Wisconsin Promoting Early Childhood: Caucus Connections

Promoting Early Childhood

PEC 2020

MARCH 4, 2020

Session Overview

▶ Introductions: Name, Role and Organization (Large/Small Group)

▶ Overview of DCF and DPI Focus Areas:

  ▶ DCF-Birth to Five Preschool Development Grant (PDG)

  ▶ DPI Five Priority Focus Areas

▶ Small Group Discussion & Reflection

▶ Large Group: "Quick" Share

Preschool Development Grant (PDG)

- What: One-year federal grant-allow Wisconsin to:
  - Complete a needs assessment
  - Develop a strategic plan
- Outcome: To improve our early care and education system
- Partnership:
  - DCF, Governor and First Lady Evers, DPI, a broad cross section of state agency leaders, and Wisconsin's Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council

Preschool Development Grant Focus Areas

PDG Details

Strengthening B-5 State System and Regional Networks of Support

Focus: Birth-5 Mixed Delivery System

✓ Developing Needs Assessment

✓ Creating B-5 Statewide Strategic Plan

✓ Maximizing Parental Choice and Knowledge

✓ Sharing Best Practices

✓ Improving Overall Quality

https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/pdg

Five Focus Areas: Belief Statements

- Effective Instruction:
  - *Honor cultural backgrounds, acknowledge similarities, and provide diverse perspectives and multiple modalities for learning.*

- Student Teacher Relationships:
  - *Positive student–teacher relationships start with a safe, trusting, culturally responsive environment in which both students and teachers are empowered to have open conversations, share personal information, and create authentic connections to foster long-term relationships beyond the classroom.*

Five Focus Areas: Belief Statements

- ▶ <u>Family and Community Engagement:</u>
  - ▶ *We believe new and different ways of engaging families based on mutual trust and respect are required because our schools belong to all.*
- ▶ <u>School and Instructional Leadership:</u>
  - ▶ *We believe that highly effective school and instructional leaders close race-based achievement gaps by empowering students of color to become actively engaged in their own learning.*
- ▶ <u>Safe and Supported Students:</u>
  - ▶ *Keeping our kids healthy, safe, supported, and encouraged in school, every day*

Small Group-Table Discussions

▶ What priorities/areas/goals naturally overlap with PDG and the DPI Five Focus Areas?

▶ Within your roles, what is already happening that connect with the PDG and the DPI Five Focus Areas?

▶ What are one/two next steps that will enable you to learn more about or integrate these within your roles?

▶ Any additional thoughts/comments?

Large Group: "Whip" Share

▶ Per Table:

  ▶ Choose one/two questions from your small group discussion

    ▶ Share one/two highlights from each question.

  ▶ In five words or less "summarize" your table's discussion "theme" or "wondering.