



Vernon School Readiness Council  
Special Meeting  
October 4, 2018  
BOE/Central Office, 9:30-11:00 am  
Approved Minutes

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VSRC Mission: To ensure that every child in Vernon will start school ready to learn

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Members present: Michelle Hill, Shahla Zarinejad, Melissa Isles, Renee DaSilva, Betsy Crayton, Tina Gladden

**II. Approval of draft meeting minutes for September 6, 2018.**

The draft minutes from September 6 were reviewed. A motion to accept the September 6<sup>th</sup> draft minutes as presented was made and seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

**III. School Readiness Grant (SR) and Preschool Development Grant (PDG) 2018-19 updates**

a.) PDG Budget 2018-19 update/ approval:

The PDG budget and grant award is currently being revised by the Office of Early Childhood to reflect the correct number of PDG classrooms Vernon has. Once the revised budget is available it will be presented to the Council. It is anticipated it will be available for the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

b.) SR Budget 2018-19 update:

The revised VSR budget as voted by the Council on September 6 has been approved by Deb Adams at OEC.

c.) Enrollment updates

YMCA funded for SR: 18 full day, full year slots:

The YMCA has 3 open preschool slots.

VPS: funded for SR: 27 part day, part year slots and 4 school day, school year slots

**PDG: 27 improved slots and 27 expanded slots**

VPS preschool funded slots are filled with no openings. VPS FSCP continues to share YMCA preschool information with families looking to register for preschool.

**IV. 2017-18 SR Program Highlights**

a.) Indian Family YMCA

Tina Gladden from the Indian Valley YMCA reported on Program highlights and NAEYC family survey results for 2017-18

1.) Summary of NAEYC Family Surveys

Tina shared two areas that were identified in survey results as opportunities for growth and explained actions that have been taken to improve in the two areas.

2.) Program Highlights:

Tina highlighted a number of field trips, family events, along with ways the YMCA is promoting wellness and good nutrition. Multiple trips were taken to the library, and one trip was taken to

Foster farms. Family events included a Harvest party, a Valentine's Day party, an ice-cream party, and a Graduation ceremony and celebration.

b.) Vernon Public Schools:

c.) Renee Dasilva reported on program highlights and NAEYC family survey results for 2017-18

1.) Summary of NAEYC Family Surveys

Renee shared one main area identified through the surveys as an opportunity for growth.

Renee also shared actions taken to improve this area.

2.) Program Highlights

Renee highlighted classroom practices implemented in VPS preschool that promoted positive parent-teacher communication including using apps, a monthly family engagement activity, and having language translation available on website. She also shared that preschoolers read with therapy dogs, and one classroom implemented a "pen pal" type relationship with a preschool classroom in Brazil using the SMART Board.

d.) 2017-18 Expenditure Report for SR and PDG

The ED141 PDG and SR Expenditure reports for 2017-18 were presented to the Council.

#### V. Community Partner Updates

a.) Vernon Program closing

The Council shared information about recent closing of the Apple Tree Child care center. Families have all been contacted by 211 and Care 4 Kids (if they were a recipient) to help families transition to a new care provider.

b.) LIONS Club Vision Screening

The LIONS Club offers vision screening for preschoolers at no cost. Screening and detection of vision issues early on is critical to the healthy development and learning for a child. Community preschool providers interested in setting up Vision screening with the LIONS Club can contact Michelle Hill for contact information.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Michelle Hill

