

IRMC VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

**April 8, 2020 - DRAFT
Via Conference Call**

The Interagency Resource Management Committee (IRMC) virtual meeting was held via conference call on April 8, 2020. In attendance via telephone were members or their designees including (Chair) Dr. Susan Bunting (DOE), Secretary Josette Manning (DSCYF), Molly Magarik (DHSS), Ruth Ann Jones (Controller General's Office), and non-voting members Candice Buchanan (Chair, Extended Learning Opportunities Subcommittee) and Madeleine Bayard (Chair, DECC). Others attending via telephone were Dr. Kimberly Krzanowski (DOE), Tina Shockley (DOE), and John Hulse (DOE).

Dr. Bunting began the call at 11:03 a.m. by welcoming all members. She provided the required conditions for speaking and voting on a virtual call of a public meeting under Governor Carney's State of Emergency Order. Tina Shockley took a roll call to confirm member/designee attendance and to ensure there was a quorum present on the call. A quorum was present; thus, Dr. Bunting asked for the approval of the January 15, 2020 meeting minutes. Secretary Manning motioned to approve the minutes, a motion which was seconded by Molly Magarik. All present committee members unanimously supported the motion approving the minutes.

IRMC members reviewed the nomination of Lucinda Ross to fill the vacancy of a center-based early care and education provider on the Delaware Early Childhood Council (DECC). Ms. Ross' application and biography had been provided to and reviewed by all IRMC members prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Secretary Manning to approve Ms. Ross' nomination and forward it to the Governor's Office for official appointment to the DECC. The motion was seconded by Molly Magarik. A roll call was taken to ensure that all members were in agreement. Present members unanimously supported the motion and it carried.

Dr. Bunting thanked Tina Shockley for her work on compiling the 2019 IRMC Annual Report. Dr. Bunting noted that the report was provided to all members prior to the meeting. An opportunity was given for comment, discussion or change of the report, but there were none. A motion was made by Ruth Ann Jones to approve the 2019 IRMC Annual Report and to submit it to the Governor and General Assembly. The motion was seconded by Molly Magarik. A roll call was taken to ensure that all members were in agreement. Present members unanimously supported the motion and it carried.

Next, Dr. Kim Krzanowski noted that the Strategic Plan was moving forward until the current pandemic occurred. Currently, the Plan is on hold as we assist early learning providers with guidance as many of them operate as emergency child care sites. Madeleine Bayard thanked

participants (which included early learning providers, K-3 partners and the P-20 Council on Early Literacy) who have worked on the Strategic Plan. Input received thus far will be synthesized into a potential public draft to be brought to the IRMC. Again, she thanked all for working with early childcare providers during this time. Dr. Krzanowski noted that they hoped to ask IRMC members to meet in May to identify someone within their respective agencies to serve on a strategic team to implement key strategies identified in the Strategic Plan.

Candice Buchanan, Chair of the Extended Learning Opportunities Subcommittee (ELOS), provided an update on the work of the ELOS. She noted the group met in November, January and February (December's meeting was cancelled). The group outlined the duties of committee, ensured members were aligned and began reviewing similar studies. While the March meeting was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the next meeting is set for April 21. The April 21 (virtual) meeting will be at 5pm. The group plans to move forward with work on program standards for out of school time and is currently working with the Delaware Afterschool Network (DEAN) and looking at other states' programs. At the April 21 meeting, the group will look at the current status of its work in light of COVID-19 and determine how to redirect our focus to support organizations in the here and now.

Ms. Bayard asked for further clarification on what is meant by "program standards" and asked if they will be similar to Delaware Stars standards. Ms. Buchanan noted that ELOS is looking at Delaware Stars and may potentially model standards after Delaware Stars' but shared that that is not the only set of program standards to be considered. Ultimately, the group wants to ensure equity. Ms. Buchanan noted the group will look at various studies so that it does not redo the work others have done to date. The goal is to ensure recommendations can be implemented and put into practice.

Ms. Bayard asked if there would be a recommendation to replace Delaware Stars for out of school programs. Ms. Buchanan noted it would not be a recommended replacement. Dr. Krzanowski noted that the Office of Early Learning is currently involved in a redesign process for Delaware Stars standards. Dr. Krzanowski and Ms. Buchanan will discuss details further at a future date.

Dr. Krzanowski noted that governance conversations have been put on hold as everyone's attention has been on COVID-19, therefore there was no substantial governance report at this time. Dr. Bunting asked if it was still the intent to move the Office of Child Care Licensing to Department of Education as of July 1, 2020. Dr. Krzanowski confirmed this is still the plan.

It was noted that while there was going to be some movement of the quality dollars from DHSS to DOE, there may be some changes now due to the stimulus bill. Ms. Magarik advised that to date DHSS does not have any information from ACF about funds to be received or the expectations for the use of those funds. It does not appear that these will be quality dollars, but rather funding to provide assistance for emergency child care. There is a desire to meet the new needs created by COVID-19. All parties will be kept in the loop regarding this money and how it will be spent.

Dr. Bunting asked if there was any other business or any comments; there were none. Secretary Bunting optimistically noted that the next meeting will be July 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Townsend Building, Third Floor Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
IRMC Chair