

Kids Central Incorporated Policy Council Meeting August 12, 2009

The Policy Council of Kids Central Incorporated met on August 12, 2009 at the Kids Central Administration office. Bethany Renfro, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

Present: Fred Luntsford, Bethany Renfro, Dee Strouth, Lisa Cantrell, and Deanna Dingus

Staff present: Darrell Edwards, Lisa Barton, and Sandra Harvey

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting (June) were presented. **Deanna Dingus made a motion to accept the minutes. Lisa Cantrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

BOARD REPORT

A Board Report was not given at today's meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Darrell Edwards reported that the Head Start ECLKC (Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center) website was submitted a question regarding whether federal funds could be used for promotions for the parents who attend meetings, etc., as we do with the KCI bucks. The answer was no. Darrell stated that the senior staff will propose to the Board of Directors to continue the KCI buck program because it is becoming very successful with parent involvement. This past year, 5,200 KCI bucks were issued and over 4,000 were redeemed.

Lisa Barton stated that as long as the money is spent within the cost principles guidelines, it should be okay. KCI bucks are given for all volunteers within the program as per the stated guidelines of the program.

This year, parent meetings will be handled through the Family Advocates. We are hoping this will increase the number of parents who attended these meetings. Center based meetings are very important because they deal with issues pertaining directly to that center.

STAFF REPORTS

Finance: While in discussions with Rural Development on an unrelated matter, Lisa Barton was informed that Rural Development had a grant available that we qualify for. The grant is for \$50,000 (\$25,000 each for Wise and Dickenson Counties). We plan to purchase two buses with this money. We will have to match the grant in order to purchase the buses but this can be done with money that is in the budget.

Education: Darrell announced that all of our centers now have a hatch computer. We are now using the Houghton Mifflin curriculum in every center and this year it includes a math component.

Transportation/Enrollment: Darrell stated that we are fully enrolled and are continuing to accept applications. We do have a waiting list for some centers.

We have requested new buses within the one-time funds grant application. We are in need of new buses. It will probably be October before we received a reply on our grant application.

Nutrition: Darrell reported that Mary Collins has updated all menus for the upcoming school year. We have added some new items to the menu such as hot dogs, peanut butter and corn dogs. We will no longer serve mayonnaise or coleslaw. All menus will be on a fifteen (15) day cycle, and this year we will be able to be reimbursed for all Head Start children.

FINANCE REPORT FOR POLICY COUNCIL

Lisa Barton reported that the Policy Council account had a balance of approximately \$500 and she as deposited more money into the account.

OLD BUSINESS

Early Head Start Expansion Grant Application: We do not have any information regarding the EHS expansion grant application. We should be hearing from the Regional Office sometime in September.

One-Time Funds Grant Application: In this application we asked for buses, cars, refrigerators, computers, a refrigerator/freezer unit for the central stores and a new \$8.4 million building. At this time, we have not received any information regarding this application.

NEW BUSINESS

Kasey's Academy: Kasey's Academy is a program that starts with the new school year. It is geared toward four-year old children. It is an incentive for four-year olds to attend Kids Central instead of enrolling in Pre-K. Children in this program will be attended some major field trips such as to the Knoxville Zoo and Ripley's Aquarium.

New Hires: Darrell reported the following new hires and transfer:

- Amber Mullins – Lead Caregiver at Esserville EHS (promoted from Substitute)
- Junior Rose – Classroom Assistant/Cook/Housekeeper at Wise (transferred from Ramsey and from part-year to full-year)
- Delena Bentley – Classroom Assistant/Cook/Housekeeper at Appalachia (transferred from Wise)
- Daniel Amos – Classroom Assistant at Hawthorne
- Angela Fee – Early Head Start Caregiver at Esserville Early Head Start
- Ashton Maggard – Substitute
- Regina Large – Classroom Assistant/Cook/Housekeeper at Ramsey
- Jennifer Shastid – Classroom Teacher at Pound
- Shelia Baker – Classroom Assistant at Coeburn II
- Brigitte Sturgill – Bus Monitor at Hawthorne and Ramsey

- Jerri Horton – Bus Driver at Powell Valley Blended Classroom
- Brigette Sturgill – Bus Monitor at Hawthorne and Ramsey

Dee Strouth made a motion to approve the above listed new hires and transfer. Lisa Cantrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMENTS

Fred Luntsford commented that the new floor looks very good but it is buckling. Darrell explained that there was a water leak from the laundry room that damaged the floor. It is being repaired.

Darrell wanted to thank everyone for coming to the meeting today. He stated that September is going to be an important meeting and we really need the attendance.

NEXT MEETING

The next Policy Council meeting will be held September 9, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at the Administration Office.

The next executive meeting will be held August 25, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Office.

With no further business or discussion, **Dee Strouth made a motion to adjourn. Lisa Cantrell seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Dee Strouth, Secretary

Sandra Harvey, Recording Secretary