*All New Haven children, birth through 8 are healthy, safe, thriving in nurturing families*

*and prepared to be successful lifelong learners.*

**Meeting Notes**

 **April 2, 2014**

* Welcome and Announcements – All Our Kin announced that their Annual Conference is being held on May 3; Shelia Bell announced the upcoming retirement party for Lorraine Deluz; and Tina Mannarino read a letter she received form Tomie dePaola, the author of Pancakes for Breakfast, the main book for the WOYC. Ron Manning noted that there are two upcoming public hearings regarding the CGA budget that included funding for the Council – at 7:00 pm on April 3 at the Career H.S. and on May 1 at Conte West H.S.
* Approval of March 5, 2014 meeting notes - A motion was made by Janet Alfano, seconded by Sandy Malmquist; it carried unanimously.
* Council Financial Report - There were no questions on the distributed report. Jennifer Heath explained that the application for one more year of Discovery funds from Graustein was in process. We will be asking for the same amount of funds as last year ($40,000 for general activities including the Council Coordinator and $50,000 for the Dual Language Pilot Project. Marcy Gudemmi made a motion for approval of the recommendation and Cyd Oppenheimer seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. The Discovery Application asks what we would do with $10,000 additional funding; ideas should go to Gail by next Wednesday, April 9.
* Legislative Report – Cyd reviewed the recent Voices for Children’s budget analysis and that there is not much change between the Governor’s orignal recommendation and the legislature’s version. There is however, now less funding for QRIS, which will make it harder to do. There is money in the current budget for licensing every year. Sen. Bye raised the full day/full year issue in School Readiness. She has an interest in the definition (hrs per day and number of weeks). The legislation for the Office of Early Childhood should go through; it’s on the Consent calendar.
* Committee Reports
* Grants and Development – Denise reviewed the current QE contracts. The Operations Committee will be reviewing data from Clifford Beers this year, as it was a new contract.
* Quality Experience – Sandy reminded those in attendance of the Monday, April 7 kick off date and the April 9 Celebration for Early Childhood teachers.
* PreK-3 – Gail reported that there was a PreK-3 Institute in March that focused on Executive Functioning. Graustein has strongly suggested that the PreK-3 communities incorporate Executive Functioning work into our plans.
* Program Access and Family Engagement – Evelyn and Galit spoke with Council members and gave out materials at the end of the meeting. They reported that they have been talking to agencies about the Kids Kit and have received requests for 1600 full packets (with the blue envelope) and 1100 clear sheet protector packets. They will be developing a tracking form for the initiative.
* Dual Language Pilot Project – Sandy Malmquist did a Power Point presentation of the Dual Language Pilot Project, a Graustein Early Literacy that is completing its second year in June. The presentation was very well received. Stanley Bernard asked if any thought has been put into packaging this template as an organic way to build capacity that could be offered to other programs or communities. It could be a model for a training package.