



Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council (BBF SAC)
Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2016 12:00-4:00
600 Blair Park
Williston, VT 05495

Present: Eddie Gale, Ben Allen, Betsy Rathbun-Gunn, Breena Holmes, Kim Keiser, Stacy Weinberger, Reeva Murphy, Charlie Biss, Aly Richards, Julie Cadwallader-Staub, Ben Allen

By phone: Robin Stromgren, Peg Bolgioni, Dawn Powers, Steve Ames

Absent: David Zuckerman, Kevin Mullin, Pat Moulton, Maleka Clarke, David Young, Kim Coe, Kristin Mason, Stephanie Winters

Community Partners/Guests: Matt Levin, Bethany Hale, Ann Dillenbeck, Amy Bolger, Laurie Hayford-Saborowski, Dr. Helene Clark

Staff: Molly Lambert, Katie Mobbs, Karen Conner, Deb McLaughlin, Cynthia Greene, Beth Truzansky, Becky Raymond, Thom Firlik, Chad Simmons, Martha Braithwaite, Ellen Taetzsch, Robin Stromgren, Dawn Powers, Peg Bolgioni, Dana Anderson, Sarah Buxton

Call to Order and Welcome

Eddie Gale called the meeting to order at 12:11pm and welcomed all in attendance.

2016 Legislative Agenda by Matt Levin

Matt Levin gave a brief update of 2016 Legislative agenda items.

Consent Agenda

The Board passed the minutes from November 23, 2015; Stacy Weinberger made a motion to accept with a second by Ben Allen.

Co-Chair Nomination

Eddie Gale on behalf of the Executive Committee proposed that Betsy Rathbun-Gunn, representing the private sector and Reeva Murphy, representing the public sector be placed into nomination for a one year term as Co-Chairs ending January of 2017.

Julie Cadwallader-Staub made a motion to accept with a second by Aly Richards. The Board passed unanimously.

Observations and priorities for next three months by Molly Lambert

Molly reviewed her top three priorities to focus on in her brief three month tenure with BBF:

1. Fill open positions on the State Advisory Council that will provide strong leadership during this transition period.
2. Develop and secure support from the Advisory Council for a sustainability plan for BBF that will lead to a group of 23 Ambassadors (State Council Membership) working in concert with BBF to achieve its mission.
3. Conduct a successful search for the permanent BBF Executive Director- the position will be reposted on 1/26/16 and both the search and interview committees will be developed in the next week



Data Asset and Gap Analysis Proposal by Ben Allen & Ann Dillebeck, BBF Data and Evaluation Committee

Ann Dillenbeck and Ben Allen reviewed the proposed procedural process as written by members of the BBF Data & Evaluation Committee:

Step 1: BBF SAC Data and Evaluation Committee members, with the BBF SAC Executive Director, consider Mind the Gap report topics and consults with relevant governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in collaboration with BBF SAC Vermont Insights staff.

Step 2: BBF SAC Vermont Insights staff write a proposal in collaboration with BBF SAC Data and Evaluation Committee Co-Chairs and committee members.

Step 3: BBF SAC Data and Evaluation Committee members review and provide feedback on the draft proposal.

Step 4: BBF SAC Data and Evaluation Committee members agree to approve the proposal and recommend its presentation to the BBF SAC for its consideration.

Step 5: BBF SAC Data and Evaluation Committee approve the proposal and recommend its presentation to the BBF SAC for its consideration at a BBF SAC meeting.

Step 6: BBF SAC Data and Evaluation Committee Co-Chairs present the proposal to the BBF SAC to consider whether the BBF SAC should approve BBF SAC Vermont Insights staff to produce the report. The BBF SAC can either:

- a) Approve the report's production with instructions,
- b) Send the report back to the committee with instructions for further work, or
- c) Vote against the report's production with an explanation.

This proposed procedural process was unanimously approved by the Council.

Recommendations from Early Learning & Development Committee by Cynthia Greene

Action Plan Committee- Early Learning and Development

At the January 14, 2016 ELD Committee meeting, the group outlined a preliminary scope of work, prioritizing three promising research topics, identified six core work group participants including a chair person and determined several resources this work-group will need in order to carry out the request of the State Advisory Council. Those were identified in a handout provided by Cynthia Greene and discussed in full; they can be found on our website.

The resources identified to complete this work:

1. Paid research consultant- preliminary investigation suggests approximately 60 hours of work within the determined timeline to include research, report writing, meeting and presentation attendance at an approximate rate of \$75/hour or ~ \$5,000.00
2. Access to state agency personnel who lead or are informed about work related to this topic
3. State Council membership and connections to those who lead or are informed about work related to this topic
4. Agenda time at the July and September 2016 State Council meetings

State Council Ask:



In order for the Early Learning and Development Committee and its Teacher Compensation ad-hoc work group to accomplish the duties as outlined in the preliminary scope of work to be done, the committee requests that the State Council address the resource needs and commits to resourcing this work.

Rich discussion ensued among Council members. Several questions surfaced related to the scope of this work and the intersection/relation of this focused “research” to other research endeavors (primarily the Blue Ribbon Commission work).

Cynthia and Reeva described the efforts as complimentary sighting that this ELD ad-hoc workgroup would be investigating specific practices currently implemented in other regions of the country to improve teacher compensation. This research could include if/how those practices might be implemented in Vermont and or augmented for success under Vermont specific conditions. The Blue Ribbon Commission work is much broader, looking at the myriad of components which support high quality care and then costing those components out for Vermont. While teacher compensation will likely be one of those quality support components, the BRC will be costing teacher compensation out as a whole component, it will not be investigating specific avenues to improve teacher compensation within the Vermont system. Certainly Vermont specific data should be used as foundational research information for both groups and as such, sharing that grounding information is important. The work of the two groups however is focused on different aspects of teacher compensation and as such, very complimentary. In addition, the timelines for these two projects line up very well together and could together potentially inform inter-agency and/or legislative policy.

Ben Allen made a motion to accept the proposal subsequent to finding funding for the researcher requested. Julie Cadwallader-Staub seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Action: SAC and/or Executive committee to provide input on funding ideas for ELD ad-hoc workgroup research support.

At 2pm the meeting was turned over to the Race to the Top- Early Learning Challenge Grant Council for overview of Regional Action Plans and the ActKnowledge Report.

**Next Meeting- Monday March 28th 12-4:00pm
600 Blair Park, Suite 305**

Williston, VT