



EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 28, 2018 | 8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
Teleconference

Commissioners present:

Danielle Martel (Chair)

Advisors present:

Jen Horwitz of Let's Grow Kids

Staff present:

Hannah Lane

Presiding:

Danielle Martel

Recording: Hannah Lane

Meeting called to order at 8:02 a.m.

1. Approval of the agenda

Postponed due to a lack of quorum.

2. Approval of the November 2017, January 3rd, January 24th and February 28th Meeting Minutes

Postponed due to a lack of quorum.

3. Discuss VCW Policy Document & suggested changes

The committee discussed the VCW Policy document; Danielle will issue a call to the other Committee members to provide final feedback and suggestions.

Jen shared that last Friday, Congress passed an omnibus budget bill that included increased funding for a number of early childhood programs including the child care and development block grant (CCDBG). The CCDBG is the primary source of federal funds for Vermont's Child Care Financial Assistance Program. At this time, we do not have final details on how much money Vermont may receive; early projections from national groups estimate at least \$2 - \$3 million, but more information will be available in the coming weeks. She will send details to the

committee once they are available. The federal budget also included increased funding for Head Start and IDEA Parts B and C.

In Vermont, the House passed a budget bill that did not include funding for TEACH but did include a small increase of \$375,000 for CCFAP to align the program's income eligibility criteria with the latest federal poverty guidelines (2018), but the committee did not find other additional funds for CCFAP. Advocates are continuing to ask for additional funds to address the program's funding gap in the Senate. Sarah Kenney, Let's Grow Kids Deputy Director, will be testifying this week in Senate Health and Welfare about the TEACH program and CCFAP and in House General, Housing, and Military Affairs on the relationship between the current proposal to increase the minimum wage and Vermont's early care and education system.

Paid Family Leave is also moving this week, and a discussion about pre-k has moved to the House, more information on current pre-K is available on the Building Bright Futures website.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 a.m.