

**VEL Board of Representatives Meeting- Minutes**

**January 14, 2016**

ESD 113 – Thurston

(Conference call in via the K-20 system. 206.732.9411)

**In attendance: Holly Porter, Erin Schreiber, Kim Smith, Chris Moon, Diane Crabtree, Bonnie Peterson, Kim Shorten, Rene Toolson, Jane Partridge, Crist Heitschmidt, Dan Teuteberg. Via K-20, Amy Nelson, Jenny Penoyar, Princess Klus, Jodi Wall**

***The mission of Visions for Early Learning; West Central Regional Coalition, is to promote partnerships and community connections that support early learning.***

- 1) Opening Activity, *introductions*
- 2) Reports & Updates – *(See reports at the end of this document)*
  - a) Infant-Toddler Program (Kim) – *Kim provided project update*
  - b) Early Achievers/Block Fest, (Jodi, Rene/Kim) – *Kim provided Block Fest update for use of FY15 CMG funds, funding 9 different events covering all counties. County events were different but all included community partners.*
    - i) *Rene provided brief Early Achievers report, Early Start Act implementation, gearing up to receive newly enrolled mandated licensed providers. Anticipating doubling case-load. Passed out flyer for MLK Skill Share on MLK day. Monday, January 18.*
    - ii) *Jodi—Early Achiever update: encourage mandated providers to join now. Anticipating new EA. Encourage looking at Early Start Act report.*
  - c) VEL (Jane) (see packet)
    - i) Register for [Raising of America Film Screening](#), KCBC/DEL/VEL, Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2016,
      - (1) *Successful event was held*
    - ii) Standards Alignment Convenings: TBD
      - (1) *Anticipating event in March/April, likely to be rescheduled from April 18.*
    - iii) Request for participation: Reception and Statewide Meeting in Olympia/Advocacy Day, Feb 18 and 19 –*Please contact Jane if you'd like to attend!*
    - iv) CMG 2016, Award and Overview
      - (1) Local coalition Family Engagement/Advocacy/STEAM Mini-grants
        - (a) *Applications due Feb. 15, 2016*
      - (2) Advancing Racial Equity Mini-grants and Annual Advancing Racial Equity/Community Engagement Summit
        - (a) *Grant applications went out to ARE graduates; applications are due by June, 2016.*
        - (b) *Summit is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at ESD 113 with a half-day training by REACH. Contact Jane to give input on afternoon break-out sessions/planning.*
        - (a) *Registration is open for the 2016 Advancing Racial Equity workshop series, July 13 and August 18<sup>th</sup>. Flyer is on the VEL website Professional Development page.*
      - (2) Home Visiting Professional Development Series and Summer Summit
        - (a) *Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>: Practical Skills for Home Visitors: The Intersection of Maternal and Infant Mental Health. Registration is now open. Flyer is on the VEL website Professional Development page.*

- (b) May 23 and mid-November trainings to be announced later
  - (c) VEL's first annual Home Visiting/Leadership Summer Institute is scheduled for July 22, 2016. Keynotes to include Reflective Supervision with Gina Veloni and Cross-Cultural Home Visiting with Dr. Barbara Stroud.
  - (3) Hank and Harriet Regional Distribution
    - (a) Local coalitions and partners should contact Jane to request DVDs and wafer drives to distribute within their county.
  - (4) Regional Engagement Exit Survey Pilot
    - (a) Local coalitions to nominate "survey" designee to have access to Zoho Survey membership, with the ability to access, adapt and translate surveys for local coalition use for projects using mini-grant funds.
- 2) Action
- a) Adjust and approve FY16 CMG Budget
    - i) Holly Porter moved to reduce the \$2000 funding for supporting Early math/STEAM conference. Moved, seconded and motion passed.
    - ii) Holly, amended: reallocate funds to increase local coalition mini-grants by \$200.
    - iii) Chris, suggested coalitions request additional funds, to target math/STEAM. Dan, made a motion to expend re-allocation toward Project Coordinator compensation. Erin seconded motion.
    - iv) Dan, plan B, if not approved, reallocate to \$200 specific to Math/STEAM expansion for coalition mini-grants.
    - v) Dan's motion approved.
    - vi) Chris, motion passed to approve budget as amended.
    - vii) Update: additional work days were added to Project Coordinator's annual calendar utilizing the reallocated funds.
  - b) Confirmation of VEL Board of Representatives and Executive Committee
    - i) Confirmed.
- 3) Three talking points (to take back to local coalitions)
- a) (Coalition mini-grant applications due Feb. 15)
  - b) Local coalitions to nominate "survey" designee to have access to Zoho Survey membership, with the ability to access, adapt and translate surveys for local coalition use for projects using mini-grant funds.

VEL Board of Representatives meets on the second Thursday bi-monthly from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Thursday, March 10, 2016:** 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

**Thursday, May 12, 2016:** 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

**Thursday, July 14, 2016:** 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

**Thursday, September 08, 2016:** 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

**Thursday, October 13, 2016:** 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

**Thursday, November 10, 2016:** 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B



## Working Together to Help Children and Families

### Counties served

North Pacific	one event
Mason	two events
Grays Harbor	one event
Lewis	one event
Thurston	four events

### By the numbers:

number of children 432  
 number of parents and guardians 322  
 number of volunteers and paid staff 138  
 number of people who speak English as second language 65

**Here is a look at how each coalition used its Community Momentum Grant funds to host Block Fest in their county:**

**Grays Harbor County's** event was an event that hosted Block Fest inside the McCleary Community Center and had outdoor community science and literacy activities on a warm summer day in August.

**Lewis County's** event was a family activity night with local organizations there with information to support parents. Families, including extended family members, participated in Block Fest activities and parents connected with other parents.

**Mason County** had an event in Evergreen Elementary gym attended mostly by neighborhood school children, with local and Thurston County community involvement.

**North Pacific County** connected their Block Fest as an event with an open house that the elementary school was hosting. Families attended their child's open house and then attended Block Fest.

**Squaxin Island Tribe** had an evening family event.

**Thurston County** events were part of the Early Learning Family FUN! program that included several organizations such as the Health Department and South Sound Reading Foundation to connect families to resources.

Here's what parents and guardians had to say about Block Fest:

- ❖ Each child has different interest and learns best when she is inspired. **Grays Harbor**
- ❖ I learned ways to make clean up fun and new ways to integrate learning into play time. **Mason County**
- ❖ I saw my child learn personal skills and to share when he is playing with blocks. **Mason County**
- ❖ Playing with blocks helps my child learn to count and strengthens his motor skills. **North Pacific**
- ❖ Blocks promote different areas of learning. Blocks are good for all ages. **Thurston County**
- ❖ The children at Block Fest were enjoyed all the items in the room! **Thurston County**
- ❖ I had no idea how interested my child is in building with blocks. It gave me lots of ideas of how to play with him. Thank you! **Thurston County**
- ❖ I learned to let her (safely) fail and struggle when building and to direct less and sit back and watch more. **Thurston County**

Infant Toddler Project Update 1/14/16  
**2015-2016 Contract**

- We now have a signed contract with Thurston Co. Public Health. One of their employees will provide our nurse services.
- We expect to serve around 14 toddler rooms in centers and/or FCCs this year with monthly visits from the visiting nurse. The nurse will start her visits in February.
- Fran Williams has begun making her site visits as our mental health consultant.
- FIND (Filming Interactions to Nurture Development) process will begin in April 2016.
- Between July 1 and December 31, 2015, we provided consultation in 31 classrooms for a total of 260.5 hours.
- Connie met with key leaders of project LAUNCH (info sheet attached). They would like the infant toddler project to help with their work around supporting child care providers with a screening kit. They would like some time on VEL's next meeting agenda.

**Centers Currently Receiving Service**

Thurston County:

Tutor Time, Lacey

Small Wonders, Lacey

Sugar and Spice, Rainier

Mason County:

Colorful Creations, Shelton

Squaxin Island CC

Lewis County:

Happy Days, Centralia

Grays Harbor:

Keystone Learning Center