NOEEN Steering Committee Meeting

November 10, 2021

NOEEN New Orleans Early Education Network

Meeting Agenda
November 10, 2021

General Assembly - *Dr. K. Liederman*
- Welcome! Call to Order & Roll Call
- **Action Item:** Adoption of the Agenda
- **Action Item:** Approval of Minutes
- **Action Item:** CCRR Representative

Ready Start Network Update – *J. Roberts*
- Information: Ready Start Transform App
- **Action Item:** RFA Lead Agency App
- Information: Advocacy Subgroup
- Information: Strategic Initiatives
  - Funding Opportunities & Updates
  - Parent Engagement & Representation

Coordinated Funding Requests– *R. Latham*
- Information: 2021-2022 Public Funding
- Information: LA4 and NSECD

Coordinated Enrollment – *R. Latham*
- Information: Coordinated Enrollment & Information Campaign

Coordinated Observations – *J. Roberts*
- Information: CLASS Observations Fall 2021
- Information: Spring 2022 Accountability

New Business - *K. Liederman*
- Information: Build Back Better – T. Falgoust
- Discussion: Sector Recovery & Workforce – *All*

Housekeeping & Next Steps – *J. Roberts*
- Information: NOEEN Staff Updates
- Information: Upcoming Working Groups
- Information: 2021-2022 Calendar

General Assembly

General Assembly - *Dr. K. Liederman*

Welcome! Call to Order & Roll Call

Action Item: Adoption of the Agenda

Action Item: Approval of Minutes

Action Item: CCR&R Representative Replacement

Ready Start Network
Initiatives Update

Ready Start Network Update – *J. Roberts*

Information: Ready Start Transform App

Action Item: RFA Lead Agency App

Information: Committees – Enrollment and Advocacy Updates

Information: Strategic Initiatives
- Funding Opportunities & Updates
- Parent Engagement & Representation

Ready Start Transform

- Grant award January 2022-2023; ~3 Grants to be distributed state wide
- Up to $1M/yr with match requirements
- Alignment/Integration with other local funding opportunities
- Applicants will be asked develop strategies that address barriers to access including, but not limited to:
    - A qualified, consistent, and adequately compensated workforce
    - Funding and sustainability at the local level for higher levels of quality
    - Alternative care programs that address the needs of all families
    - Wraparound supports for families & special needs services
    - Other community-level barriers significantly affecting supply and access

Ready Start Transform

- NOEEN submitted LOI and interviewed with LDE for Stage 1
- NOEEN has been invited to proceed to Stage 2 of review
- NOEEN's Proposed Deliverables
  - New Strategic Plan for Orleans Parish 0-4
  - Family Child Care Pilot
  - Early Childhood Program Incubator
  - Strengthen Supply Building Pipeline - HS to Career (WIB)
  - Community Engagement
  - Developmental Screenings for publicly funded seats

Lead Agency Application Action Item

- RFA for Lead Agency for Orleans Parish has been released by the LDE
- 2 year contract
- Agenda for Children and NOLA-PS will reapply jointly
  - Agenda For Children: Fiscal manager, Ready Start Network lead, CLASS Observations, PDG/B-3 seats, new programming, Steering Committee support
  - NOLA-PS: Enrollment Lead, Coordinated Funding Requests, Steering Committee support
- Will continue to assess long-term planning and sustainability over the course of this contract term

NOEEN Committees

- NOEEN Bylaws include three standing working committees:
  - Enrollment
  - Funding
  - Quality
- NOEEN established a Advocacy ad-hoc committee in Spring 2021.

Working Group	Update	Next Meeting
Advocacy Working Group	Working with leaders in the field to determine the best place for this work to live and thrive in Kenny's absence.	TBA
Enrollment Sub-Committee	Relaunching sub-committees with a focus on application, process overhauls based on historical and new feedback.	TBA

NOEEN Committees

Working Group	Update	Next Meeting
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- NOEEN Recommendations for Discussion
  - Enrollment Committee: NOLA-PS Monthly Advisory Group
  - Advocacy Committee: 4PxP

- Committee meetings to be scheduled before end of calendar year

Ready Start Network
Funding & Sector Investment

- *Ongoing Funding & Sector Investment*
  - NOEEN, NOLAPS, & Agenda are managing a number of grants to aid sector recovery:

Funding	Opportunity	Funder	Term	Partners
Community Recovery Grant	Improving enrollment, verification, and access.	LDOE	1 YR: 2021-2022	NOLA-PS, Agenda, NOEEN
Supply Building & Capacity Grant	Invest in building long-term supply and capacity; community needs assessments.	LDOE	1 YR: 2021-2022	Agenda, The Data Center
CLSD Quality & Literacy Supports	B-PK4 PD, coaching, curriculum investment, and other quality and literacy supports.	LDOE	3 YRS: 2020-2023	Agenda
Systems-level Family Engagement	Focus groups, facilitated conversations to determine how to capture caregiver voice	Pritzker	6 Mos.: May – Dec 2021	Agenda, NOEEN

Ready Start Network

Parent Engagement

- *Parent Engagement & Representation*
  - Parent engagement work has launched!
  - Facilitated focus groups will focus on determining how to ensure parent voice is reflected in EC decision-making and strategy.
  - Parent focus groups on going
  - NOEEN Steering Committee focus groups (phase 1) complete
  - January 2022 NOEEN SC Meeting will include phase 1 findings

Coordinated Funding

2023-2024 City Seats Millage – Update

2022-2023 LA4 & NSECD CFR

Coordinated Funding
Upcoming CFR Initiatives

2023-2024 City Seats Millage - Update

- NOEEN will launch a new millage campaign to provide long-term, sustainable funding to City Seats programming. This will complement our work around supply building & access expansion.

- We anticipate the results of the millage to impact the 2023-2024 school year, i.e.: our standard CFR and funding advocacy processes will persist for the 2022-2023 school year.

2022-2023 LA4 & NSECD CFR

- The 2022-2023 LA4 & NSECD CFR closed in November 2021.

- The CFR is how any / all providers seeking to maintain or add LA4 / NSECD seats apply to do so.
  - The Steering Committee will review and recommend applicants by January 2022
  - LDOE will revise and make statewide recommendations in Winter 2022
  - BESE will approve final funding recommendations in April 2022.

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EVERY CHILD. EVERY SCHOOL. EVERY DAY.

Coordinated Funding Request

Coordinated Funding Request Updates

Agenda launched the CFR applications for PK4 seats in October. The application closed on November 3, 2021. NOLA-PS is currenting conducting follow up with current programs that did not complete the application on time to confirm they plan to continue to serve PK4 students for the 2022-2023 school year. Our goal is to have 100% of the requests from current applicants completed over the next two weeks and began program evaluations for any new program requests.

Based on applications received, about 50% of the programs are requesting additional PK4 seats, including increased requests for both LA4 and NSECD seats. NOEEN will finalize the LDOE allocation recommendations at the January meeting.

Should the Coordinated Funding Requests recommended allocations to LDOE be prioritized for the committee to consider at the January or will we submit recommendations to LDOE fully aligned to all requests?

Coordinated Funding LA4/NSECD Allocations

Allocation health last year 2020-2021:

Funding	Target	Available Seats	Waitlist	Percentage Filled
LA4	1455	280	210	81%
NSECD	399	116	17	71%

Allocation health this year 2021-2022:

Funding	Target	Available Seats	Waitlist	Percentage Filled
LA4	1476	232	229	84%
NSECD	398	117	15	71%

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Enrollment Updates

NOLA-PS Common Enrollment System Updates

Over 3,500 families have submitted a Main Round application since the application launched last week.

- The first Main Round demand reports will be shared with enrollment staff during the week of 11/15. This will include a status update on transitional grade application completion.
- If you would like a NOLA-PS staff member to speak at an enrollment event for students in transitional grades, please email Maggie (mriddell@nolapublicschools.com)
- NOLA-PS will be sending reminders to families with students that need to complete an application, but programs should also be reminding families as needed throughout the application process.

NOLA-PS Common Enrollment System Updates

We are streamlining how we refer to the application process, NOLA-PS Common Application Process (NCAP)

- The OneApp will continue to be the application tool, but will no longer be used to describe the process.
- We will continue to update the language on our website to fully match this new direction.
- Families can still contact us at enroll@nolapublicschools.com or oneapp@nolapublicschools.com

Schools should use enrollment_support@nolapublicschools.comNOLA-PS is working to improve family experiences with our common enrollment system. The district launched the following on November 1:

- Enrollnolaps.com site aligned with NOLA-PS brand and easier navigability for families.
- A new School Finder tool to improve the parent experience of searching for schools. This navigable map includes school profiles that pull directly from your school profile page in SchoolForce.

Schools can review information for accuracy in SchoolForce and update editable fields. Locked fields can be updated by sending your request to enrollment_support@nolapublicschools.com.

We will continue to build features and make enhancements to the school finder tool and the Enrollnolaps site. To meet the needs of families, we need your feedback. Please complete our quick feedback form to send our team suggestions for future improvements.

Enrollment Promotional Screenshots

Coordinated Observations

CLASS Observations Fall 2021

- CLASS Observations are under way for the Fall 2021 season.
- NOEEN is offering both in-person and virtual observations, per center preference. We are also offering an additional level of notice regarding when to expect observations to occur.
- NOEEN has been pushing LDOE on timelines, expectations, reporting, and reliability metrics regarding CLASS, and will continue to do so.
- Head Start providers assisting NOEEN to complete by the deadline.

Performance & Accountability

- LDOE has not yet released its formal approach to performance reporting for 2020-2021 CLASS.
- Spring 2022 Observations will be adjusted/waived as appropriate pending ECCE and BESE approval.

New Business

Build Back Better – Presentation

Sector Recovery & Workforce Development

Build Back Better Provisions for Early Care and Education

Goal: make ECE affordable, accessible and high-quality for all families.

It has two main components:

- **Subsidized Child Care:** According to the Administration, BBB will enable Louisiana to provide access to child care for **307,562** young children (ages 0-5) per year from families earning under 2.5 times the state median income (about $198,667 for a family of 4), and ensure these families pay no more than 7% of their income on high-quality child care.

- **Universal Preschool:** Louisiana will be able to expand access to free, high-quality preschool to more than **60,031** additional 3- and 4-year-olds per year and increase the quality of preschool for children who are already enrolled.

Build Back Better Provisions for Child Care

- Raises income eligibility levels (to 250% State Median Income)
- Broadens who is eligible far beyond current CCAP criteria
- Caps co-payments at 7% of a family's income
- Sets reimbursement at cost of quality care (including living wages), not market rate
- Children must be younger than 6 and not yet in kindergarten

	75% SMI	100% SMI	125% SMI	150% SMI	250% SMI
Louisiana SMI	$61,897	$82,529	$103,161	$123,794	$206,323
Co-Payments as % of household income	0%	Up to 2%	2% to 4%	4% to 7%	7%
Monthly Co-Payments	$0	$1 - $138	$172 - $344	$413 - $722	$1,204

https://hunt-institute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/BBB-Copayments-4-Person-Families.pdf

Build Back Better Provisions for Child Care

- **Phase in** over several years, focusing on the lowest-income groups first (100% SMI in FFFY22, 125% in FFY23, 150% in FFY24, then 250% in FFY25)
- **Schedule:** Covers full day and full calendar year
- **Eligible providers:** Both center- and family-based child care providers are eligible to participate if they are: a) licensed to provide child care services under state law, and b) participating in their states' tiered quality measurement systems by the end of the third fiscal year for which their states receive funding
- **Other supports:** Startup grants and supply expansion grants, quality grants and facilities grants
- **Funding Use:** In the first few years, 50% of funds need to be used on increasing subsidy access, with 25% earmarked for child care supply and quality building activities; no more than 7% can be used for administrative expenses

https://hunt-institute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/BBB-Copayments-4-Person-Families.pdf

Build Back Better Provisions for Universal Preschool

- **Cost:** Free for all families
- **Settings:** Diverse delivery model (public schools, licensed center-based child care providers, licensed family child care providers, networks of community- and neighborhood-based child care providers, Head Start agencies and delegate agencies, and consortia thereof)
- **Priority:** As the program ramps up, priority will be given to children in high need areas, as well as to children experiencing homelessness, children in foster or kinship care, children in families engaged in migrant or seasonal agricultural labor, children with and dual language learners.
- **Schedule:** school-year (min. 1,020 hours annually); expectation is that many families will use the child care subsidy to pay for afterschool and summertime care
- **Funding:** All costs will be covered by the federal government in the first three years, and states will need to provide a match in later years, currently projected at 90/10 in FFY2025, 75/25 in FFY2026, and 60/40 in FFY2027.

Build Back Better Provisions for Universal Preschool

- **Teacher Education Requirements:** Bachelor's in early childhood education within six years of the start of funding, though there is a grandfather clause for teachers employed by an eligible provider for three of the five years prior to enactment
- **Teacher Wages:** All program staff must earn a living wage and teachers must earn salaries equivalent to similarly credentialed elementary school teachers
- **Head Start:** The Act calls on states to partner with Head Start agencies to ensure full utilization of available Head Start slots. States shall also award enhanced payments to eligible providers serving a high percentage of low-income students to support comprehensive services.

Build Back Better Provisions for Universal Preschool

Funding is going to quality supports, professional development, transportation and more:

States receiving funding under the Act shall:

a) administer a state prekindergarten program
b) support a continuous quality improvement system for providers to include training, technical assistance, monitoring, professional development and coaching
c) provide outreach and enrollment support to families
d) build supporting data systems
e) support staff in pursuing credentials and degrees
f) support the inclusion of children with disabilities
g) provide age-appropriate transportation, and
h) conduct and/or update statewide needs assessments detailing access to high-quality preschool services.

Considerations for Louisiana & New Orleans

Regulations

- Family child care licensure is likely on the horizon.
- Will the three-tiered licensing system be viable when most families are eligible for subsidies?

Funding Streams

- Can new funding be braided with Head Start to maximize comprehensive supports?
- Will we see the LA4 base grant increase?
- How can we better match supply and demand for preschool?

Considerations for Louisiana & New Orleans

Families

- What can be done to make it easier for families to find and evaluate their ECE options?
- How can we make it easier to match parents to vacancies?
- What processes can be put in place to ensure that diverse family needs (schedule, language, inclusion/intervention, program philosophy) are quantified and addressed?

Supply Building

- New funding explicitly prioritizes care during non-traditional hours, as well as service to dual-language learners, children with disabilities. How can we ensure that current supply-building work prepares the sector to act quickly and appropriately as new funds become available?
- What can be done now to build a workforce pipeline that is equitable and affords teachers a viable career ladder?
- **Job quality:** Wages are critical, but other factors can contribute to teachers' longevity (e.g. benefits, dedicated planning time, a sense of agency/efficacy). What can be done now to enable more programs to offer truly high-quality jobs in the future?

Sector Recovery and Workforce

Discussion: Workforce Development

Building, Recruiting, Retaining, and Sustaining a quality early care and education workforce

Housekeeping & Next Steps

NOEEN Staff Update

NOEEN Branding Update (FYI)

Working Groups & Upcoming Meetings

- SubCommittee meetings schedule

As a reminder, here is our meeting calendar for the 2021-2022 school year:

Scheduled Meetings

1. January 12, 2022
2. March 9, 2022
3. May 11, 2022

21-22 Bye-Months:

December
February
April

21-22 Recess:

June
July
August

21-22 Holidays:

Thanksgiving: 11/25
Christmas: 12/25
New Year's: 1/1
Mardi Gras: 3/1
Easter: 4/17

NOEEN New Orleans Early Education Network