

Kids' Corps, Inc.  
Board and Policy Council Combined Meeting Minutes  
January 27, 2020

<b>Board Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>
Suzanne Whittle, President BOD	Nichole Rowland
Kimberly Ball, VP/Sec.	Lisa Wilson
Lori Xiong	
Rachel Boudreau	
<b>PC members present</b>	<b>PC members absent</b>
Brittany Pickens, Pres. PC (Also BOD member)	Tasi Sablan, excused
Rhonda Drake, VP	Jose Luna-Pagan, excused
Kaya Avila, Sec PC	ZamZam Landau
Noreen White	Ashley Willis, excused
Josh Dahl	Pili Kane
Caitlyn Thompson	Shawna Bailey
Tawnya Palmer	Salsabil Amri
Jessica Beach	
Guests:	
Lani Fesuluai, (Lagimauga) WC	
Staff Present:	
Dirk Shumaker, Executive Director	
Ronnie Brown, FES	

Meeting called to order at 6:14pm by Suzanne Whittle, President of Board of Directors. Quorum for board present, quorum for PC not present.

Introductions made and welcome of new parents. Teambuilding activity.

**Program Goals and Progress report:**

Dirk reviewed key program goal outcome data, including CLASS scores and attendance. PC and board members discussed the reasons why good attendance is important, identified barriers to attendance that families can encounter and suggested solutions, such as gas vouchers to defray the cost of transportation. Another brought up dropping children and replacing with another when a child was absent a lot over several months. It was noted that this is typically what happens unless family in crisis or has other unusual issues to consider.

**State Funding Allocation Change:**

Dirk presented the Department of Education and Early Development's (DEED) plan to reallocate state grant funds in FY 21, which starts July 1, 2020. The reallocation formula would reduce KCI's state Head Start annual grant by \$350 to \$375 thousand dollars per year. We have known that DEED was planning this change at the request of the legislature and that this change would result in a reduction in state funding for KCI. (Some other grantees will experience an increase in state funding). However, we did not know what the change would be until DEED released their plan shortly before Christmas.

Board and PC members discussed the impact of this funding change. Dirk reported that KCI is currently in a strong financial position and we will have time to adjust. However, we need to start planning now. Management will bring a list of possible responses to our next meeting. Members asked what happens if a grantee does not spend all of its state grant? Dirk explained that this is not a common occurrence because grantees can't "roll" their funding over from one year to the next. Discussion about the leases at Mt. View center, which expires on June 30. Management will review the possibilities and bring options for members to discuss at next month's meetings.

The Governor and a group of legislators are creating a comprehensive statewide K-3 reading program designed to improve reading outcomes. Part of this plan is a large expansion in the state pre-k program. No details about expected enrollment or funding is available at this time. A bill will be released during the first week of session that might answer some of the questions. KCI and Head Starts around state will be watching closely to see how grantees will play a role in expanding pre-K. With more state pre-k funding available for school districts it is likely that future growth for Head Start programs will be in Early Head Start birth to 3 year old services.

Dirk presented OHS grant applications for disaster relief funding to reimburse us for expenses related to the November 30, 2018 earthquake and for funding to renovate the current EHS classroom. The first application is for \$6,393 to reimburse KCI for the East phone server that was burned out by a power surge during the earthquake. The second is for \$70,000 to remove non-load bearing walls in order to open the EHS classroom into a space where children and staff can gather together during an emergency. He noted that our application will include a request for a waiver of our non – federal share match requirement due to the loss of state funds created by the funding reallocation discussed earlier in the meeting. The total match for both projects is \$19, 098.25 Rhonda motioned to apply for the grant with the match waiver, Noreen seconded. Motion approved by both BOD and PC.

#### **Strategic Plan:**

Dirk and Suzanne talked about meeting sometime separate from PC meeting to do strategic planning. They feel it would take about 4 hours or so, looking for best day and time. Discussion open to floor, many suggestions, barriers for weekdays, Saturdays, etc. Most members agreed that a Sunday afternoon from 1-5pm would work best. Looking at April 26<sup>th</sup> from 1-5. Ronnie will send out email to request input from rest of PC members. Will have food and childcare.

#### **PC Advocacy in February:**

Dirk and Ronnie talked about getting parent stories at the February PCM's. Have paper available for the families to write out stories right then and take a selfie with child and email to Ronnie or Dirk for taking to Juneau to show legislators how much Head Start mean to them. The selfie and story will go on face book so there is also a media form for them to sign. If time permits, a slide show will be developed for the Head Start web site. Parents liked the idea of selfies and written stories instead of video. Ronnie explained that it would work best if the members wrote their stories and took selfies to show the way for other parents.

#### **Seat new members:**

Ronnie asked if any of the new parents at meeting wanted to be seated to the PC. She explained that they would get to help plan their PCM's and café's, tell the parents a little of what was discussed at PC meeting (would have minutes to review). Tawnya Palmer and Jessica Beach from Mt. View along with Caitlin Thompson from Willow Crest agreed to be seated. Rhonda motioned and Brittany seconded to seat the new members. Motion approved. Loni wanted to think about it and will get to us. Due to lack of quorum, Ronnie contacted Tasi and Jose whom both approved the motion to seat.

Personnel Policy Change- travel on a holiday – tabled due to lack of time available  
Health and Nutrition Coordinator wage scale – tabled  
COLA and wage scale priorities – tabled

Respectfully submitted by,

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Kaya Avila, Secretary