

## Hampton and Scotland School Readiness Council

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Audio file: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rQTes4-mbtJoLZYrthcaRY4HE1g3BmNQ/view?usp=sharing>

**Attendance: Scott Sears, Sam Roberson, Joy Becker, Mary Geragotelis, Andrea Kaye, Ann Gruenberg, Frank Olah, Ann Knowles, Geri White, Terry Surprenant**

- 1) **Call to order:** Joy Becker called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- 2) **Audience for citizens:** None
- 3) **Update agenda as needed:** No updates needed.
- 4) **Approval of September 28, 2021 meeting minutes:** Scott motioned to approve the minutes as written. Geri seconded the motion. No discussion. None opposed. 1 abstention. Motion passed.
- 5) **Acceptance of financial reports**
  - a. **Hampton:** Mary moved to accept Hampton's financial report. Ann seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - b. **Scotland:** Ann G. moved to accept Scotland's financial report. Scott seconded the motion. Ann K. clarified after being asked that revenues and expenditures were placed on separate pages. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6) **Program updates:**
  - a. **Hampton:** There are still 9 full-day students. Classroom update highlighting current activities was shared with the Council. There was a discussion about the impact of Covid. Sam shared that while the preschool classroom hasn't had any closures this year, impacts on children from isolation and need to distance can be observed. School counselor is going into classroom to support social emotional learning.
  - b. **Scotland:** Classroom updates were shared via email before the meeting for members to review. Scotland's enrollment is positive with 17 children enrolled. Ann K. said that this year is off to a good start. She described some of the activities that are going on school wide that have included preschoolers. They are working on parent involvement and virtual conferences will be happening soon. Ann explained that not being able to see faces is an obstacle for preschoolers learning speech and early literacy.
- 7) **SR Liaison report**
  - a) OEC updates – Terry shared that last week the OEC sent out a survey asking for updates about contacts for ECE Reporter. She is still learning about this but will work together with schools to ensure that data is updated monthly.
  - b) New legislation effective in July is calling for changes to Council membership:
    - i) Co-chairs will be elected by the council, not appointed.

- ii) Councils are being required to include a business owner. There was discussion about the very few businesses in towns. Terry suggested that local licensed family child care owners may be interested in participating.
- iii) 25% of Council membership should be parents. (OEC Manager said that could be parents with children either currently or previously in preschool.) Discussion about difficulty getting new members.
- iv) Councils should reflect the diversity of the community.
- c) The next monthly reports will be due on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- d) Nov 19<sup>th</sup> is the next due date for any fund requests.

Superintendents do not have to attend meetings as long as they assign a Designee to attend in their place.

Monitoring visits have been scheduled to occur in the next 2 weeks. Assessment document from the OEC was shared. State-funding is available for state-funded classrooms to get access to DOTS Online and ongoing technical support around Assessment and Family Engagement. Principals can let Terry know when she meets with them in Nov. if they want to learn more about this.

#### **8) New Business – Enrollment**

Hampton has 8 vacant spaces and Scotland has 1. There continues to be a supplemental fund that programs are able to receive if classrooms are under-enrolled. This special funding provides up to 25% of current allocation (up to full allocation level for the month) and will only be available through December. Discussion about numbers of age-eligible children in towns. Some parents still don't feel comfortable in sending children to school with Covid protocols in place. Terry offered to assist if schools are interested in forming a committee to explore strategies to increase enrollment.

#### **9) Old Business**

- a) Supplemental Funding was received by programs recently. EASTONN will invoice for those funds. Terry will check in with schools during upcoming visits to make a plan for how they would like to utilize her expertise.

**10) Audience for citizens** – None present.

**11) Next Agenda Development:** November's agenda will reflect the standing items.

**12) Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Scott at 7:15 pm and seconded by Ann G. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 11/30/21 6:30-8:00 pm**  
**Held through Zoom**

Respectfully submitted by Teresa Surprenant, Hampton and Scotland School Readiness Liaison  
*These minutes are unofficial until approved at the next School Readiness Council Meeting*