

ARKANSAS HEAD START ASSOCIATION

DIRECTORS/STAFF/PARENTS/FRIENDS CLASS MEETING

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

11:00 am-1:00 pm

Minutes

- I. Roll Call: Jackie Govan called the meeting to order at 11:02 am. The following members participated in the zoom meeting: Myra Wood, Lonnie Waller, Denise Middlebrook, Barbie Baxter, Alethia Henderson, Cyndi Musick, Tamara Griffin, Christie Campbell, Shirley Pulliam, Lonnie Waller, Jackie Burton, Latasha Dodd, and Amy Salazar as well as Guests: Jackie Govan, Tonya Williams, Deana Howell, Ginger Galban, and Kathy Miliken.
- II. Consideration of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes: **Jackie Burton made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Amy Salazar seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.**
- IV. Jackie Govan introduced the Guest Speakers:
 - A. Tonya Williams, Assistant Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education, DESE, Office of Early Childhood: The Office of Early Childhood (formerly DCCECE) has moved under the Arkansas Department of Education/DESE but is still located at the Department of Human Services. The phones are not working because of the change in systems and they are not receiving voice mail. Please email Office of Early Childhood Staff. The nutrition team is moving to the ADE Nutrition Team under Dr. Eric Saunders. Pam Burton is the team lead. Arkansas Better Chance is back under Office of Early Childhood. Part B/C will be under Matt Sewell at the Office of Special Education. Danita Pitts will be the lead for Part B/C. She will keep schools will only have posted on the physical move. As of October 1, any employees in public school will only have to have one background check. They are working to transition maltreatment checks to a five-year cycle. The Office of Early Childhood has announced Cohort One for the Local Leads that will work to unify early childhood program at the local level. The first cohort includes 12 leads. There will be a spring cohort and should be statewide by 2026 school year. The purpose is to build relationships and assess the needs of the local community as well as gaps in services. They will write a comprehensive plan for addressing these gaps and expanding quality. Funding was given to coops, school districts, child care aware, City of Little Rock with Excel by Eight. They are re-promulgating all rules and regulation including ABC, child care licensing, and Better Beginnings. They are adding the kindergarten readiness definition to all regulations. She encouraged programs to contact Daw Jeffrey or her about barriers in licensing. She announced that Arkansas was # 1 in the nation for early childhood systems. She thanked Jackie Govan and Head Start programs for helping to achieve this ranking. The Office of Early Childhood will be piloting CLASS in place of ECERS. Scoring will not count against programs in the first year. Tonya asked for any comments or concerns about CLASS or ECERS.

- B. Kathy Milliken, Sales Account Specialist, Bissell Home Care: Kathy shared information about Sanitaire products that would be beneficial to programs.

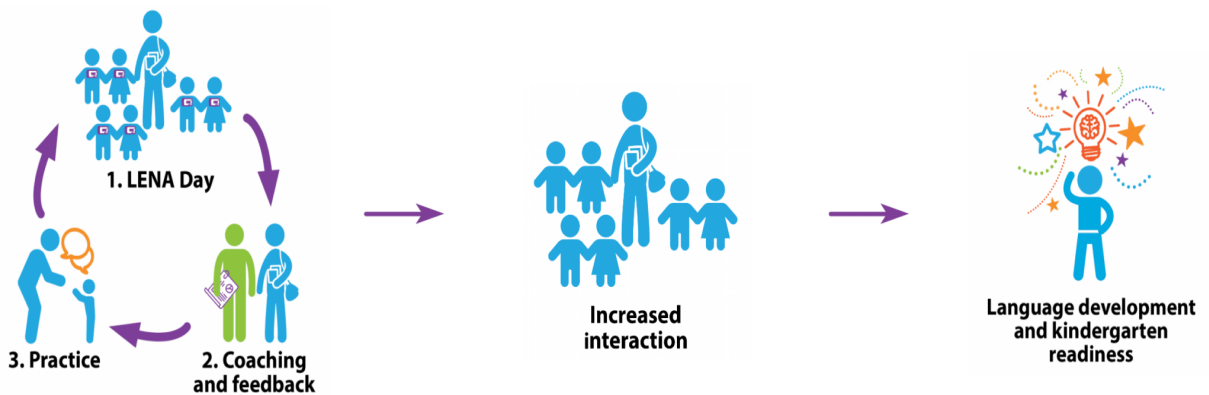
Sanitaire Direct Purchasing Program Pricing					Head Start Regional Office - Warehouse Program									
Item	Item Description	Product	Suggested Sell	Price Per Item	Item	Item Description	Product	Suggested Sell	Price Per Item	Item	Item Description	Product	Suggested Sell	Price Per Item
SC930A	HydroClean® Hard Floor Washer		\$329.99	\$264.78	SC7100A	TRACER™ Cordless Vacuum		\$299.99	\$226.61	SC930A	HydroClean® Hard Floor Washer		\$329.99	\$247.49
3363	Filter (3-pack)		\$41.39	\$24.83	3363	Foam Filter		\$14.38	\$6.91	3363	Foam Filter		\$14.38	\$6.91
3362	Brush Roll (3-pack)		\$62.09	\$37.25	3362	Battery		\$90.60	\$72.48	3362	Brush Roll (3-pack)		\$62.09	\$37.25
3135	Hard Floor Cleaner (1 gallon/128oz)		\$31.04	\$18.62	3135	Battery Charger		\$44.72	26.83	3135	Hard Floor Cleaner (1 gallon/128oz)		\$124.16	\$74.48/case of 4
2504L	Hard Floor Sanitize Cleaner (80oz)		\$24.99	\$16.24						2504L	Hard Floor Sanitize Cleaner (80oz)		\$24.99	\$64.96/case of 4

*Items are available, eliminating the 10% of orders. All 10% of orders are eligible for the program. No order minimum. Freight is included to one ship to location in the Continental US. Locations would have to pay for their order with a credit card.

Notes - Direct Purchase Program: Locations would need to register on our direct BHP portal and place their own orders. No order minimum. Freight is included to one ship to location in the Continental US. Locations would have to pay for their order with a credit card.

Notes - Warehouse Program: 30 Day Terms will be established for main (central) location. Prepaid freight minimum - \$4500 when ordering machines, \$500 when order just parts/accessories. Orders placed on our Partner Website or by emailing Bissell @ HQ.

- C. Ginger Galban, Regional Partnership Director, LENA: Ginger shared an overview of LENA Grow which focuses on making every interaction count in the classroom. LENA Start is parent focused and increases school readiness through interactive talk. LENA Grow is embedded in professional development and reflective based coaching. It is evidenced based and supports the early child work force. Some features: improve child outcomes, engage families, crosswalks with CLASS and Pyramid Model. It has had a huge impact on Infant Toddler CLASS scores as well as PreK. The LENA in a box Grow Materials include a Coach and Teacher Guide, Conversation Starter posters, talking tiers, vests, and the LENA device. Coaching Sessions are 30 minutes weekly, one on one or group sessions, reflective coaching. For more information contact gingergalban@lena.org or 682-244-9422.



V. Old Business:

- A. Dollar per Child: Deana Howell reported that \$ 2,432.23 has been collected for 2024.
- B. Membership Dues Report: Deana Howell reported that \$ 39,505.00 has been collected with \$ 6,150.00 owed for 2023-2024 \$ 312.50 owed for 2022-2023.
- C. Birthday Celebrations (November and December): Shirley Pulliam December 10.
- D. Arkansas Head Start Association Strategic Planning:

Goal 1: Jackie Govan reported that this goal is complete.

Goal 2: Barbie Baxter shared that the committee had sent the first rough draft but have additional revisions resources and cost allocations.

Goal 3: Michelle Furlow was not available.

Goal 4: Sherry Toney was unavailable.

Goal 5: Jackie Govan shared that a meeting is scheduled for January,

Goal 6: Jackie Burton shared that the committee would be meeting in November and December. The committee has started tracking board attendance.

Goal 7: Deana Howell shared that the committee has begun updating forms as well as offering new payment options. A SurveyMonkey Questionnaire will be shared in the spring.

Goal 8: Jackie Govan shared that a meeting is scheduled for January.

- D. Revised AHSA Bylaws-Shirley Pulliam reported that the committee including Denise Middlebrook and Jana Bays had the following recommendation establishing the scholarship committee as a standing committee and incorporating the language from the Region VI Bylaws and adding a cover page to the document.

Amy Salazar made a motion to approve the recommended changes to incorporate the standing committee for Region VI Scholarships. Althea Henderson seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.

- E. Racial Equity: Jackie Govan shared information about the upcoming showcasing of the Racial Equity website. Participants will have a form to share suggestions not include in the Racial Equity Website

VI. New Business

- A. LEARN Act: Jackie Govan shared the LEADS list of the 12 agencies in Cohort One.

Organization	Area
Arkansas State University - Jonesboro	Desha and Chicot Counties
Child Care Aware of Northwest Arkansas	Benton School District
Child Care Aware of West Central Arkansas	Garland and Saline Counties
City of Little Rock	City of Little Rock
Dawson Education Service Cooperative	Clark County
DeQueen-Mena Education Service Cooperative	Howard, Little River, Montgomery, Polk, and Sevier Counties
Impact Independence County Foundation	Independence County
Northeast Arkansas Education Cooperative	Clay, Green, Lawrence, Randolph Counties

Ozarks Unlimited Resources Education Service Cooperative	Baxter, Boone, Carroll, Johnston, Madison, Marion, Newton, and Searcy Counties
South Central Service Cooperative	Ouachita and Calhoun Counties
Springdale School District	Springdale School District
Russellville School District	Russellville School District

The Collaboration Office does not have to move at this time because they do not want to pay for the lease.

- B. New Partnerships are in the making with the Head Start State Collaboration Office, Arkansas Community Action Agencies Association, and the Community Services Block Grant. Tomekia Moore, Beverly Buchana, and Jackie Govan have put in place a state interagency agreement for all three agencies. Jackie Govan has also provided an action plan to carry out the duties and activities of this action plan. The implementation will begin in January 2024.
- C. Disability Services: Jackie Govan share that Cassandra Roy has agreed to serve as the Facilitator for the Head Start Disability Coordinators and Early Childhood Specialists Committee.
- D. Homelessness in EHS/HS: The committee is focusing on ending homelessness for families.
- E. Nominating Committee: Jackie Govan shared that the members need to select a nominating committee to get a slate of officers and representatives. Shirley Pulliam, Lonnie Waller, and Christie Campbell volunteered.

VII. Reports

- A. Arkansas Early Childhood Commission (SAC)-Barbie Baxter reported that the commission met on October 17. The commission meeting focused on the LEARN Act Updates. There was a long discussion about the CLASS pilot. They shared information about the LEAD process. Barbie reported on some of the issues affecting Head Start which became a big discussion item. The commission will work on getting help to programs about retention and recruitment of staff. On October 30th, Barbie received her official commission.
- B. Arkansas Head Start-State Collaboration Office-Jackie Govan shared information about the Pyramid Model Project Grant to provide data on evidenced based research. The three tiers look at promotion, intervention, and implementation.

Implementation sites: Dierks ABC Preschool - Dierks, AR
 Little Bitty City Enrichment Center - Hot Springs National Park, AR
 Little Lions Child Development Center - Fort Smith, AR
 Pediatrics Plus Developmental Preschool - Conway, AR
 Stepping Stone School - Alma, AR
 UAMS Kids First - Little Rock, AR

Implementation Coaches: Abby Baker - Wilbur Mills Co-op
 Destiney Baxter - Childcare Aware of NW AR
 DeAnna Collins - Wilbur Mills Co-op

Shawnya Garcia - South Central Co-op
Cheryl Green - DeQueen-Mena Co-op
Erica Holland - Stepping Stones
Patricia Staley - Dawson Co-op
Robin Wessels - UAMS Kids First

Khari Garvin has given four new priorities to the Collaboration Office. The Office of Head Start (OHS) established four priority areas to guide the work of the Head Start Collaboration Offices (HSCOs).

1. Collaborate with state systems to align early care and education services and supports for children and families prenatally to age 5.

Collaborate across systems to support:

- Health, mental health, and social and emotional well-being
- Home visiting
- Comprehensive service delivery
- Services and supports for children who are experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, children with disabilities, and children who are dual language learners
- Quality improvements
- School readiness initiatives
- State background check systems
- Child care
- Child welfare
- Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships
- Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Health Integration Prenatal-to-3 Programs

2. Work with state efforts to collect and use data on early childhood programs to guide decision-making and improve child and family outcomes.

Support appropriate access to and use of data to guide decision-making and to improve outcomes in areas such as coordinated eligibility and disparities in access to services.

3. Support the expansion of and access to high-quality workforce and career development opportunities for staff.

Work with state professional development systems, including workforce registries and career pathways, and with institutions of higher education to promote expansion and high-quality career development opportunities.

4. Coordinate with school systems to ensure continuity and alignment across programs, as appropriate.

Promote continuity of services, program alignment, and support for successful transitions, particularly with state preschool, kindergarten, and with Title I, McKinney-Vento, and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act programs.

Jackie is in process of completing the continuation application which is due December 1st. This will go before the Arkansas Head Start Association's Board of Directors for approval today.

- C. Region VI Head Start Association-Jackie Govan reported that Region VI met virtually. Paula is working to reinstate the nonprofit status. Someone is working on the policies for the Region VI Head Start Association. The next meeting will be in January with the Dallas Regional Office.
- D. Arkansas Head Start Association Institute-Jackie Burton shared that the institute would be at the DoubleTree hotel and Robinson Center on April 30-May 3, 2024. The institute committee approved the budget. The call for papers have been sent out and posted. There will be a masquerade reception. There will be a Come As you Wish costume and dance party with DJ Jellybean. There will be a partnership networking event. Jackie Govan is working with the hotel on sleeping rooms.
- E. National Head Start Association Updates-Jackie Govan shared information about bills that are proposed. One bill would establish an apprenticeship program between employers and institutions of higher education. Another bill proposed by Danny Davis and Mike Gallagher is the RISE from trauma program for trauma informed care focusing on mitigating, preventing, and healing from trauma. The next meeting is January 21st in Washington DC.

VIII. Announcements (if any)

A. Dates to Remember...

1. Arkansas

- a. AR Head Start Association Institute/Opioid & Substance Misuse Summit: April 30-May 3, 2024
- b. Powerful Conversations with Fathers: Fred Leonard Nov 14
- c. School Readiness Summit: November 3, 2023 was amazing. Jackie Govan presented in the morning with Dr. Plyler's team showcasing activities in the afternoon.
- e. Homelessness Meeting-Each Month-Last Wednesday

2. National

- a. National Head Start Association Parent Conference: New Orleans, LA, December 4-7, 2023
- b. National Head Start Association's 2024 Winter Leadership Institute, Washington, D.C., January 22-25, 2024
- c. 2024 National Conference & Expo, Portland, Oregon from April 15-18, 2024

IX. Next Meeting Date: Class/Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 17, 2024

X. Adjournment: ***Shirley Pulliam made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:41 pm. Barbie Baxter seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

Submitted by Deana Howell