

Child Development Program

Advisory Committee Meeting

Prairie's Edge - 5/28/14

Attending: Cathy Nelson-Messer, Heartland; Marge Knudson, Child Care Aware; Darcy Kleven, Prairie 5 Head Start, Lori Gunnink, SW MN Opportunity Council, Sharon Rasmussen, CCNI

Laine welcomed and thanked all for attending.

Laine shared the following information, and handed out the 2014 Graduation program.

*Graduates:

Child Dev. Diploma – 4

Child Dev. A.S. – 7

Education Paraprofessional – 7

*Seeing continued growth in students “shopping” throughout MnSCU for courses. Common i.d. has eased this process.

<http://www.elect-mnscu.com/>

*NOCTI (National Occupational Competency Testing Institute) results: (summary sheets shared with Advisory Committee)

87.66 overall for the group of 7 who took test with a range from 76.7 to 93.3

State 85.9

National 85.4

Our lowest area continues to be “Inclusion of Children with Special Needs” 78.17

State 77

National 75.1

Areas of improvement: Observation, documentation and assessment – likely due to ECIPS

Strengths: Creativity, Health & Safety, Guidance

*Discussion: Group shared that ECIPS is a great inclusion in the program, and is foundational for many areas in which they see staff struggling such as implementing embedded observations, and connecting goals with curriculum.

Suggestions for increased NOCTI scores in area of Special Needs: treat as more of an individualization goal which is best practice to ascertain what each child needs, whether typically developing or identified with a special need

Would more individuals pursue A.S. if it was all on-line, and what would this look like?

Group was in agreement that access is key, and having all on-line would make it feasible for more individuals. Having no field experience or internship would be acceptable for those already working in the field. However for individuals with little practical experience the 100% on-line would yield questionable results in terms of readiness to enter a classroom and effectively teach. Ideas proposed include a cohort group that met monthly, and communicated more often via an on-line discussion.

From your perspective, is articulation with SMSU working? At this time, none have staff currently in SMSU program.

Other items: Behavior management/positive guidance continues to be an area in which there tend to be challenges for those in the E.C. field.

Head Start has a national goal of having at least 50% of teachers with a Bachelor's degree.

Minnesota has increased requirements for FCC to 16 hours of training before initial licensure, and then 16 hours per year in continuing education.

Laine expressed her appreciation for their partnership with the Child Development Program.