

Polk County Schools
Head Start Policy Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 10, 2024 12 pm
Stearns Education Center & Virtual

The Head Start Policy Council Meeting was called to order at 12:08 pm by Mariela Penaloza Valdez, Secretary. Members present: Mariela Penaloza Valdez, Margit Nelson, Crystal Gonzalez, Donna Wood (virtual)

Approval of Minutes

February Meeting Minutes were approved by an email vote.

Code of Conduct for new members

There were no new members present.

Reports and Information

The **March Preschool Monthly Report** was shared by program managers:

Amy Scott, Family Services Specialist, has been working on enrollment for next year. Polk Central and Sunny View sites are filling up. We have been doing some extra Tryon and Saluda recruitment activities. Polk Central had a great Career Fair and Saluda had a Science Night last month.

Lisa Brown, Support Coach, spoke about assisting in the classroom for teacher and child support, and helping with family engagement planting events at Polk Central.

Renee Souther, Health and Safety Coordinator, has been completing medication plans and preparing files for next year's rising Kindergarten children. She continues with on-going tracking of immunizations and health assessments.

Laura Jane Howald, Education Specialist, showed a slide and photo presentation, prepared by Dr. Schweitzer and Mr. Scherping of the new building and playground space. She also shared highlights of the Assessment Data and Professional Development planned for the coming year.

Kathy Harding, Preschool Director, spoke about the new building playground surfacing, this turf is a test to see if it might be used at the other preschool sites. The building opening schedule includes 2 no-school days for Tryon preschool classes, April 25, 26; a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house on April 26th. Mr. Scherping has been working on logistical details and we are waiting on the final building and fire inspections. She has also been working with state licensing in order to be ready for an April 29th opening day.

The Financial Report and the Credit Report

Debbie Lovelace reviewed the February and March fiscal data and credit card reports specific to Head Start and the new building.

New Business

Amy Scott shared the Family Survey which will be sent electronically next week.

Announcements

Family Spring Event/Resource Fair at Harmon Field, Saturday, April 27th from 11am-3pm

Next meeting date and time

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at noon