



Service Delivery Area 5 Regional Advisory Council Meeting Summary February 8th, 2022

View the recording of this meeting here: <https://youtu.be/RXn6RxqsNnE>

1. Call to Order and Meeting Overview:

- a. SDA 5 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: Debbie Beeler, Maria Wyne, Ann Feldhaus, Sharon Tankerskey, Christy Angel-Smith

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 5 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 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.



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- iii. RAC Members provided the following feedback: Provide in-person and experiential training, on-demand training, refresher courses, leadership resources and guides on implementing The Foundations within their program, and information to educate families on the Foundations.
 - 1. Krystal Robison Provide the following OECOSL family resources:
 - a. Spanish:
https://www.in.gov/doi/files/10_early-learning-family-guides-spanish-updated-final-website.pdf
 - b. Early Learning Family Guides - English:
<https://www.in.gov/doi/files/Early-Learning-Family-Guides-FINAL-updated-1-25-22.pdf>
- 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.
 - ii. RAC members provided the following feedback: Move the course on Preventing Expulsion to Part 2 instead of waiting until the end of the period. Additionally, members would like to assign courses within the system.
- e. Power of Peer Program
 - i. Training will help you get families excited about what you do every day. A way to promote high-quality parent/child interactions at home.
 - ii. Families in your program will have access to various additional time-friendly opportunities to engage with their children, which will ultimately result in positive relationships and powerful connections between home and your program. By building these connections and advocating for quality family experiences, your program will be strengthened, and families will have the building blocks for maintaining home-school connections as their children grow.
 - iii. All participants who complete the training will receive a free PEER Activity Cards book.
 - iv. You can register by logging into your I-LEAD account and registering in Indiana Learning Paths for SPARK! Power of PEER Training Level 1 (Virtual or Face to Face).
 - v. For additional information regarding the program, you can review the website: [The Power of PEER](#).
- f. SPARK Updates
 - i. The SPARK Annual report provided highlights and updates on the progress made throughout the contract year ([2020-2021 Full Report](#)).
 - ii. SPARK has several expansion opportunities with more intensive mental health supports and advancing business and administrative resources.
 - iii. SPARK is launching provider mental health support groups:
 - 1. Offers 12 hours of group consultation with an LCSW
 - 2. Up to 15 professionals per group
 - 3. The second round of groups started in January
 - 4. The third round is to begin in April
 - iv. SPARK is currently negotiating an Employee Assistance Program for Indiana's entire ECE & OST workforce.

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. No public comments.



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8. Agreements and Action Items

- 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. Course Collections: SPARK to consider moving the *Preventing Expulsion* course to part two instead of at the end of the collection.
 - ii. Course Collections: SPARK look into the technology and capabilities of assigning course within the system.

9. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a. SDA 5 RAC Meeting will be held virtually on May 10th, 2022.
- 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