contract Administrator has received expressed interest from Rhonda Dial, Debra Graham, Sandy Jones & Marie Clark to serve on the Site Selection Sub-Committee.

**Recommendation**: It is recommended that the Committee appoint a Site Selection Sub-Committee of no less than 3 non-conflicted members, to include Rhonda Dial, Debra Graham, Sandy Jones & Marie Clark, at minimum.

1. **Site Selection Application Requirements**

**Background**: The NC Pre-K Committee is responsible for determining whether currently funded sites are required to re-apply during each Site Selection process.

**Issue**: Site Selection will be re-opened for the 2020-2022 school years. Guidance is necessary for the Contract Administrator to facilitate the process and for the Site Selection Sub-Committee to complete it.

**Recommendation**: It is recommended that the Committee consider requiring only new or terminated sites to apply during the Site Selection process.

1. **Additional Locally Determined Indicators – Site Selection Application**

**Background**: The Site-Selection Sub-Committee has the opportunity to assign up to 8 additional points to the scoring Rubric during the Site Selection Process. These must be approved and used consistently across all applications.

**Issue**: In the last Site Selection Process, the additional 8 points were utilized in the following way: Materials Available (2 points), Cleanliness (2 points), Staff Interaction (2 points) and Playground (2 points).

**Recommendation**: It is recommended that the Committee discuss and consider approving options for the additional points.

**Non-Action Items**

1. NC Pre-K Scorecard – Rhiannon Chavis-Wanson
2. Community & Recruitment Update – Rhiannon Chavis-Wanson
3. ECERS Update – Rhiannon Chavis-Wanson
4. Placement Update – Rhiannon Chavis-Wanson
5. Site Updates – Rhiannon Chavis-Wanson
6. Year to Date Financial Report – Rhiannon Chavis-Wanson

**Next Meeting Date:** The next committee meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2019 upon the adjournment of the Smart Start Board of Directors Meeting.

**Adjournment**