**Iowa 21st Century Community Learning Centers**

**Family Engagement Committee**

***Meeting Agenda***

January 13, 2021

10:00am

Join by phone:

1-515-604-9985, passcode 123766

*Please mute your phones as to reduce background noise.*

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**COMMITTEE MISSION:** This committee focuses on strategies for family engagement, including identifying and sharing of best practices.

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**2020-2021 COMMITTEE GOALS:**

#1 – Social/Emotional Support. How to best support families going through trauma.

#2 – Communicate to parents in a more personal manner the facts that the out of school time program is designed to be safe, interactive, and meeting their needs as a student and as a family.

#3 – Survey families to identify needs

#4 – Ideas for engaging families virtually in a fun and interactive way.

**ROSTER**

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| NAME | SITE/SCHOOL | MARK FOR ATTENDANCE |
| Allison Furhmeister | Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County |  |
| Barb Schmitz | Oelwein CSD | x |
| Billy Stone | Oakridge Neighborhood Services |  |
| Dema Abussaf | South Union |  |
| Chris Hoover | Maquoketa CSD | x |
| Christine Carlson | Storm Lake CSD | x |
| Clarissa Thompson | MICA |  |
| Cynthia Lopez | Beyond the Bell | Excused via email |
| Jessica Apetiza | SHIP/Beyond the Bell | Will join later |
| Danielle Ruby | Des Moines Public Schools |  |
| Diana DeAnda | SHIP/Beyond the Bell |  |
| Jaquanda Franklin | Neighborhood Centers of Johnson Co. |  |
| John Spinks | Oakridge Neighborhood | X |
| Emi Banes | BGCCV |  |
| Gabi White | BGCCV |  |
| Jenna Carl | Burlington CSD |  |
| Kate Stockstell | Hamburg CSD | x |
| Linda Phillips | Des Moines Public Schools | x |
| Marla Theisen | Andrew CSD |  |
| Megan Bogdan | YouthPort/Tanager Place – Cedar Rapids | X |
| Nikki Clausen  | Council Bluffs CSD |  |
| Sam Graeve | Audubon CSD | Excused via email |
| Stephanie Shavers | Operation Threshold – Waterloo | X |
| Shaney Ford | Davenport | X  |
| Virginia Kurth | Allamakee CSD  | X  |
| Bobbie Jo Sheridan | DMPS | x |
| Melissa Williams  | DMPS |  |
| Tricia Anderson | North Fayette |  |
| Dani Goodman | MICA | x |
| Megan Kruse | Council Bluffs | x |
| Vic Jaras | Iowa Department of Education | X |
| Crystal Hall | IAA | x |
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**AGENDA ITEMS**

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| **Agenda Item** | **Notes** |
| 2019-2020 Professional Development Report findings | Crystal shared out that the compilation of professional development reports from the 2019-2020 school indicated that Family Engagement is an area of need. She asked that the committee consider the resources they’ve used in the past regarding family or parent engagement and send those ideas to Crystal. We may want to consider forming an ad hoc committee who would be willing to put together an offering or a series to focus on this area of need. **See work plan section below.**Immediate feedback collected:* John – no particular curriculum, but activities that were positive.
* Christine – welcome back events, but no curriculum. You 4 Youth offered a summer series that was really good.
* Shaney – partnered with ISU Extension and Outreach for family engagement training. Examples of topics covered included staff’s need to meet families where they are at, establishing relationships with parents, building on that trust to open to programming, working with families from different economic backgrounds. This was two 90 minute sessions.
* Bobbi Jo – hoping to start Parent Cafes soon. These are a way to connect with parents in a more informal setting that covers multiple topics such as education, social supports, social-emotional learning, etc.
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| Progress/activities made towards goals | Goal #1 – Social Emotional Support: Christine will share a document with guidance on speaking with kids about a kid-friendly approach to handling feelings. This will be especially helpful in light of recent national and political events that may have kids wondering what happened.Goal #2 – Communication with Parents. Our work to be done with training and professional development will move this goal along for us.Goal #3 – Survey: If sites have templates you have used with families in the past (even if it was event specific), please send that to Crystal ASAP. Crystal shared a document with the Committee that came from You 4 Youth that can be tailored to be used with your families. These templates will be shared out with the committee for use at our March meeting.**Our March meeting will focus on this survey (goal #3) and will allow us to pick and choose an approach to working with families.** We will want to consider if we are doing a point in time survey, a pre-post to measure growthGoal #4 – Engaging families in a fun and virtual way. Please see the Shared Document agenda item below. |
| A+ Afterschool Award | The IAA recently rolled out this recognition program in which sites can nominate someone at their site who is doing a phenomenal job with youth. Nominations can be sent via the link in our IAA newsletter or can be emailed directly to Emilee Harris at eharris@sppg.com Nominate someone for A+ Afterschool here!! <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1fCxj8JyyyyxaJjPlYl5oegmywm7oD35RdPS_lv4Wl0Y/edit> |
| URL Reminder | All sites are being reminded that your Local Evaluation should be shared on your website and that URL should be shared with Vic and the IAA.  |
| Shared Document | Christine shared a document titled, *When it Comes to Parent Communication* with the committee. Not every message is shared or should be shared in the same way, so this document identifies ways to communicate with your families. We can also use this document as a template of ways we can put parent’s minds at ease regarding safety. One suggestion is texting which may serve a purpose, but keep in mind that some conversations should be held in person. Same idea with email – sometimes conversations are better. Also be sure to include your contact information for parents to be able to have access to you in your professional role. Christine also referenced several documents connected to talking to youth in light of recent events in our country as well as self-care for staff. Crystal will download these documents and make them available to the committee and post them on the website.  |
| Recent successes/stories/highlights and obstacles/barriers to success | John shared that Oakridge has suffered a loss of three young men who were involved in their program due to a car accident. Two additional young men are hospitalized. Sites were asked to keep those families in your prayers and to provide any guidance or resources to John via email. John Spinks jspinks@oakridgeneighborhood.org Christine suggested that sites reach out to your school counselor to make additional connections for ways to support families. Dani with MICA offered that this has been a good resource for them. Barb with Oelwein started a group this year that focuses on grandparents raising kids. There are currently five participants in this group. Barb suggested that parents may need more information on technology. Christine asked if take-home materials (not technology) is an allowable expense. Vic confirmed that this is an allowable expense. Shaney stated that this is how they are continued to engage their community partners – examples included a virtual tour and packet with the Putnam Museum or Scouts who have put together a reusable take home bag with supplies. Barb also shared that they are still working with their conservation group who did programming outdoors to allow for safety measures.  |
| Other/Open Agenda | Crystal reminded the group of next Wednesday, January 20th’s session called How to Engage Families in Your STEM program. This training requires a registration that was emailed out on Monday but can also be accessed here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUkcuCoqz8rE9P7Yt_4mbxIGsDDucS2vAHX>  |

**WORK PLAN**

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| **Deadline** | **Activity** | **Who’s Responsible** | **Outcome Expected** | **Notes for Implementation** |
| January 29 | Submit Family Engagement or Parent Engagement Resources, Curriculum, connections to presenters, etc. to Crystal | All | We will be able to form a sub-group to develop and/or offer a training to the entire 21CCLC Network on the topic of Family Engagement as this was identified as an area of need.  |  |

**NEXT MEETING DATE: March 17 at 10:00am.**

**ADJOURN**