

Durham PreK Governance Committee
Quality Subcommittee Meeting Notes
 March 11, 2021 (3:00pm – 5:00pm)

In Attendance: Leigh Bordley, Cathy Collie-Robinson, Cate Elander, Wykeshia Glass, Monnie Griggs, Doré LaForett, Jennifer Lacewell, Alex Livas-Dlott, Beth Messersmith, Melinda Rodriguez, Brenda Williamson

What	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welcome ▪ Agenda Review ▪ Review and approve notes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviewed meeting objectives ▪ Reviewed meeting notes from January 14, 2021. Motion to approve meeting notes.
Action Taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Quality Subcommittee approved the meeting notes from January 14, 2021.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham PreK Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NCPK/DPK Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Directors submitted the NC PreK monitoring tool by January 25th ○ Monitoring visits will be completed by March 31st ○ Family engagement monitoring to be completed in April ○ Teacher paystub monitoring in January and in May ▪ The upcoming school year application launched on February 15th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Online through Survey Monkey Apply in English and in Spanish ○ Community Training and Parent Information Sessions completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham PreK Mode of Instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham Public Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hybrid model to begin March 15, 2021. Families can choose in-person or virtual. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ About 50% in PreK are choosing virtual and 50% in-person ➤ Reduced class sizes for in-person ▪ Private Childcare PreK Classrooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hybrid model continues (in-person and virtually) ○ Only about 25%-30% are virtual and the rest in-person ▪ Durham Head Start Classrooms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hybrid model began January 13th ○ Families attend virtually and a reduced number in-person with reduced class sizes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham PreK Technical Assistance (Updates) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Technical Assistance continues virtually ○ A.S.K. Conference Durham PreK Thread – Implicit Bias & Racism in Early Childhood Education: Empowering YOU to create an Anti-Racist Classroom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hosted by Dr. Ronda Taylor Bullock ▪ 5-hour CEU over 3 days ▪ 65 DPK teachers attended ○ MMCI cohort is underway ○ CLASS assessments to be completed virtually/video this Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham PreK Website and Newsletters (Updates) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New web page – Durham PreK Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Online application link. Families can choose English or Spanish. ○ Video walkthroughs of application tool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How to create an account and other walkthrough guides ○ Video FAQs about required application documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guide on what documents are required ○ FAQs from family application information session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All questions we received from information sessions with answers provided ○ All available in English and Spanish. Available in other languages. ▪ Community Connections and Teacher Talk Newsletters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ February Newsletter – Racial Equity in Early Childhood ○ Next newsletter – Breaking Stereotypes in the PreK Classroom ▪ Are teachers being vaccinated? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Division of Childhood Development and Early Education asked the CCRR agencies across the State to contact all programs in our 9 county regions. Collect contact information on teachers and early childhood education staff so as vaccination events are scheduled we can get it directly to the teachers. ○ The TA team spent over a week contacting every program in our 9 regions to collect contact information and assess who are interested in getting the vaccine, who wasn't sure about getting the vaccine and those that are declining the vaccine. ○ In Durham – a good number of teachers were unsure or didn't want the vaccination. ○ Collected information for over 1000 staff members, 92 at the time already had the shot, 499 needed and wanted the vaccine, 154 do not want to get vaccinated, and 133 are unsure

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham PreK SY21-22 Application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online application released February 15, 2021. ▪ Families can complete the application independently and is available in English and Spanish ▪ Virtual application appointments available ▪ As of March 10, 2021 – 610 applications started
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham PreK Equity Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviewed survey results for equity plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 Responses from Quality Subcommittee members ▪ Durham PreK Equity Plan Survey - Highest priority items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 85.71% - Before and After Care for Families ○ 85.71% - Implement an anti-racist pre-k curriculum/lesson plans ○ 71.43% - Increase number of Spanish-speaking teachers of Latinx/Hispanic background ○ 71.43% - Equity based professional development plan for teachers/directors ▪ Dual language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We identified training for supporting dual language learners ○ Zero to Three contracted to do a training in May ▪ Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Barrier for families to accepting spaces ○ High in cost to implement ▪ For the next year or two focus on what is doable in the short-term ▪ Durham PreK Equity Plan Survey - High Value <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Before and After Care for Families ○ Increase number of Spanish-speaking teachers of Latinx/Hispanic background ○ Implement an anti-racist pre-k curriculum/lesson plans ▪ Durham PreK Equity Plan Survey - Effort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highest effort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase number of teachers of Latinx/Hispanic background ▪ Include alternative type of programs in DPK (Family child care home, half-day programs) ○ Lowest effort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting equity based professional development plan for teachers/directors. Already systems in place. ▪ Durham PreK Equity Plan Survey – Cost <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The highest cost <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transportation for families ○ The lowest cost

- Support programs in providing communication in preferred home language
 - Equity based professional development plan for teachers/directors
- Top 4 strategies in the next school year
 - Before and after care for families
 - Increase number of Spanish speaking teachers of Latinx-Hispanic background
 - Equity based professional development plan for teachers/directors
 - Implement an anti-racist pre-k curriculum/lesson plans
- **Conversation Highlights**
 - It would be a good idea to provide the cost associated with each action plan
 - It can help drive the conversation
 - Out of the box strategies for implementation
 - Create incentives for programs to offer Before and After care
 - Alternatives or partnerships to transportation problem
 - DPS does not offer before and after care
 - Infrastructure changes would need to happen
 - DPS before and after school care programs are not licensed to offer care to pre-k students
 - More accessible to families by offering scholarships
 - In our research phase, we need to think about other factors, such as what partnerships we need to explore and what training we will need.
 - What does it cost to get an early childhood associates degree at Durham Tech?
 - \$5,396 estimated tuition and fees.
 - If we want to attract people to the field, we can create scholarships and possibly a WAGE\$ supplement if you are bilingual.
 - Building the workforce and compensation is huge in sustaining continuity with the system
 - Think more on advocacy and getting everyone involved in influencing legislature for early childhood education
 - We are working on an advocacy page of the Durham PreK website
 - Provider and Parent advocacy
 - Collect stories from Providers, teachers and parents
 - For the Anti-Racist Preschool education, we had a learning thread with great conversations. We would like to continue the conversation with DPK teachers and teacher assistants.
 - Contract Dr. Ronda Bullock for a monthly cohort next school year

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A learning series with support on lesson planning and more intentionality around anti-racist preschool educational practices ▪ Provide an incentive to join and be part of this learning community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham PreK Equity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Next steps. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alex will highlight identifiable goals and draft a plan to review for May’s meeting. ○ Connect with Charlotte Bilingual Preschool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thoughts around increasing Latinx teachers that speak Spanish ▪ https://www.bilingualpreschool.org/prek/ ○ Spanish for Fun & Sounds and Colors also operate a good program to further investigate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Next Steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Next meeting, March 11, 2021 3:00pm – 5:00pm