



Vernon School Readiness Council  
Regular Meeting  
November 1, 2018  
BOE/Central Office, 9:30-11:00 am  
Approved Minutes

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**I. Welcome and Introductions:**

Members present: Melissa Iles, Allison Altieri, Renee DaSilva, Suzanne Lynch, Jen Snyder, Betsy Crayton, Pauline Fortier, Katie Riordan Napolitan, and Michelle Hill

**II. Approval of October 4<sup>th</sup> Draft meeting minutes.**

The draft minutes for the October 4<sup>th</sup> VSRC meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the draft minutes as presented was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.

**III. Hockanum Valley Community Council (HVCC) Program Offerings:**

HVCC offers many programs and offerings to the community of Vernon and the surrounding towns. Services include the food pantry, mental health services, transportation services, and caregiver support programs. HVCC is also known for assisting families with food and resources for the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. More information about their offerings can be found on their website at [www.hvcchelps.com](http://www.hvcchelps.com).

**IV. School Readiness Grant (SR) and Preschool Development Grant(PDG)**

- A. PDG Budget 2018-19 update/approval: The updated PDG budget reflecting the increase in funding for professional and technical services for professional development services and for social and emotional services was presented. Renee also requested approval for minor budget adjustments made in the space and transportation portion of the budget. A motion to accept the budget allocations as requested by Renee was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.
- B. SR Budget 2018-19 update: Michelle shared that the SR budget revision voted on by the Council at the September meeting has been approved by OEC. The YMCA is requesting the VSRC to approve their provider budget due to changes in head teacher and restructuring of staff hours. The revision request was shared with the Council members. A motion to accept the YMCA's budget revision was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.
- C. Enrollment updates:  
**YMCA:** funded for SR: 18 full day, full year slots. Katie reported 16 of 18 slots are filled.  
**VPS:** funded for SR: 27 part day, part year slots and 4 school day, school year slots

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

Renee reported all VPS state funded slots are filled at this time.

- D. **Monitoring:** Monitoring VSR sub-grantees (VPS and YMCA) needs to be scheduled for 2018-19. Renee will arrange with the YMCA to do monitoring for the YMCA. Jill Mahoney, SR liaison from Naugatuck, who monitored Vernon Public Schools in 2017-18, is available to monitor VPS for the 2018-19 school year. Due to her strong understanding and knowledge of the School Readiness Requirements, the VSRC members unanimously decided to ask Jill to conduct the SR monitoring for VPS for 2018-19. PDG funds will be used to pay for outside monitoring services.
- V. **Marketing and Outreach:** The VSRC website and Facebook page needs to be updated. Michelle will be working with the website designer on this and asked the VSRC members to review the website on their own and email her with any recommendations for improvements.
- VI. **Upcoming Events:**
- A. **Volunteer Fair at RHS:** November 13. 10:30am- 12:30pm. VPS Family school community partnerships (FSCP) is organizing a volunteer fair for the students of Rockville High to learn about volunteer options which can help them meet their graduation requirements. A variety of organizations will be present. Anyone interested in learning more can contact Allison Altieri at [aaltieri@vernon-ct.gov](mailto:aaltieri@vernon-ct.gov).
- B. **Ready Set School Fair:** February 23. The date for the Ready Set School fair has been selected and will take place at VCMS. Specific times to be announced.
- VII. **Partner Updates:**
- EASTCONN:** Jen Snyder shared that EASTCONN's Tolland County HEAD START early childhood home based program still has plenty of openings. The program targets preschoolers who are not enrolled in a preschool program or are in a part day preschool program. Preschoolers who attend full day may still be enrolled, however. Jen Snyder can be contacted with any questions.
- FSCP:** Allison shared information about the Peace at home series being offered through the FSCP again this year. On November 7th a Parenting Teens workshop will be offered at VCMS from 6:30-8:00pm. Peace at Home on line learning is still available with a much user friendly log in. For more information please contact Allison Altieri. Allison also shared a flyer encouraging children to eat breakfast at school.
- Academy of Art and Learning:** Pauline shared that the Academy of Art and Learning will be leasing the building that housed the former Apple Tree Learning Center to increase the capacity of her child care center. This building will be called Academy of Art and Learning Three. Pauline is in the process of working with local and state agencies-officials to get this addition to her Center up and running. She is hoping for a late November opening.

The meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Hill

