

Family and Community Engagement - Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2014

- ❖ RTTT ECE timeline
 - Scope of work – Family and Community Engagement Standards need to be completed by the end of the year.

- ❖ Charles Bruner
 - Decided not to hire Dr. Bruner because sub-committee will develop and adopt standards.

- ❖ Family and Community Engagement Standards
 - Family Engagement standards will be adopted/adapted from existing standards. Community Engagement standards will be based on the Strengthening Families framework.
 - Committee decided to have separate standards for family engagement and community engagement.
 - A draft of parent standards will be compiled by the next meeting.
 - Members of the group have reviewed:
 - Strengthening Families Standards and Head Start Framework (considering using these to help develop and adopt standards)
 - 5 Protective Factors (considering adopting parts of these)
 - SPAN Standards (too focused on special needs children)
 - National PTA (too specific for school age children)
 - Other states have not developed standards yet
 - Family Success in Center

- ❖ Committee decided that the definition of “Family and Community Engagement” is final, and will be reviewed and approved by Interdepartmental and Council Meetings.
 - Family and community engagement is defined as parents, families and communities working in partnership for the purpose of: (1) building strong relationships to ensure access to resources and services that promote family and well-being; (2) foster **educational success** at home and at school; (3) encourage **lifelong learning opportunities with** families, caregivers and children.

- ❖ Strategies for feedback on the Draft Parent Standards:
 - Survey parents
 - Hold Parent focus groups

- ❖ The Standards should include examples of what parents need to know:
 - where to access resources,
 - the importance of attendance,
 - the importance of reading to the child,
 - and the importance of health and safety.

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- ❖ Next steps:
 - Develop family engagement standards then send to NJ CYC for review. (Standards should be aligned to definition of engagement).
 - Sharon will give an update on Strengthening Families.
 - Research what programs have resources concerning Home Visits.

- ❖ Next meeting is September 22, 2014