12.11.2018 East Hartford School Readiness Council Meeting

- No provider meeting for December due to ECERS – reliability training and DOTS trainings
- Both November and December EH SR Council meeting minutes will be sent out together

- Providers will meet with Sarah from Yale regarding RULER from 10:30 – 11:30 today
  - Council voted to pursue RULER with Yale in 2017-18
  - 3-5 year commitment funded with federal research monies
- "Eat and Educate" first meeting was in November
  - 16 people in attendance
  - Topic: Language and Literacy – setting up to support language and literacy
  - December meeting will be postponed to January due to holidays
  - Next events will be in January with a continuing focus around language and literacy
  - <mark>Confirm meeting dates for January at next EH SR Council meeting</mark>
- Communities of Practice – work with OEC to frame problem of practice and map out action steps
  - Data indicates that over 50% of our children in EH entering kindergarten have not had preschool experience
    - In June 2018, EH SR had all 332 seats full. September of 2018 there were 17 open seats, November 2017 there were 6 open seats
    - During October SR survey, Julie requested an additional 100 seats to address the problem of practice (lack of preschool experience)
    - YWCA is actively looking and ready to open a new site in EH if school readiness funds are available
      - Summerfield Townhouses??
      - Start with meeting with housing management
      - Could renovate a foreclosed home
      - Silva's has additional space – 2 rooms ready if funding available
      - Pratt & Whitney
      - Coke
      - Other businesses?
  - Need to strengthen PreK – K transition process, relationships and communications
    - Packets with Pamphlets to provide incoming new families
    - Packets to with pamphlets and information on how to help their child – those placed on wait list
    - Packets to provide families at conferences
      - Woodburn Press Pamphlets – how do we organize and get this information to families?
      - What is the specific purpose for each packet?
      - What is the purpose of an EH school readiness family brochure?
        - Tri-fold

- - Mailed to businesses?
  - Give to Amy P to distribute
  - Other networking opportunities?
  - How do we increase EH SR exposure?
  - At Silver Lane, K teachers use REMIND apps and would be willing to send out a survey to families to gather more data around preschool experiences, perceptions, how families received information – those that did……etc
  - DATA: need system to track exiting preschoolers (universal screener – pre and post), info shared with receiving K teachers, AND way to track which incoming K children attended preschool – and where they attended = who is and who is not "school ready"?
- ECIS – Could be used to gather data, but system is not updated regularly by providers around CT. Many glitches in current system. Providers are still required to enter new children and exit those who have moved or aged out.
- Residency issues – the council needs to establish non-residency policies – next meeting, Julie will provide examples
- PreK to K registration must be more accessible for families
  - Spring 2018, few families attended
  - In other towns, non-public preschools must report # of incoming K students directly to the receiving schools. The BOE in those towns provides K orientation / information packet to non-public preschools to give to families transitioning to K.
  - Previously, EH community preschools would meet on Tuesday staff PD afternoons at venue with K staff – strengthened relationships, communication about children and families, established links for ongoing communication – food was provided – EH SR council needs to revisit this process
- NEW School READINESS RFP will be coming out in February 2019
  - East Hartford SR is required to post legal notices inviting any early childhood provider to apply for EH school readiness funding
  - EH SR Council can revisit / reassess community needs to determine if and how much QE funds should be dedicated to PreK – K transition
  - We will need child data, scores…
  - Barriers: Magnet schools, other education options
- At next meeting determine:
  - The different types of packets to provide families based upon purpose
  - What will go into each packet
  - Touch base with Veronica to see what she was awarded in her grant based upon what she requested
  - How are we going to use the trifold -specifically?
  - Will the trifold go into each type of family packet?
  - Who has connections to local businesses to request donations?
  - Continue work on 11 Quality Components if time permits