

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT
Department of Early Childhood Education
February 13th, 2019

A total of 50 pregnant women/children were enrolled in Early Head Start in January and 195 children were enrolled in Head Start! We currently have 35 slots filled in Great Start Readiness Program for the 2018-2019 program year. We continue to accept and review applications. A total of 1696 breakfasts, 2144 lunches and 553 snacks were served in December.

Casey will be making a request for approval of out of state/overnight travel for Maria Johns to attend the Child and Adult Care Food Program- Child Nutrition Conference. The conference will take place April 23rd-25th in Chicago, Ill.

The Willis and Bates Center childcare licensing renewal visits occurred in late January. The childcare license has been renewed for two years (January 2021) at each of these centers. The Norway Center childcare license renewal is due by February 18th.

The 2019-2020 Early Head Start/Head Start grant application is due April 1st. The funding guidance letter from the Administration for Children and Families indicates base funding of \$2,339,533 for the 2019-2020 program year. This is a baseline application for the first of a new five-year grant cycle. Casey has been working with staff and stakeholders to collect the necessary information to begin developing new long-range goals and an action plan. Casey will request to meet with the Curriculum Committee prior to the March Board meeting to gather input from the Board of Education regarding the proposed long-range goals and action plan.

Office staff completed the 2018-2019 Head Start Community Needs Assessment in January. Information gathered from the Community Needs Assessment will be used to inform decision making regarding our 2019-2020 Head Start grant application. Maria should be commended for her strong leadership through the needs assessment process. A copy of the Community Needs Assessment is included in your Board Packet.

The 2018-2019 Head Start Self-Assessment is underway. Information will be gathered through an analysis of program data and an interview process that follows the federal protocol. A Plan for Continuous Improvement will be completed as a result of the assessment process.

The Department of Early Childhood is collaborating with the Dickinson-Iron Great Start Collaborative and several other community stakeholders to host a professional development event on March 4th. Nationally recognized trainer Michael Trout will be conducting a session entitled "Supporting Children and Their Inner Voices: A Conversation with Michael Trout". All ECE staff will attend the event at Bay College on the fourth. A community presentation will take place during the evening hours as well.