



**Service Delivery Area 4
Regional Advisory Council
Meeting Summary February 16th, 2022**

View the recording of this meeting here: <https://youtu.be/VMnY4lpSZtg>

1. Call to Order and Meeting Overview:

- a. SDA 4 RAC Chair made welcoming remarks orienting participants to the purpose of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meeting, called the meeting to order, provided an overview of the agenda items and meeting goals, and discussed meeting systems and procedures.

2. Introductions:

- a. Members introduced themselves by sharing their names and professional role.
- b. Members present included: Kristi Burkhart, Jennifer Speer, Barb Newton.

3. Reviewed Old Business:

- a. At the beginning of each Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meeting, the Council reviews action items and recommendations from the previous meeting and discusses progress.
- b. You can view past meeting minutes, recommendations, and their related action plan for each Service Delivery Area (SDA) on the SPARK website: <http://indianaspark.com/regional-advisory-councils/>. In addition, you can find more information about these recommendations and updates on the [SDA 4 website](#) and in the meeting slide deck.

4. New Business

- a. OECOSL Provider Recognition Program:
 - i. To acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Indiana's early education teachers and out-of-school-time professionals, OECOSL released an opportunity for colleagues, families, and system staff to nominate those who showed exemplary skills and are making a difference in their community.
 - ii. In this initial round, over 180 nominations were received. As a result, we are pleased to recognize individuals throughout the state as Outstanding Educator Award Certificate and funds to purchase additional materials for their classrooms.
- b. Build Learn Grow Stabilization Grant:
 - i. Build Learn Grow launched the second round of grant funding. Applications will be open from January 17th, 2022, through April 15, 2022. In addition, the website and frequently asked questions have all been revised (stabilization.buildlearngrow.org).
 - ii. SPARK is providing educational events with local partners throughout the state. Each virtual event will provide access to professional experts within the business fields to assist providers in making informed business decisions. Statewide Build Learn Grow Community Event Schedule: <https://indianaspark.com/build-learn-grow-community-events/>
- c. Indiana Early Learning Foundation Updates
 - i. The Early Learning Foundations have undergone revision since July 2020. The Governor announced the formation of the Office of Kindergarten Readiness in IDOE, and the updated Foundations release was delayed until this is newly



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- formed office is complete. SPARK and industry partners will continue to monitor the progress and provide RAC updated information as it is released.
- ii. SPARK will build off the IDOE training. RAC members provided the following suggestions regarding potential resources to help providers with training and implementation of the Foundation training: give an electronic copy of materials to review before training, offer virtual or in-person meetings, provide time to review and think of questions, and provide training with a lot of real-life examples.
 - iii. The RAC Members provided feedback to SPARK regarding the type of supplemental resources, materials, and training for providers once OECOSL releases the new Foundations updates.
 - 1. Application-based training that links activity to foundations
 - 2. Show examples of how to integrate curriculum with foundations
 - 3. Materials enhance learning environments
 - 4. Quick Glance Guide
 - 5. Lesson Plans Templates
 - d. Indiana Learning Paths Course Collections
 - i. The Course Collections were created in ILEAD based on the recommendations of RAC. The training collections will support onboarding learning paths for new educators and leaders. Course collections have all required training for new educators and leadership positions.
 - e. PTQ Organizational Incentives
 - i. The RAC Members discussed the PTQ program and the organizational incentives: Overall, participation in Paths to QUALITY™ will give programs better access to knowledge, information, assistance, materials, and general support to help them provide higher quality early care and education experiences for young children. LINK: [PTQ Program Incentives](#)
 - f. Indiana Learning System Partner Map
 - i. The RAC Members reviewed the Indiana Early Care & Learning System Partner Map to understand all the partners and organizations within the community. This map is a guide to help you know who to call for various topics, training, and resources. [Find Partner Map: My SPARK Learning Lab](#)
 - g. Think Tank
 - i. RAC Members are able to speak about ideas and topics compiled among council members before or during the meeting.
 - 1. RAC members requested a way to submit comments, thought, and questions anonymously between quarterly meetings.

7. Public Comment

- a. Invite public comments and questions that an agenda item has not covered. Attendees are encouraged to enter comments/questions into the Zoom chat if they are more comfortable.
 - i. TEACH Scholarships are available. Contact TEACH Advisor, Nahid, nrezaei@inaeyc.or for more information.

8. Agreements and Action Items



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- a. Based on what was presented, RAC discussion, and public comment, the RAC brought forth the following recommendations/agreements for SPARK Learning Lab and/or partners to consider:
 - i. RAC Members asked SPARK to reach out to Sarah Parks-Reese to speak on the foundations at RAC meetings.

9. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a. SDA 4 RAC Meeting will be held virtually on April 20th, 2020, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- b. Stay Connected with SPARK
 - i. Sign up for SPARK newsletter: <http://indianaspark.com/>
 - ii. SPARK Group Features
 - iii. Follow SPARK on social media!
 - 1. [Facebook](#)
 - 2. [Twitter](#)
 - 3. [Instagram](#)
 - iv. Email RAC@indianaspark.com with questions

10. Adjournment