



**Partnership for a Greater Salt Lake: EARLY EDUCATION**

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**NOTES**

**Meeting Summary**

- We agreed on the population-level outcome of “Salt Lake County children are ready for Kindergarten.”
- We discussed using two existing population-level indicators for initial baselines: 1) the school district’s K-readiness assessments and 2) number of children enrolled in preschool
- We discussed the Superintendent Association goal to draft an optional common K-readiness assessment for all Districts statewide
- We brainstormed key elements for our Pre-K model and learned about other cities’ models

**Participants:**

Angela Ward (Parents as Teachers); Ari Bruening (Envision Utah); Audrey Powell (Salt Lake District); Bill Crim (United Way of Salt Lake); Brenda Van Gorder (Granite District); Carolyn Christensen (Utah Department of Health); Debbie Ballard (Jordan District); Erin Trenbeath-Murray (Utah Community Action); Martha Kupferschmidt (Murray District); Sara Peters (Sorenson Impact Center); Nyssa Fleig (SLCo Library); Justin Jones (Salt Lake Chamber / P2020 / Education First); Pat Marino (Lit’l Scholars); Richard West (YMCA); Robyn Giovacchini (Salt Lake District); Ruth Watkins (University of Utah); Melissa Bowe (Utah State Board of Education); Sara Wiebke (Utah State Board of Education); Terri Mitchell (Canyons District); Tracy Gruber (DWS); Will Toaspern (Parents as Teachers); Elizabeth Garbe (United Way of Salt Lake); Lori Bays (SLCo Mayor’s Office)

**I. Review and Updates**

Last meeting we:

1. reviewed the overall PGSL approach and timeline
2. agreed on our population, low-income 0-5 year-olds in SLCo
3. discussed how our immediate goals are to agree on an outcome and indicators
4. identified 5 new potential members

Since the last meeting we have:

1. Invited new stakeholders to the group (Teresa Whiting, Jeremy Keele, Audrey Stevenson, YMCA)
2. Discussed and defined a proposed outcome
3. Discussed and defined proposed initial indicators
4. Conducted research around a pre-k model

**II. Finalizing the Outcome**

The group voted to select the following population-level outcome statement: Children in Salt Lake County are ready for Kindergarten

### **III. Core population-level indicators**

- The group discussed the difference between population level indicators (measuring changes in community-wide trends) and program evaluation indicators, which would be measured only for the children participating in our program.
- We discussed the State Early Childhood Core Standards that help define “Kindergarten ready.”
- We discussed starting with available data on the following two population level indicators:
  1. Children are Kindergarten ready as measured by school districts’ K-ready assessment.
  2. The number and percent of 3 and 4 year olds enrolled in preschool.
- K-Ready Assessment: Currently, each district uses their own assessment. Justin Jones discussed a new conversation requested by the Superintendent Association to invite a small group of kindergarten teachers and assessment directors to draft an optional statewide K-ready screener/assessment this summer. The draft will be presented to the Superintendent Association and finalized in mid-August. The Core Standards will be included in the discussion.

### **IV. Pre-K Models and Priority Elements**

- The group discussed the following elements they would like to see in a Salt Lake County pre-K program
  - Serves children up to 200% of the FPL
  - Clear quality measures.
  - Quality assessment framework to evaluation long-term outcomes.
  - Many provider options, neighborhood based, in every elementary school
  - Sliding fee to accommodate higher income levels and ensure a diverse population
  - Family engagement / 2 generation approach. Family resource facilitator-like resources for case management.
  - Sufficient investment to ensure high quality over time
  - High teacher wages to attract highly qualified teachers
  - Broad curriculum that encompasses social-emotional aspects, trauma-informed
  - Education for parents
  - Serves both 3 and 4 year olds
  - Phased in – start small and ramp it up over time
- Ruth presented on several pre-k programs in other states (see handout)
- Elizabeth Garbe and Justin Jones presented on HB96 and SB101. The group discussed how these bills could offer a starting point for our work. We discussed the difficulty for providers and families if the Salt Lake County program differs greatly from current state programs. We will want to adopt as many elements of the bills as possible, while considering areas of improvement.

### **V. Next meeting: Tuesday, August 9, 3:00-5:00 pm, Salt Lake County Government building, South Building, 1st floor, Room S1-120 (same room as today’s meeting)**