



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

Tuesday, August 9, 2016

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**NOTES**

**Meeting Summary**

- We were updated on work done since we last met, including P2020’s effort around designing a common Kindergarten readiness assessment
- We agreed to use the state’s definition of quality, as outlined in HB96 and SB101
- We agreed on several additional elements for our Pre-K model

**Participants**

Audrey Powell (Salt Lake City School District); Audrey Stevenson (SLCo Health Department); Betsy Sutherland (Utah State Board of Education); Bill Crim (United Way of Salt Lake); Brenda Van Gorder (Granite School District); Carolyn Christensen (Utah Department of Health); Christian Gardner (The Gardner Company); Debbie Ballard (Jordan School District); Jennifer Throndsen (Utah State Board of Education); Jim Cooper (SLCo Library); Justin Jones (Salt Lake Chamber / P2020 / Education First); Lindsey Romero (Murray School District); Melissa Bowe (Utah State Board of Education); Pat Marino (Lit’l Scholars); Patti Mazzoni (Utah Community Action); Richard West (YMCA); Robyn Giovacchini (Salt Lake City School District); Ruth Watkins (University of Utah); Sara Peters (Sorenson Impact Center); Steve Peterson (LDS Church); Terri Mitchell (Canyons District); Tess Davis (Voices for Utah Children); Tracy Gruber (DWS); Will Toasperm (Parents as Teachers); Lori Bays (SLCo Mayor’s Office); Kimi Barnett (SLCo Mayor’s Office); Robin Chalhoub (SLCo Human Services)

**I. Review and Updates**

- a. P2020’s K-Ready Assessment (Justin Jones). Presentation attached.
  - P2020 was charged with creating a statewide education plan. Early education emerged as a starting point. As presented in our July meeting, on July 25-26, P2020 asked district superintendents to appoint educators to develop a beginning of the year K-ready assessment based on Utah’s early childhood core standards.
  - Results: 20 question K-ready assessment, which takes approximately 17 minutes to administer.
  - The group is aiming to pilot the assessment this year with a goal of scaling over time. Each district’s Superintendent will make that decision.
  - A draft administrative manual will be finalized this week and will be sent to superintendents.
  - Questions from the group covered the following points:
    - Will the assessment be available in multiple languages?
    - Is a home-grown assessment better than a nationally tested one?
    - If only certain districts do it, we won’t be better off than we are now. How can we ensure more widespread adoption?
  - Bill spoke about our window of opportunity in Utah around Pre-K and to keep moving the work forward, even if not perfect.
  - There was a request for P2020 to hold an information session for folks to better understand the work.

- b. Promise Partnership Regional Council Pre-K committee (Bill). This conversation is not duplicating our work, but is using a traditional business planning process to answer some basic questions.
- c. The U's early childhood September convening (Ruth). Monday, September 26, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, University Guest House. No registration cost, but please RSVP.

## **II. What-Already-Exists Committee**

A sub-committee started listing the various frameworks and tools already being used for high quality pre-K in Utah. We started a google document. Caroline will share that document with the Steering Committee. Please add to the document as needed.

## **III. Existing Quality Elements**

The steering committee wants to be sure we are not recreating any wheels around areas that already have widespread agreement. Towards that end, the group adopted the quality elements outlined in HB96 and SB101 as the basis of our Salt Lake County pre-k model. See handout.

## **IV. Salt Lake County's Pre-K Model**

We broke up into small groups to review what other program elements we agree on.

- The program should take place in multiple settings.
- It should be accessible to all students. Free to students below 200% FPL and sliding fee scale for others.
- It should be for both 3 and 4 year olds. Depending on several factors, we may need to focus on certain populations (age? Geography-based? Poverty level?) for starters.
- Length of day: 3 hours with optional extended daycare
- Wraparound: There should at least be a system for referrals to basic need and other support services for parents and children
- We need to pull data together to better understand the need and our current capacity. The PPRC will be working on this with Tracy (DWS), Jennifer (USB), Sarah (Policy Lab), Tess (Voices), Elizabeth (United Way), and Caroline (SLCo). Ruth can also help us connect with Pam Perlich.

## **V. Next meeting: Tuesday, September 13, 3:00-5:00 pm, Salt Lake County Government building, South Building, 1st floor, Room S1-120 (same room as August's meeting)**