

**Cincinnati Preschool Promise  
Board of Managers**

Minutes Board of Managers Meeting March 22, 2022

Zoom

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Board Members Present:**

O'dell Moreno Owens, M.D., M.P.H. (Chair), Terri England, Marcia Futel, Crystal Perkins, Verline Dotson, Micah Kamrass, Christine Fisher, Anthony Hobson, Laura Sanregret, Gary Lindgren, and Sallie Westheimer

**Board Members Absent:**

Deborah Allsop, Jalissa Hutchins, and Bishop Ennis Tait

**Guests:**

Jacob Purcell – CPP Counsel, Manley Burke  
Carolyn Brinkman – The Children's Home

**Observers Present:**

Vera Brooks – Director of Early Childhood, Cincinnati Public Schools

**Observers Absent:**

Maira Weir – CEO, United Way of Greater Cincinnati  
Jennifer Wagner - Cincinnati Public Schools  
Greg Landsman - Promise Forward

**Cincinnati Preschool Promise Staff Present (CPP):**

Chara Fisher Jackson – Executive Director & CEO  
Héctor Polanco - Finance Director  
Florence Malone Crump- Outreach & Enrollment Manager  
LaKeisa Ealy - Community Engagement & Marketing Manager  
Kenetra Mathis- Program and Evaluation Manager  
Brittnei Pina – Quality Improvement Manager  
Tanya Del Valle – Senior Administrative Assistant

**Members of the Public:**

Kim Ginn- 4C for Children  
Paige Runion- 4C for Children  
Alisa Britten- Public Ally  
Lisa Garofalo - SWOAEYC  
Deanna Lane – Learning Grove

**1. Welcome, Roll Call, and Approval of Agenda**

O'dell Moreno Owens, M.D., M.P.H. welcomed Board members, members of the public and officially opened the meeting at 4:02 PM and read the statement below:

Please note that in conjunction with Ohio's Sunshine Laws and Substitute House Bill 51, the Committee has decided to convene the meeting via video conference. In accordance with Ohio's Sunshine Laws and Substitute House Bill 51, the Committee has advertised the meeting on CPP's website in advance and has provided a link for members of the public to listen to and view the meeting. The meeting will be recorded. A copy of the meeting minutes, including any documentation, will be made available on the CPP website, under the area Who We Are, Leadership, Meeting Schedule & Minutes as soon as possible after the meeting.

## **2. Review and Approval of Minutes of January 25, 2022**

A motion was requested to approve the meeting minutes.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the minutes of January 25, 2022, was made by Laura Sanregret and seconded by Anthony Hobson. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **3. Mission Moment**

Mischelle Berry of God's Little Angels Learning Center shared how the Cincinnati Preschool Promise has positively impacted the children and families she serves and the staff at her center.

## **4. Executive Director's Report**

### **Step Up to Quality Changes (SUTQ) (effective April 15, 2022)**

- Reduction in the paperwork at initial registration or when requesting a higher rating
- Discontinuing the rating renewal process to make the SUTQ rating continuous
- No longer requiring a school-age curriculum

### **PFCC Rule Changes (issued March 8, 2022)**

- Childcare will begin utilizing the Ohio Benefits statewide integrated web-based eligibility system for eligibility processing in 2022
- Hamilton County is a pilot location for the phased-in approach
- Rules have been amended to incorporate changes due to Bill 110
- Clarifications to countable income, provider & County responsibilities for eligibility determinations, payment rates, & procedures

### **State of Early Childhood Education**

- The CPP Board of Managers discussed the impacts and CPP strategic response to the Vanderbilt University Peabody research article titled "Effects of a Statewide Pre-Kindergarten Program on Children's Achievement and Behavior Through Sixth Grade", also referred to as the "Tennessee report".

### **RFP Update**

- Chara Fisher Jackson reviewed the CPP RFP timeline. The Evaluation and Coaching RFPs have been issued. Eligibility & Customer Service will be issued in April. The contract lengths have been staggered, so they will not all fall in the same year in the future.

### **Tuition Assistance Application Status**

Enrolled Students – 625

Withdrawn –138

Denied

Address not in the district – 36

Income too high (over 301% FPL) – 8

Too old – 27

Too young – 86

Dr. Owens asked what might be causing the dashboard rating of yellow for Professional Development. Chara Fisher Jackson said that provider fatigue seemed to be the leading cause of low professional development enrollment as well as relaxing the SUTQ requirements in a non-biennium year and staffing shortages.

### **5. 2022 Extended Learning Session (ELS)**

Chara Fisher Jackson said that the 2022 Extended Learning Session would allow up to 610 preschoolers to receive 11 additional weeks of extended learning and cost \$1,250,000 to offset the learning losses caused by the pandemic.

A motion was requested to approve the Extended Learning Session for 2022.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the Extended Learning Session for 2022 was made by Sallie Westheimer and seconded by Marcia Futel. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **6. 2022 Pitch Night - Kindergarten-Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids (K-SPARK)**

Chara Fisher Jackson presented the highlights of the K-SPARK program and costs of \$88,965 and an additional 3% incentive for providers to recruit families. Carolyn Brinkman from the Children's Home answered questions about the program, beginning with community providers and possibly expanding to center providers.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the Kindergarten-Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids (K-SPARK) and an additional 3% incentive for providers was called by Micah Kamrass and seconded by Terri England. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **8. Committee Reports**

#### **Finance & Audit**

Anthony Hobson reviewed the answers to previous questions about the FY21 Audit.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the CPP FY21 Audit was called by Laura Sanregret and seconded by Marcia Futel. The motion was unanimously approved.

## Community Engagement

Chara Fisher Jackson provided updates for the committee, including:

- Website traffic continues to increase.
- Four new ambassadors have been recruited.
- Cincinnati Parent Magazine advertisement has been placed.
- Greenlight and CPP are promoting the partnership with The Literacy Lab to support Leading Men Fellowship.

## Governance

Marcia Futel asked that everyone tries to attend April 26, 2022, Strategic Planning Retreat scheduled from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM at the United Way of Greater Cincinnati Convening Center. She mentioned that we had significant participation in the survey. The results of the Strategic Planning Retreat will allow the Governance Committee to update the Board Education planning for the year. She said the committee would be working on updating the Equity Policy as requested by Chara Fisher Jackson.

## Cost of Quality

Gary Lindgren discussed the current work of the committee and its accomplishments.

- Teacher Promise Grants (TPG) now has 46 providers and 84 teachers.
- Staff Support Fund (SSF) currently serves 20 providers with 27 grants.
- Partnerships to promote the Early Childhood Learning Workforce include:
  - Cincinnati State University – Teacher Completion Grants and Career Fairs
  - 4C for Children- Career Navigator position
  - Literacy Lab/ Greenlight Fund – Leading Men Fellowship
  - National Association for the Education of Young Children – paid standard annual membership offered for CPP teachers

## 9. Master Agreement Renewal

Chara Fisher Jackson discussed the Master Agreement and Levy timeline. Jacob Purcell, CPP Council, said the Master Agreement Committee had produced a redline draft of the Master Agreement that will be shared with the Cincinnati Public School committee soon. Then both committees will meet to discuss proposed changes.

Jacob Purcell shared that the proposed changes mainly fit into the categories listed below:

1. Expanded Tuition Assistance (TA) Eligibility to include 2-Star providers on track to rising to 3-Stars and expanded Quality Improvement coaching to 3-5-Star providers
2. Expanding TA Timeline to include the months of May, June, and July
3. Insourcing of Special Education Services that CPP would contract from licensed Special Education professionals to provide services for CPP students
4. Functional Autonomy in accordance with the proper public purpose and following all laws and regulations which Cincinnati Public Schools must follow

## 10. CPS Updates

Vera Brooks, Director of Early Childhood, Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS), provided the update below.

- Congratulations to the Pitch Night Winner K-SPARK

- Thank you to CPP for including CPS in the Ready for Kindergarten event
- CPS will be offering the JUMPSTART program in the fall
- New Superintendent Wright will start on May 2.
- The theme of the Summer Preschool Session is Exercise Your Brain and Body. A special set of materials can be purchased to accompany the Summer Curriculum to help community providers

#### **11. Observers' Comments**

None

#### **12. Adjourn**

**ACTION:** A motion to adjourn was made by Laura Sanregret and seconded by Terri England. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **Future CPP Board of Managers Meetings**

- May 25, 2022 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- June 28, 2022 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- August 30, 2022 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- September 20, 2022 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- September 29\*, 2022 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- October 25, 2022 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- November 29, 2022 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM

\*Briefing for Year 5 Evaluation Results

Submitted by Tanya Del Valle, Senior Administrative Assistant, Cincinnati Preschool Promise