**VCPD Meeting**

**June 5, 2018 10:00-2:30**

**Tuckahoe Library**



**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Present**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Andrews, Kimberly  Buck, Deana  Cook, Cathy  Flores, Selina  Gillikin, Kathy  Harvey, Jaye | Houck, Pam  Jackson, Sakina  Kern, Cindy  Lawson, Aleta  L’hospital, Ann  Meyers, Kris | Roberts, Jodi  Ruffin, Novella  Sopko, Kim  Stepien, Debi  Watkins, Peggy  White, Mary Lynn |

**Elevator Pitch for VCPD**

At the March review of our revised strategic plan, it was suggested that we all have a VCPD elevator pitch. Our opener was a partner activity where we practiced a VCPD elevator pitch following a model that considered the audience and included a “nodable” (a statement to which the listener will readily agree), information about the need for coordinated PD and how VCPD addresses that need, the value to the agency/speaker/listener, and if appropriate, an “ask.”

**VCPD Initiatives**

The upcoming **VCPD 101** training is June 21-22 at the Rappahannock United Way in Fredericksburg. We will seek sponsors for trainings in 2018-19 in the Eastern and Northern areas, as well as one other locale. A new Module 5 that ties together the information from Modules 1-4 and addresses Planning Professional Development has been piloted, and Jaye hopes to offer sessions of Module 5 for those who have completed 1-4. This may be possible if additional funding becomes available through the new CCDF allocation. Distance coaching on VCPD 101 content, a Tips for Trainers mailing and/or a closed Facebook group for those who completed VCPD 101 are under consideration. We also need to collect data on transfer of training.

Kim Sopko summarized information regarding the **Early Childhood Personnel Center (ECPC).** ECPC is a national TA center that offers technical assistance at a universal, intensive or leadership levels. Resources and information, including a crosswalk of NAEYC, CEC and DEC standards, are available on their website at <www.ecpcta.org>. Virginia receives leadership TA through ECPC. A small team leaves for a three-day Leadership Institute in Avon Farms, CT next week. They will receive training and develop an action plan focused on integrating Section 619 ECSE & Part C early intervention programs and policies into early childhood initiatives statewide.

Jaye shared that there is no Section 619 funding for the **VCPD Higher Education Faculty Institute** for this year. Our VCPD higher education work hasfocused on linking community college and four-year university faculty in ECSE and ECE. We will seek other strategies and funding sources since it is critical for a professional development organization to include both preservice and inservice efforts. Debi suggested seeking funding from VECF since they have focused on the pathway from the AA degree to the BA.

**Regional Consortia Summits**

* Cindy Kern announced that ChildSavers in **Central** has hired Patricia Koon, who will be our VCPD Child Care Aware administrative support staffer. The Central Summit is planned for June 14 at the Children’s Museum. They have a variety of presentation topics including healthy eating, legislative/policy panel, and VCPD 101.
* Pam Houck reported that at their Summit**, Piedmont** had diverse group of 17 participants leading to rich discussion. Cori Hill presented on webinar development and how to keep participants off their email. Dana Childress presented on how to infuse coaching into PD. Jaye shared a VCPD and state update entitled, *Roses, Rosebuds, and a Few Thorns*. Copies of the *Early Childhood Coaching Handbook* were ordered for participants.
* We welcomed Dr. Kim Sopko as the new Northern VCPD co-facilitator. Debi Stepien shared that 115 participants attended the **Northern** Summit on May 2. The agenda included updates from Voices, Community College/University transition between the two schools and licensure at the BA level, and SRC updates. After lunch, John Richardson-Lauve was very well-received as he spoke about self-care and your own story. They are beginning to think about plans for next year. One topic to consider is the opioid crisis.
* **Eastern** had 27 participants at their May 9 Summit in Hampton, Dana Childress offered her presentation on infusing coaching into PD. Jaye provided updates on state initiatives and VCPD. During their working lunch, participants talked about what was new/ noteworthy/upcoming in their agency.
* 37 participants attended the **Western** Summit on April 18 in Wytheville. Their agenda focused on PD plans with different speakers including one from the lab preschool school of VT; a VT faculty member focusing on research; a speaker from the VT/Carilion Medical School regarding the Abecedarian project and their model for PD, and a VCPD 101 session from Jaye on designing PD for the adult learner.

**School Readiness Committee**

Kathy Gillikin shared that the School Readiness Committee met last on May 15, 2018 and will met again on June 18. At that time, they are to vote on the executive summary with three sets of recommendations-- one set from each subcommittee. (Update: They did not vote on recommendations at the June meeting.) First Lady Pam Northam attended and announced that Jenna Conway is joining her office as chief of school readiness.

The SRC **Standards** workgroup was charged with updating the birth to kindergarten entry competencies for EC professionals in settings receiving public funding. Draft competency revisions were authored by contractors with JMU and Marie Masterson. They added trauma informed care, disabilities and inclusion, DLL, and other competencies reflecting new knowledge in the field. A team of peer reviewers (including a number of VCPD members) reviewed the draft. Remaining work includes incorporating feedback from the reviewers and streamlining the draft 93 pages of competencies.

The SRC **Finance and** **Compensation** workgroupoffered two recommendations: 1) to pilot use of child care subsidy grant --using CCDF expansion funds-- to help increase the workforce salary, wages, and benefits and work hours to those equivalent to K-12; and 2) to develop two workforce investment credits-- one for program and home providers, and the other for directors and teachers. Some believe this won’t work in Virginia because of the way the VA tax structure is set up as it would draw down funds from general fund. Incentivizing private funding is another strategy under consideration.

Recommendations from the SRC **Governance** workgroup were the most controversial discussed at the May meeting. They recommend creating a new agency that would administer any programs serving children from birth to age 8 including administration of child care responsibilities (subsidy, licensing, quality, inspections and regulations,) Head Start Collaboration, Part C, VPI, and Part B 619. The new agency would be led by seasoned visionary, and report to the SRC which would have to change from advisory group to a governing body. The proposed department would physically co-locate with VECF and Early Impact Virginia. The Governance workgroup suggested that an audit be completed to identify ways to minimize costs and consolidate administration. A visual of the proposed structure is available on the Secretary of Education, School Readiness Committee, at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/b1i0yfs3rinbcsg/AABnRIuhh26JkHjoMTnXMo0Da/Full%20Committee%20Meeting%20Materials/6-18-18%20Full%20Committee%20Meeting?dl=0&preview=VADeptofECE.OrgChart.6-11-18.v3.docx>

**Other News**

**Kathy Gillikin** shared that she is retiring from state service on July 1, 2018 after 30 years and 3 months! Congratulations, Kathy! We will miss you, and appreciate your immeasurable positive contributions both to VCPD and to early childhood services in Virginia.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (**NAEYC**) has created a directory of Higher Education Programs for each state at <https://degreefinder.naeyc.org/>. Northern Virginia Community College’s A.A.A. in Early Childhood Development is Virginia’s first higher ed program to achieve NAEYC accreditation. Other community colleges plan to apply as well. Finally, NAEYC’s Power to the Profession initiative is a national collaboration to define the early childhood profession by establishing a unifying framework for career pathways, knowledge, and competencies, qualifications, standards, and compensation. Learn more at <https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/initiatives/profession>.

**Head Start Collaboration Office**

Aleta Lawsonprovided our Agency Focus presentation on the Head Start Collaboration Office. She reminded us that Early Head Start serves pregnant women and children from B-36 months. Head Start serves children from age 3 to school entry at five.

Head Start and Early Head Start consider themselves school readiness and intervention programs. They work with families, and are required to have a Mental Health consultant on contract. In Virginia they work closely with the Infant/Toddler Specialist Network. Aleta’s informative PowerPoint is posted at <http://www.vcpd.net/head-start-collaboration-office/>

**VCPD Strategic Plan**

The VCPD Governance workgroup reviewed all comments on the VCPD Strategic Plan made at the March VCPD face-to-face meeting in order to integrate the feedback.

**Virginia Quality**

Kris Meyers provided two handouts: the Virginia Quality 3rd quarter report summary, and information on the Peer Learning Group from the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance.

Our revised VQ 2.0 system is a self-paced approach to move through 5 levels. Programs have to start at Level 1 or some may fast track to Level 3. Programs apply for Level 4 and Level 5 at same time. Scores from their onsite observation determines if level 4 or if level 5. To date, most who have tried for Level 4 or 5 are Head Start or VPI/VPI+ programs.

The current professional development goal is to better target the TA and coaching programs receive, e.g., what do Level 1 programs need to acquire level 2 status.

Regarding the Peer Learning Group:

* information from other states is shared through the peer learning group
* reviewed the NAEYC Build it Better PD system indicators survey instructions
* used “A Tool to Assess the Alignment of State/Territory PDS & QRIS” from the US HHS ACF Office of Child Care
* revising a previous VCPD survey and tweaking to QRIS standards and will review before considering distribution
* another national webinar is scheduled for next week and the Virginia peer group will meet after that

**Inclusive Practices Task Force**

Debi Stepienreminded members that the VCPD Inclusive Practices Task Force has adopted the *Inclusion Means Everyone* logo. They have created a diverse interagency task force, but are still seeking family members. Goals include:

* Educate EC stakeholders who may influence policy through use of data, current legislation and guidance (IDEA, Dear Colleague letter on LRE)
* Inform state resources and guidance to address evidenced-based practices and services needed to support young children in inclusive early care and education programs
* Examine opportunities to inform cross-sector professional learning, technical assistance and coaching that leverages existing expertise and infrastructure.
* Work with IHEs to ensure programs, courses, and practicum experiences promote inclusive practices (focus of SRC)

**Tips for Trainers**

Jaye shared a brief portion of VCPD 101 Module 4 on handling unanticipated mismatches between time and content. Too much time and not enough content may result from very quiet participants/groups; not taking questions as you go along; lack of interest from group on topic (prisoners); participants who already have mastered the content; technology/video clip failure; inaccurate time allocation for activities; etc. If the goal of training has been achieved, consider ending the session early. Strategies to stretch content include

* Break whole group discussion into small group discussion with a report out.
* Add think-pair-share before small or large group discussion.
* Add minutes to small group discussions or activities.
* Increase the number of stations if rotations are involved.
* Ask participants for examples or previous experience with the content.
* Add a refresher or recharger.

In situations when presenters have more content than can be covered in the allotted time, it is critical to identity the mismatch early in the session. Avoid “running out of time” at the end without providing closure. Strategies to shrink content include:

* Identify and address the essential content.
* Replace think-pair-share and small group discussion with whole group discussion.
* Eliminate activities such as refreshers and rechargers.
* Hide eliminated PowerPoint slides when possible.

**Announcements**

* Peggy Watkins reported that 170 directors and business owners participated in their recent Child Care Aware Business Summit. Humorous keynoter Vernon Mason focused on how to reward staff at little or no cost. The Summit included a variety of sessions such as adult learning (VCPD session); legality of hiring and firing; infant/toddler; Act Early. Learn the Signs; expulsions and suspensions; licensing; active shooter and more. The summit featured vendors. CCA was able to offer some scholarships.
* The VPI+/VPI conference planned for July in Williamsburg is full. Multiple VCPD members are presenting.
* The VDOE’s TTAC at JMU & Virginia ASCD are holding a preK-K conference on age- appropriate classrooms focusing on Trauma Sensitive Teaching on June 18.
* The hotel contract for the July 2019 Creating Connections to Shining Stars conference is still in progress.
* The Early Impact Virginia conference will be in Richmond on December 10. The General Assembly allocated $250,000 in additional money for EIV to work on systems building. $600,000 is anticipated next year.
* The Virginia Guidelines for EC Inclusion document is on the VCPD website and also the VDOE website at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/early_childhood/instruction/early-childhood-inclusion-guid.pdf>
* Deana Buck shared that there is new app for *Learn the Signs. Act Early*. Go to the Apple Store for the free CDC milestone tracker. A Spanish version will be out in September, and most materials are available in eight languages.

**Upcoming VCPD Meetings**

* + September 11: GoToWebinar
  + November 14: GoToWebinar
  + December 11: Face-to-Face

**Continuous Improvement**

* Thank you to Kim Sopko for taking meeting notes without even being asked!
* Appreciate flexibility for Plan B due to member and speaker absences.
* Request ice for the iced tea and lemonade.
* Increase the temperature in the room. Too cold.