New Orleans Early Education Network (NOEEN) Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes for September 20, 2023
Clover New Orleans, 1600 Constance St. New Orleans, LA 70130

Steering Committee Members in Attendance: Asya Howlette, Kate Mehok, Joy Mitchell, Jen Roberts, Derrick Toups, Rebecca Latham, Dr. Keith Liederman, Vanessa Chavis, Dr. Fateama Fulmore, Tomorrow Fondal

Steering Committee Members with Proxy: Anna Williamson (proxy Tonia Loria), Thelma French (proxy Jonika Julian)

Steering Committee Members Absent: Melanie Richardson, Maria Blanco, Dr. Shayla Guidry Hilaire, Sheraé Hunter, Rochelle Wilcox, Stacey Barquet

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I. **Call to Order** - D. Toups
   - D. Toups called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

II. **Roll Call** - D. Toups

III. **Adoption of Previous Minutes** - D. Toups
   - **Action Item**: Adoption of Minutes from August 23 Steering Committee Meeting and September 13th Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee Meeting
     - On the motion of K. Mehok, seconded by A. Howlette the minutes from the August 23 Steering Committee Meeting and the September 13 Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee Meeting were approved.

IV. **Community Network Updates and Considerations**
   - **Lead Agency** - Caitlin Boley
     - Caitlin Boley provided updates on CLASS observations, Data Certification, and additional Lead Agency requirements.
       a) Feedback - Can we include previous CLASS data in comparison to current CLASS data?
   - **Coordinated Enrollment** - R. Latham
     - R. Latham provided updates on seat allocations, the enrollment timeline for the 24-25 school year, and the CFR process.
     - **Questions?**
       a) Did the subcommittee review the rubric?
       (1) Yes. There is a meeting with Foundant on the afternoon of 9/20. The results of the meeting will be shared with the Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee, and there will be an opportunity to provide feedback.
   - **Publicly-Funded Seats** - J. Roberts
     - J. Roberts provided updates on the timeline for allocation of state match and B3 seats, highlighting the impact of difference in state-level and local requirements.
     - D. Toups public acknowledged the efforts of J. Roberts and Teresa Falgoust for writing a letter to LDOE outlining barriers in strategy and challenges to access for state-funded early childhood seats.
     - **Questions?**
       a) Are there public spaces where voices from the NOEEN steering committee would be helpful?

(1) There is a public meeting of the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) meeting on Monday, September 25.

- **Ready Start Network and Millage Capacity Building** - D. Toups
  - D. Toups provided updates on wage enhancements for Orleans Parish early educators, NAEYC conference attendance for City Seats teachers, ECAC subsidies, facilities expansion, and a substitute teacher pilot for City Seats sites.
  - **Questions?**
    a) Has Enriched been used by early childhood sites previously?
    (1) Yes, one of the City Seats sites has used this service.
  - Morgan Shannon from the Power Coalition for Equity and Justice presented on their role in increasing awareness and access for issues related to early childhood education.
  - **Group Discussion Questions from Power Coalition/ Questions?**
    a) Does Power Coalition feel equipped to answer questions that they receive? They can provide an outreach list from the door.
    b) How do we follow up with community member questions?
    c) Is there additional information that can be collected in a simple format to inform enrollment?
    d) Can we identify "hubs" for information handoff vs. using a website?
    e) Can we collect micro-data within an area (ex. Little Woods vs. New Orleans East)?
    f) Are we considering pockets of unmet need (ex. English Language Learners who have been enrolled in K-12 and not Early Childhood)?

V. **Subcommittee and Working Group Reports**

- **Executive Subcommittee** - D. Toups
  - D. Toups provided updates on current committee member vacancies.
  - **Action Item:** Approval of a three-year term extension (through 2026) for Joy Mitchell, Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Representative
    a) On the motion of K. Mehok, seconded by J. Roberts, the Steering Committee voted to approve a three-year term extension (through 2026) for Joy Mitchell, Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Representative.
  - **Action Item:** Approval of NOEEN 501(c)(3) Board of Directors Steering Committee Representatives
    a) On the motion of J. Mitchell, seconded by V. Chavis, the Steering Committee voted to approve the NOEEN 501(c)(3) Board of Directors Steering Committee Representatives. *(Abstained from vote: J. Roberts, K. Liederman)*
  - **Action Item**: Approval of FY 2024 Millage Budget Draft Priorities
    a) On the motion of K. Mehok, seconded by A. Howlette, the Steering Committee voted to approve the FY 2024 Millage Budget Draft Priorities. *(Abstained from vote: J. Roberts, R. Latham, T. Loria, F. Fulmore)*
- **Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee** - R. Latham
  - R. Latham provided updates on the progress of the Coordinated Funding Request algorithm and priorities for 2024-25.
- **Family Engagement Subcommittee** - A. Howlette
  - A. Howlette asked for feedback from the committee - What information would you like shared with families?

a) We have 700 seats coming online. Where would you like us to go with this information?
b) It's not too late to get a seat.
c) If families are interested in jobs, utilize the website - earlychildhoodjobs.org

- **Workforce Task Force** - D. Toups
  - D. Toups provided updates on strategy progress.

VI. **Open Forum**

VII. **Adjournment** - D. Toups
- Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.