

Welcome to the SDA 5 RAC Meeting!



Purpose

SPARK needs you, your time, and your voice.

The purpose of the Regional Advisory Council is to strategically aid and advise SPARK Learning Lab about our services, so we can better support those who support Hoosier children and families.

We know your time is precious and thank you for joining us tonight.



These Hoosiers are worth it...



Meeting Overview

- Review Old Business
- New Business
 - PTQ Insufficiencies
 - PTQ Advancement Support
 - Record Keeping
 - Staff Recruitment and Retention
- Community Comment
- Agreements and Action Items
- RAC Updates from around Indiana
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- Adjournment

**Community comment will be heard after each agenda item*

Welcome & Introductions

Please leave in the chat:

- Name
- Organization
- Role
- If you are RAC member



Review Old Business

- At the beginning of each meeting, the Council reviews action items and recommendations from the previous meeting and discusses progress made
- View meeting minutes for each SDA on the SPARK website
<http://indianaspark.com/regional-advisory-councils/>

Old Business – Communications

Coordination of partner communications to reduce overwhelm and confusion.

Leadership of SPARK and system partners are now meeting regularly to better coordinate and collaborate our efforts. We will be sure to continue to bringing communications to the conversation, as well.

Old Business – Coach Engagement

How do providers access coaching when needing immediate access to a coach?

Self-referral

Easier Access to Coach Support

- NEW Provider facing “Referral Form” at our website → **SPARK Support** → **Coach Support**
- Allows providers to request and receive access around 5 areas of support
- Experience is similar to the support received following a referral from OECOSL or system partner



Old Business – Coaching Engagement

Understanding the long term more comprehensive coaching experience as a VCP, PTQ or licensed program.

SPARK offers 3-month cohorts for VCP and PTQ coaching.

If this is not the right approach for a program, they can "raise their hand" via the Help Desk or Self Referral form and have a Coach's support for up to 30 days to determine where to focus their efforts and understand all of the support, including coaching, that is available.

Old Business – I-SAT Revision

Using the I-SAT as a tool and not the first way to receive support.

Programs are now able to "raise their hands" via Help Desk and Self-Referral form to request coaching.

Coaches are able to provide up to 30 days of virtual or in-program coaching during which time the I-SAT can be used to help identify need or not.

Old Business – I-SAT Revision

Increased communication on why a program should take the I-SAT with examples of how it could apply to them.

SPARK is preparing a robust and comprehensive communications plan that includes messaging on the ISAT and includes "what's in it for me".

No Old Business

Questions?





New Business

PATHS TO QUALITY (PTQ) INSUFFICIENCY TRENDS

Paths to **QUALITY** Overview

- PTQ is Indiana's QRIS (quality rating and improvement system)
- PTQ is free and voluntary
- PTQ standards are consistent but tailored based on program- Licensed Homes, Licensed Centers, Registered Ministries and Preschools operating within a Public/Private School

Paths to QUALITY Overview

Four Levels of PTQ

- Level 1- Health and Safety
- Level 2- Learning Environments
- Level 3- Planned Curriculum
- Level 4- Nationally Accredited (by one of the 7 approved accrediting bodies- NAEYC, NAFCC, NECPA, AdvancED –Cognia, ACSI, COA, NLSA)

PTQ Insufficiencies Data

(Most Commonly Missed Standards)

- Foundations Certificate
- Art at Child's Eye Level
- Meeting the Education requirements
- Director is a member of a National Organization
- Training hours
- Writing/Art/Music Interest Areas
- Surveys (Staff/Families)
- Level 4- Accreditation Certificate

PTQ Insufficiencies Data

What Has Been Done

Foundations Certificate-

1. Added a column to the Confirmation Checklist that is submitted when a rating request is made.
 - i. Asking the program leader to put the date each staff member has taken the Foundations Training.
 - ii. If any are blank, we will ask the program to add this information.
2. Added a direct link to the Foundations training to SPARK resources to help programs find the correct training.

PTQ Insufficiencies Data

What Has Been Done

- Director is a member of a National Organization
 - A new resource is available on My SPARK Learning Lab around the different National Memberships that would meet this standard
- A new section has been added to the SPARK newsletter around Paths to QUALITY.
 - We will highlight different commonly missed standards and provide ideas, picture samples, and resources on how these might be met.

Discussion Question - PTQ

What type of “program examples” would be most helpful for programs?



Discussion Question - PTQ

What additional resources, tools, or support are needed around the PTQ insufficiencies education?



PTQ ADVANCEMENT SUPPORT

PTQ Advancement 101

What is SPARKS Role in PTQ Advancement?

SPARK Learning Lab has many different supports available to programs working on advancing levels.

- PTQ Cohorts
- Content and resources available on My SPARK Learning Lab under PTQ Success Tools or on our new PTQ Resource Site
- Coaching support available

SPARK: 2021 - 2022

PTQ Performance Measures

1. Maintain enrollment for PTQ
 - Not only maintained but saw a nearly 2% increase in eligible programs enrolling in PTQ.
 - Only decrease was in Registered Ministries (nearly 4%)
2. Increase the number of programs that advance by 5%
 - Increased advancement by 5% or just over 228 programs

SPARK: 2022 - 2023

PTQ Performance Measures

- Maintain enrollment for PTQ
 - Estimated 77% of eligible programs are enrolled in PTQ
- Increase the number of programs that advance by 5%
 - Estimated 240+ programs advance at least one level between October 1 and September 30

Coach Engagement Possibilities

- Get to know your Coach!
 - Flyer and Map of coaches will be mailed out at the end of the month.
- Use the Self-Referral
 - [Link to website](#)
- Up to 30 days of on-site support
 - Breakthrough a barrier, identify where to go next or what to work on first, learn more about all that SPARK has to offer

Easier Access to Coach Support

- NEW Provider facing “Referral Form” at our website → **SPARK Support** → **Coach Support**
- Allows providers to request and receive access around 5 areas of support
- Experience is similar to the support received following a referral from OECOSL or system partner



Paths to **QUALITY** Update

- All PTQ forms will be available in Spanish by end of the year
- New PTQ Resource Site
 - It is available on My SPARK Learning Lab [here](#). You will have to log in to access it.
 - We have added the information to our website which can be found [here](#).
 - QR Code can be used to quickly access



PTQ Advancement Supports

What Is In the Works

- SPARK preparing one **on-demand training** around Paths to QUALITY for **teaching staff**.
 - Level 2 & 3 standards- highlighting commonly missed standards and why they are important
 - On-demand resources will be available on My SPARK Learning Lab for quick reference
- Revising the former PTQ Workbook to include helpful hints, why standards are important, best practices, next steps, and what standards may look like in practice
- SPARK is working with programs to get pictures and videos of how the different standards could possibly be met
 - SPARK will add the “program examples” to a variety resources

Discussion Question - PTQ

What type of “program examples” would be most helpful for program advancement?



RECORD KEEPING

Record Keeping

Paths to QUALITY

- 6 of the Top 8 Insufficiencies
- Foundations Certificate
- Meeting the Education requirements
- Director is a member of a National Organization
- Training hours
- Surveys (Staff/Families)
- Level 4- Accreditation Certificate

Licensing

- Top 5 most cited violations
- More than 400 in centers
- More than 750 in ministries
- More than 1500 in homes
- Background checks and Registry checks in the top for all

SPARK: 2022 - 2023

Record Keeping Performance Measures

- 80% Programs with a previous violation will not have another violation in this Program Year (PY).
 - Programs with violations over the last two years
 - Target this group of programs with coaching, learning experiences, and resources

SPARK: 2022 - 2023

Record Keeping Performance Measures

- Deploy 8 unique events or resources to support programs with record keeping
 - Identify, curate, or create

Discussion Question - Record Keeping

What tools are you currently using for your recording keeping system?



Discussion Question - Record Keeping

In the area of record keeping, what is your greatest need for additional support?



STAFF RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Staff Recruitment and Retention

- It is easier to retain quality staff than to recruit quality staff
- Strong communication is essential to successful hiring, onboarding, training and retention of staff
 - Strong communication is consistent, clear, and concise

There is no one-size fits all approach. Your staffing situation is as unique as your program, to get started on a personalized plan, email BusinessSupport@indianaspark.com

“Strategies for Recruiting Quality Staff” training available in Indiana Learning Paths

Discussion Question - Retention

With regard to workplace culture, what has been working for your program?



Discussion Question - Retention

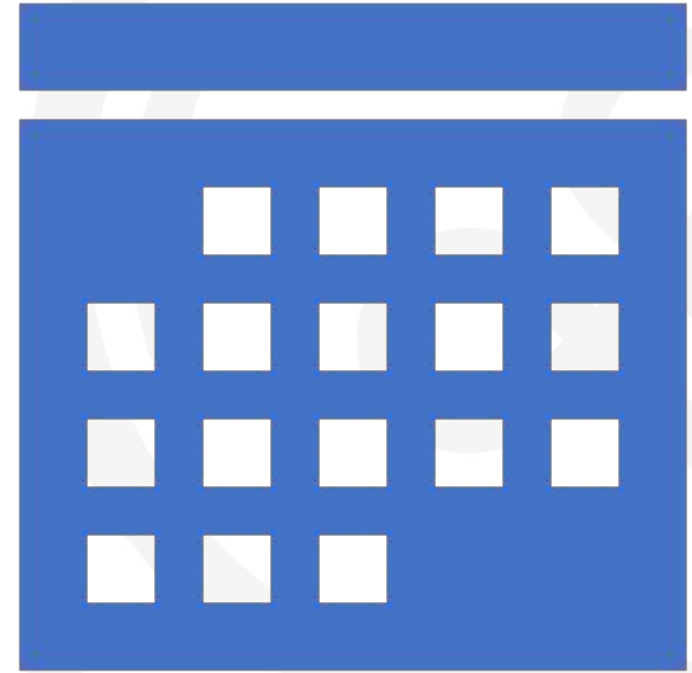
What tools or resources do you wish you had to help you evaluate and build your culture?



RAC INFORMATION

RAC Information

- February 16th, 2023
 - **TIME: 6:00 PM EST/
5:00 PM CST**
- May 18th, 2023
 - **TIME: 7:00 PM EST/
6:00 PM CST**
- September 21st, 2023
 - **TIME: 6:00 PM EST/
5:00 PM CST**



Community Comment

- We want to hear from you!
- What questions/comments do you have for SPARK and the Council?



Agreements

Based on what has been presented, RAC discussion, and public comment, what suggestions and perspectives need to be captured for SPARK Learning Lab or partners to consider?

- PTQ Insufficiencies Trends
- PTQ Advancement Supports
 - Record Keeping
- Staff Recruitment & Retention

Agenda Items for Next Meeting



What topics and/or SPARK supports would the Council like to discuss in February?

Stay Connected with SPARK

- Sign up for SPARK newsletter: <http://indianaspark.com/>
- SPARK Group Features
- Follow SPARK on social media!
 - [Facebook](#)
 - [Twitter](#)
 - [Instagram](#)
- Email RAC@indianaspark.com with questions



Let's Spark a Conversation!