

Present: Christine Phillips, Mark Witty, Charissa Moulton, Brittany Finley, Preslie Webb, Peggy Yarbor, Jane Parks, Robert Waltenburg, Shannon Criss, Brenda Englebretson, Trey Thompson, Patti Wright, and Donna Schnitker.

Guest: Amber Weller from the Burn Paiute Tribe and Ronda Masson OPEC Coordinator

Absent: Diane Teeman, Sharon Davis, Patty Dorroh, Teresa Aasness, Mika Ray, Courtney McMullen, Rhonda McCumber, Elise Adams.

Call to Order By Donna Schnitker	11:08 AM
Welcome & Purpose of meeting:	Guests and members were welcomed.
Introductions	Each Community partner introduced themselves and noted the agency and capacity they hold.
Welcome new member	Trey Thompson (in attendance) replaces Jessica Winegar as the Health representative from Grant County Donna: The board is made up of community partners who volunteer to oversee the work of the Frontier Early Learning Hub, the Oregon Parent Education Collaborative, and Child Care Resource and Referral.
Donna: Training on governance board duties.	This board oversees Frontier EL HUB, CCR&R, & OPEC
Handouts: Updated Board Roster and bylaws, individual MOUs to each attending member.	MOUs were distributed and signed by board member. They will be good for 2 years.
Bylaws reviewed: Change made to bylaw document:	By laws were reviewed and discussed, one change was made to Section VII Nepotism section. It will read as follows: Governance Board members who have an immediate family member employed by the Frontier Early Learning System will abstain from voting on issues regarding that person or their program.
Vote to make changes or ratify bylaws	A motion was made by Shannon Criss to

<p>Donna: Overview of Build Initiative</p> <p>“As budgets get tighter, we need to define what our essential functions are.”</p> <p>Overarching goals identified:</p> <p>All Hubs will be held to the new rules that come from this process.</p> <p>Robert asked, if there was a awareness at DELC of how HUBs were the work and reaching outcomes?</p> <p>a lot of state dollars spent to hire out of state companies to facilitate or consult on programs.</p>	<p>approve the by laws with the above-mentioned change. Mark Witty seconded. All approved. Motion carried.</p> <p>A company was hired by DELC to facilitate a process to clarify duties of Early Learning Hubs.</p> <p>Hubs will create an Early Childhood System by being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conveners of community partners to identify strengths and gaps in services in our region. And to define expectations for quality preschools and programs that promote kindergarten readiness. • Connectors to promote collaboration between the Early Learning and K-12 systems. • Capacity Builders to build an Early Childhood System in our region that meets the needs of our families and children. <p>DELC has experienced a lot of turnover, and with these definitions in place all HUBS will have consistent messaging and outcomes.</p>
<p>Peggy: CCR&R</p> <p>Handout: to members outlining history of CCR&R</p> <p>Preslie Webb was introduced as the PSP Coach, she provides assistance to Dayville Long Creek, Monument, Humbolt, and Prairie City school districts</p>	<p>Mission of CCR&R is to build the supply of childcare by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruiting new providers • Retention of existing providers <p>By providing TA supports, educational training, and supporting PSP grantees.</p> <p>Her duties: Evaluating classroom environments Modeling teaching strategies to teachers Quality improvement Training offered to preschool and childcare</p>

<p>with Preschool Promise programs.</p> <p>Group discussion about the upcoming Suspension and Expulsion Rule coming into effect 2026.</p> <p>Discussion on how this would work in our remote area.</p> <p>New CCR&R Staff:</p> <p>Question was asked about clarifying what a non-licensed provider is?</p>	<p>providers either face to face or online.</p> <p>Support specialist will respond to challenging behaviors in the classrooms via a regional service center.</p> <p>CCR&R staff inclusion specialist can offer support.</p> <p>Current numbers of providers in each county were discussed. Two positions were filled in Grant County Stephanie Thompson Infant Toddler Specialist Shyanne Winters Inclusion Specialist/Parent Provider Specialist</p> <p>Peggy explained that they were providers in school districts that did not have to be licensed.</p>
<p>Patti: OPEC RFA</p> <p>Introduce Ronda Masson</p> <p>Changes to RFA and Funding</p> <p>Frontier OPEC Hub collaborates with partners (Symmetry Care & Families First) to provide quality parent education programming in our region.</p> <p>Work Plan Highlights</p>	<p>OPEC staff has just completed an application and been awarded funding for the program for the next two years.</p> <p>Ronda is the OPEC coordinator she has done a great job of organizing our parent education programs and working with community partners.</p> <p>4 philanthropic organizations used to make up the OPEC initiative: Oregon Community Foundation Ford Family Foundation Meyer Memorial Trust The Collins Foundation State funding from DELC, OHA, ODHS, now will combine with OPEC to sustain funding for parent education programs throughout the State. Each of these funding streams has different requirements for their funds. We now have the ability to serve families of children ages 0-18 years of age.</p> <p>A copy of the OPEC Hubs work plan and narrative questions from the application were</p>

<p>Q & A and discussion.</p>	<p>given to board members. They are asked to review and provide input.</p> <p>The group discussion yielded possible new partners for collaboration. School counselors in or region that are on site in school districts. Possible work with the Tribe with supporting the POW WOW at the Tribe. Patti and Ronda will make inquiries.</p>
<p>Community partner Updates</p> <p>The group discussed the foster care shortage issue and came up with a few ideas for recruitment. CCR&R, OPEC and the Hub offered to post recruitment information on the social media sites. Chris will send the information to be posted.</p>	<p>Brittany Finley Intermountain ESD EI/ECSE: 25 students are receiving EI/ECSE services in Grant County. This is a increase from last year.</p> <p>Mark Witty Superintendent Grant SD: A facilitator has been hired to develop next steps from the childhood center committee for the purpose of bringing the project forward. 1.45-million-dollar grant will allow for the purchase of the building to house the project. Budget deadline for the grant is March 14th.</p> <p>Trey Thompson Health Dept.: I would like public health to be a part of Early Childhood conversations.</p> <p>Robert Waltenburg Grant ESD: Having bylaws is important for our Governance Board, for liability reasons. Chris Phillips agreed and discussed a situation happening in the Nyssa/Ontario area.</p> <p>Amber Weller: The Burns Paiute Tribe has been awarded a Preschool Promise Grant. The Frontier Hub Coordinated Enrollment Specialist could offer assistance if needed.</p> <p>Chris Phillips DHS: DHS is understaffed in both grant and Harney County. A new supervisor has been hired in Harney, Sara Cole who has been a caseworker for 10 years. For the first time in 20 years Grant County has more kids in foster care than Harney. When asked what this is attributed to, Chris said “there are a lot of different families hiding there.” Lack</p>

<p>Group discussion about the closure of the UMC Head Start program in Grant County</p>	<p>of foster care homes has caused children to be placed in Malheur and Harney Counties.</p> <p>Possible reasons for closure identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of staffing • ½ day of services • Distance of administration from the site • 13 children were receiving services when they closed • 3 of those children were in EI/ECSE • No consistency in the program • Grant County and Umatilla County have different cultures <p>Possible solutions: When we visited other Early Learning Centers in Eastern Oregon, we observed Head Start integrated with other programs such as Preschool Promise or EI/ECSE. Group consensus was that the Head Start program is needed in Grant County.</p>
<p>Next meetings</p> <p>Patti will send out dates in June for the next meeting.</p>	<p>We will need to meet</p> <p>June</p> <p>September</p> <p>December</p>
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>1:50 PM</p>