

8-22-24 Eastern Oregon Early Hub Board Meeting Notes  
Taken and submitted by Tammie Dockter

Location: Wallowa ESD.

Present: Mary Apple, Robert Kleng, Bryan Tweit, Suzanne Bolyard, Theresa Martinez, Hilda Mejia, Landon Braden, Damiana Maxwell, Jessie Michaelson, Maria Weer, Rod Belknap, Tammie Dockter, Tanya Faughn, Marshall Hooker, and Brenda Nunez (via Zoom).

Damiana Maxwell called meeting to order.

Minutes of last board meeting approved by consensus.

Rod: One change in investment budget is that we got \$16k from Ford Family Foundation to do PM Model Implementation and propose moving that money into the Early Literacy Mini Grants. We've had several applicants for this grant; it's capped at \$2500 per and is at the discretion of the board—can give more. Guardrail is early literacy. Might need to score applications in September at the board meeting. Two people in this room didn't ask for the full amount. Would love to extend this if have future funding, as a line item to Hub.

Theresa: STEM Hub kits—we have many and they are not being used or checked out. STEM Hub and CCR&R put in the money for these. PDs have been provided on how to use them. The bots get checked out a lot but not the tubs/kits.

Mary: Is the STEM Hub still functional? Group answer is yes. Mary: providers might need to be taught how to check out the kits. It takes time to learn how to use before you use them with the kids.

Damiana: PSP could use them at family engagement nights.

Theresa: REN Hub has been doing LEGO® challenges to send home with families.

Mary: Reminder, do we need a motion for the \$16k TFFF approval?

Rod: They said it's a one-year grant and want us to reapply after the first year.

Mary: Motion to approve moving the \$16k into Early Literacy Mini-Grants.

Maria and Landon both seconded the motion simultaneously.

Marshall: Explanation of ECSEPP to group. DELC wants us to help rename it. Some on the Early Learning Team have made suggestions. Rod, CCR&R, DELC with ORIMHA talk about ECSEPP and there is not a lot of clarity or answers to questions, but one thing we wish for is a FAQ to be put out. One myth out there is that if a provider suspended or expelled a kid, they could lose their license. Katrina Miller from the DELC made it clear that is not true. More like a finding/weighting/progressive discipline process.

Theresa: Mostly losing a Star all the way up to losing license.

Marshall: This is big, Q/A to figure out before we are in front of providers. If parent didn't pay, couldn't kick out is another myth—not true, but still nothing official on this. Theresa, Rod, Tammy, and Tammie, as well as EI/ECSE, we've talked and are ready to move forward on this. In the roll out of Pyramid Model community wide, we're checking off all the boxes in ECSEPP.

Review of NCPMI Crosswalk document (IECMHC and PM Coaching) with the group. Pyramid Model takes at least three years if devoted and intentional, before getting to fidelity. So, what does this person/position do day to day? They would man the warmline, but what else? It's not a full-time position at this time.

Bryan: Create a job description, what's my time dedicated to the certification needed, and how attractive is that? Could we blend with another position? Marshall, yes, but no guidance and it also looks like the Coaching position, and Inclusion Specialist position as well.

Marshall: Pyramid Model Implementation site process, this person could support those doing this work.

Crosswalk document reviewed more with the group.

Robert: Healthy Start does robustly fund Mental Health Consultant to look at what's best for the child at Head Start. Sometimes they come up with the plan that it's in the best interest of the child to not attend HS for a full day.

Marshall: Other document that group has is the Theory of Action for Pyramid Model, that Tanya created.

Marshall: Now DELC expressing reluctance to having a warm line at all CCR&R. Mary: then when the issue gets to the state level, they will issue a finding.

Mary and Marshall and Group agreed we will have a warmline.

Mary: Where's the data right now that we have a suspension and expulsion problem? Damiana replied but Tammie did not accurately document what she said. Theresa—parent surveys. Robert: our MH Consultant finds hours that are not good for child, and sometimes parents might interpret that as a suspension or expulsion. Mary: and districts have to report suspensions and expulsions to the state. Group discussion that sometimes someone didn't record that attendance info/ data regarding this correctly and results in inaccurate data/records.

Marshall talked through what we feel steps should be: There is a call to the warmline; Initial intake level (we need to figure this out); SEPP Coordinator might gather more info; chain of command is sticky; this could be resolved on a low level—could be a lack of communications by teacher, kid could have reported inaccurately to partners, etc. We need to communicate with parents better/well, needs to be bidirectional. If not resolved and blew up at that point, team in each county CCR&R, EI/ECSE, Mental Health, Medical, etc., possibly have a standing meeting and meet about this issue. If no meeting is needed for a month, then no meeting. Team problem solving meeting takes place. Team meets, creates response, makes recommendations for next steps. Coordinator could be case manager or someone on the team could be assigned as a case manager.

Bryan: This is a great idea. We'll decide what makes sense for us locally.

Marshall: This could be a source of good protection too—Team of EL gather and respond and perhaps change of placement warranted, like SpEd transition plans/process has to be identified: needs of student met, not just dumped and pulled out.

Bryan: How about biking in CASA? Group: CASA yes, if child is in foster care.

Theresa: I have the Inclusion Specialist and part of her job is to see if ERDC higher rate is needed (for special needs, social emotional etc. this is part of her bucket of work).

Theresa: There is a new provider who is very distressed that her licensor told her she needed to have this policy written and I told her no, come to CCR&R and we will help with it. I'm hoping that this will lead to more providers joining our networks, leading to more quality in their programs.

Landon: is there a formatted plan? Marshall: no, they tell us it's complex. Landon: let's not reinvent processes; Mary: Let's have a template for providers to help them.

Damiana: If we're applying the Pyramid Model to this, we should be just talking about the very tip of the pyramid, so should not be very many kids in this situation—and if we discover there are more, then we need to go back to the base of the pyramid model and work on things.

Rod: if the group decides to decrease the hours, then it's not an expulsion. Mary: there needs to be a step-up plan with case management, if there is a reduction in hours. Theresa: It won't be an expulsion or a finding, even.

Damiana: An example: If a child is PreK, and their parent signed them up for full day class, and for some reason we as a team had to reduce their day, what is that parent going to do, as it will likely affect their ability to work at their job, especially if this is a single parent. Group discussed that we have to have a solution if we recommend a diminishment/reduction in placement.

Hilda: emphasizing what's best now for the child might be hard work for all so the situation for the child is improved in the long run.

Marshall: Only one to two cases in all my years of teaching that the kid had to be completely out of school and it was the adults in those kids' lives who needed to do things (parents) differently and provide the supports for that kid/family.

Landon: What if we make the plan and the parent vetoes it? Theresa: It's in statute that we follow this process and won't get "dinged." Bryan: provider conversation/plan for short/long term plan for that kid/family has to happen.

Robert: When wrap and provider bridge services we need to make clear to the state that often the services we need to wrap and bridge are not available currently, or do not exist at all.

Group discussion about respite for developmentally disabled children. We ended this section ESCEPP discussion d/t being over on time. Mary: Marshall and team are on the right track/approach. Marshall: wanted the Board's input on this and it's appreciated. Damiana: and there is the point that 1.0 FTE for this position in a very spread out region makes it difficult as well. All agreed it was a very good discussion.

Rod: I want to make clear that this ECSEPP grant is Malheur ESD's grant, but using this Hub Board as advisory for it

Rod: Recently a survey went out to home providers. Currently there are three providers using PM now: Wallowa ESD, EOU HS, and MCCDC. Six others are wanting to use Pyramid Model and OCDC is one of them. It's about 90% of the region.

The PELE contract is in the folder, it's been shared already with the group.

The PM page for EO KIDs and Care demo given to the group. It's not live yet. PM inclusion resources also demoed for the group. ELSI contributed these.

Bryan: Would like board education at every meeting about web changes.

Marshall: Could bring videos from classroom demonstrating PM strategies.

Rod: Mackenzie Weintraub is going to be at the October Board meeting, we're going to reassess BOQs at that time.

CCR&R updates provided (in writing already) and highlights verbally (Theresa).

Infrastructure Grant conversation by group. It's \$10 million statewide. Many uses for these monies, and if you have a shovel ready project you should apply.

Rod: EL update: Books for HV programs we are scheduled to box up next week. Took some books to Baker event. Science of Reading training has been offered to anyone who works with 0-8 age group. We have 200 subscriptions and so far, 37 have signed up. Superintendent has said we can keep upping the subscriptions if needed.

Theresa: Could go through EOU to get college credit.

Tammy Pierce's Coordinated Enrollment info on website.

Tammie Dockter gave HVSC verbal update, but entire report on website.

Rod: UniteUs platform going to be used after demoing four different platforms, for coordinated referrals for HVSC. It costs zero dollars, Wallowa County already using it; CRM can be improved on by White Hat Matt; databases expansion for Coordinated Enrollment will begin being utilized estimated in December.

Rod: PSP reallocation slots: Adrian (6); Wallowa ESD (10), and Little Hands (2) (unexpectedly d/t clerical error.) In the future, grantees on the wait list can have slots rolled onto them, waitlist good until 6-1-25.. Updates were applied for in every county (for waitlist) for future slots.

Damiana: We should maybe add Imnaha...need to think about it.

Rod: KG Profiles, approximately 300-350 through that system this past year, which was approximately 60% of transfers, their profiles were captured.

Rod: In Adrian, Preschool is going through the licensing process; can start PSP and private pay on 9-13-24 and OCDC slots to come later with licensing. The three positions have been filled: one teacher and two IAs. There will be approximately 16-18 kids served.

Next Board meeting 9-23-24 via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 1403.

