

ASI Children's Center Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes

MEETING DATE: October 3, 2022

MEETING LOCATION: Children's Center Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherry Velte, Sandra Gallardo, Jessica Bradsberry, Zabdiel Mejia, Gabriela McCartney, Rhiannon Borunda, Mari Ruiz, Lexi Hallum (recorder)

VISITORS: Parents & Families Representative: Amera Frazee

A. Call Meeting to Order & Introductions to PAC

- The meeting was called to order by Sherry Velte at 12:01 pm
- The PAC introduced themselves
- Zabdiel Mejia made a motion to nominate himself as PAC Chair; Gabriela McCartney seconded it. The vote was unanimously approved by the PAC members present.

B. Current Center Updates

1. Staffing

- 105 Employees (89 students, 16 full-time with 1 on a LOA)
 - Head Teacher, Cierra, in La Casita 1 will return from her LOA on October 14, 2022; Teacher Guadalupe will vacate her position on October 14, 2022

2. Hiring

- Currently hiring 2 full-time positions. One for a Head Teacher position and one for a Fellowship position
- There is currently a hiring bonus for new, full-time staff (flyer attached)
- There is an additional bonus for the ASI staff referral program (flyer attached)
- There is a hiring struggle to find individuals with the correct certifications (ex., permit); Sherry Velte is a permit advisor and is encouraging the Child Development Department to push permits

3. Enrollment

- 153 children with 107 children receiving state funded childcare
- Alternative payment agreements are in place for several families including the Parents & Families program, Child Action, Veteran's Bill, etc. to help cover the cost of tuition
 - Pell-Grant Eligible student parents can qualify for the Parents & Families Program

4. COVID Operations

- The Center is distributing 150+ masks per week
- Rhiannon Borunda made a motion to make masks voluntary; Zabdiel Mejia seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously approved by the PAC members present
- The Center will continue to try to limit merging classrooms when possible and maintain sanitization procedures
- The Center has brought back approximately 15 field work students and will try to bring back observers in the Spring 2023 semester; the Center wants to control the amount of people throughout the building

5. Funding

- CDE split Child Care Contracts. CDE covers preschool (4 years) and CDSS covers Infants/toddlers/kindergarten children. End result will be 2 separate guidelines, consultants, and Contract Monitoring Reviews
- State Funded childcare is 100% for 2022/2023
- The Center received \$1 million in funds from Assemblyman Kevin McCarty to resurface the play yards
 - There are 6 play yards so renovations will be done in phases; the Bambini yards will be the first to renovate
 - There are some complications to the play yard renovations including erosions, rocks, exposed cement & the original, protective redwood trees
 - \$1 million will not be enough to do all improvements
 - Several Play Yard specialist companies have suggested that the Center hire a landscape designer to help accommodate the redwood trees, cement, etc.; it is approximately \$50K for a landscape designer

6. NAEYC – National Association for the Education of Young Children

- Evidence submitted on July 14, 2021 (420 pages!). Determinations – October to continue. Review visit would be sometime in 2022
- The Center will stay nationally accredited until 2027 based on the provisional round of review but NAEYC will do an onsite visit and observe 4 classrooms at random
 - The Center is unsure when the visit will occur
- Additionally, the Center is expecting a licensing visit soon, as well as being due for an audit from CDE and CDSS, and an audit for the Food Program, CACFP

C. Open Discussion

- 1. More than Just Scribbles** – Successful and beautiful! The Center will continue to be the opening event for the Union Gallery for the Fall semester
- 2. Harvest Festival** at the end of October (October 31, 2022)
 - a. This is NOT a Halloween event; no secular holidays are celebrated at the Children’s Center
 - b. The Center is looking for donations (pumpkins, hay bale, apples) from families or campus programs like sororities/fraternities
- 3. Diaper Program** – First month launched; new diapers in for October on October 4, 2022. The Center is receiving a lot of inquiries and media requests.

Adjourned at 1:08 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, November 7, 2022