

ECFE Family Council Meeting Agenda & Minutes

Wednesday, March 13th 6:00 - 7:00 pm at Wilder

In attendance: Michelle Hansmann, John Jones, Darnell Dixon, Tykeya Lewis, Maggie Zepp, Elizabeth Fields, Bethany Jansen

Agenda Item	Discussion
Introductions	• Fewer attendees, possibly due to nice weather.
Maggie Zepp	• ParentPowered Texts https://www.thinksmall.org/texts/ ○ Free service to receive age-appropriate text messages about child and parent development over the course of their childhood. • 50th Anniversary Merch link ECFE 50th Anniversary POGO by Underground ○ Proceeds go to MNAFEE ○ Order form closes March 17th.
Fundraising/Budget (Darnell)	• Darnell: submit \$100 donation to FamilyTree Clinic - not completed yet. May reach out to Todd Schuman for help. • Cookies reimbursement for Michelle is pending • No revenue/expense changes since last month.
Family Spring Picnic Friday, June 7 5:00 - 7:00pm North Mississippi Regional Park (map linked)	• No reservation of Shelter D available to us. Arrive early and try to secure. ○ Decided against making any reservation at any pavilion. For a 2 hour event of indeterminate size, visibility to the playground and splash pad is paramount ○ Will assemble near playground even without a reserved pavilion. • John will lead picnic effort (though would prefer to leave public speaking to staff?) ○ Popsicles. Needs coolers and ice. ○ Darnell is going to ask MPRB about ice cream truck (is it allowed without a reserved pavilion?). One or maybe two flavors. • Activities

	○ Storytime reader (<i>get large format book about Summer</i>), sidewalk chalk and coloring table (<i>get a folding table</i>), parachute (<i>john has one</i>). Naturalist speaker is booked via MPRB.
Teacher Appreciation May 6th - May 10th	● Solicit donated gift cards or gifts directly from businesses, or from ECFE-enrolled families. ○ Maggie/Elizabeth sent email notice to ECFE mailing list on March 14th with this request. ○ Past list of supportive businesses can be found here. A new list will be created for this year (probably John unless someone beats him to it). ● Gifts will be distributed in a BINGO game night for educators (ECFE dept will handle that). ● Encourage handwritten “thank you” cards for educators to be included with gifts. ● Be sure to follow up with businesses with ‘thank yous’ as well.
Preschool Fair (2024-2025)	● In years past, ~50-80 people in attendance. Can feel empty during slow times. Usually held in late November, early December, at the Wilder building. ● Next year, approach the organizers of the SchoolFinder Fair at MCTC about sharing event space and time
Organizational Housekeeping	● 501(c)3 Non Profit requirements, looking to 2024-2025 school year. ○ Aim to have elected officers for next year (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary). Requires an election. ○ Update registration with State Attorney General, and IRS ■ Consider formal name change (to “Minneapolis ECFE Family Council”) ○ Get taxes filed (no expense, just filing paperwork).