

Reflective Emergent Practice Network Meeting Minutes

Monday May 8, 2017 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - Regrets- Patricia Couroux
2. Acceptance of Minutes from Last Meeting; Accepted
3. Acceptance of Agenda and Additions
 - Reviewing the agenda and adding additional areas; the agenda was accepted with no amendments.
4. Tour of Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care – spoke to emergent journey through all classrooms while on tour. Pointed out many repurposed items as well as programs offered in an emergent way.
5. Sharing how conversations from previous network meetings have been utilized in practice. Participants will also have an opportunity to discuss barriers that have arisen and discuss possible solutions.
 - Had conversation regarding previous network highlighted how centres were moving on journey using reflective practice and how more reflection has helped with conflict resolution and problem solving
 - Participants identified that all changes take time by reflecting and observing and not everyone goes at the same pace
 - Participants identified barriers such as seasoned staff reluctant to embark on journey of reflective practice and children destroying and disrespecting materials. Another barrier has also been the participation and engagement of parents
 - Other participants offered suggestions for modeling behavior with materials and explaining the use (some children have never had the opportunity to touch a vase full of flowers), but also modeling behavior for the staff and inspiring each other
 - A participant with a family support program offered suggestions based on family support program background and family engagement
6. Making children's learning visible through reflection utilizing the 'Thinking Lens for Reflection and Inquiry' to reflect on potential directions to explore. Educators are asked to bring photographs, from their settings, to use as part of this activity
 - Pictures of children looking at trucks and pointing out the window during naturalizing playground construction and pictures of scaffolding learning from experience
 - These pictures also brought on conversation of playground and community garden where cook uses produce in meals made for children
 - Other participants offered ideas of centre cookbook for a seed to table aspect
 - Explored playground photos on laptop to discuss
 - Spoke to mindfulness and exploring new possibilities
7. ECCDC Resource Display – Resource Reference List and Resource Display
 - Shari spoke to Nature Forum and how to access on website

- Professional Learning Opportunities offered in Spring ESTEEM
- Engaging Families in the Early Years in Authentic Ways and Fostering Effective Communication with Colleagues and Community Partners
- Creating Strong and Resilient Teams Through Mindfulness
- Strengthening Your Resiliency and Lowering Your Stress Through Mindfulness

8. Future Network Development

- Fall Meeting & Future Network Opportunities
- Participants would like to know more about reaching out to community partners and how to access resources
- Would like information on what kind of connections they can make to access different resources

9. Meeting Evaluation – reminder of opportunity to attend any network at any time without having attended previous one