

Officer Signature Johanna SmithDate 05-16-2025

BEAR RIVER HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL 2024-2025 Interim Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, April 28, 2025	Start Time: 8:00PM End Time: 8:25PM	Location: Dialpad Meetings: 1-888-602-7505	
2024-2025 Policy Council Members' Attendance		YES	NO
Josie Smith* (Chairperson)	Brigham Representative	X	
Chad Alvey*	Tremonton Representative		X
Gilbert Sanchez* (UT HSAC)	Hyde Park Representative		E
Cassidy Macoubrie* (Vice Chairperson)	Logan Representative	X	
	Hyrum Representative		
Haylee Fellows*	Smithfield Representative	X	
	Richmond Representative		
Karli Leonardi* (Secretary)	Malad Representative	X	
Zach Johnson* (Treasurer & ID HSAC)	Paris Representative		X
Kristin Fellows*	Preston Representative	X	
Festus Odunuga*	Nest/Koop Representative	X	
	Fishpond Representative		
Amy Gyllenskog	Board Representative	X	
Justin Nuñez*	Community Representative		E

*Trained & Seated Policy Council Members

Members needed for a Quorum: 6	
Number of Voting Members who attended the meeting: 6	Number of Non-Voting Members who attended the meeting (including the Policy Council Officer conducting the meeting): 1
Do we have a Quorum? YES	
Meeting Called to Order By: Cassidy Macoubrie (Policy Council Vice Chairperson) Meeting Facilitated By: Terrah Smith (Administrative Assistant) Additional Staff in Attendance: Sarah Thurgood (Executive Director), Steph Wood (Centerbased Coordinator)	

1. Vote to approve the hire request of Joni Down as a PHS Hyde Park Imagine Extended Day Aide – Steph Wood

Joni is a mom to three kids, an eight year old, a six year old and a three year old, two boys and one girl; the girl is in the middle. Before she became a stay at home mom, Joni worked at Summit Elementary as a Reading Aide and a Class Aide, but also helped with math and lots of different projects throughout the class. After she had her first baby, and became a stay at home mom, Joni watched three other children in her home from the time they were babies until they aged into school full time. She has always loved working and being with kids. It's one of those things she just knew she was going to do with her life, being with children. Joni grew up with teachers all around her. She was always around school and loved it. She loves singing, reading and doing anything that involves a craft or being creative with the children. Joni feels she can bring a lot to Bear River Head Start with her past experience along with all of the love and passion she has for kids.

Motion to approve the hire request of Joni Down as a PHS Hyde Park Imagine Extended Day Aide		
Motion: Karli Leonardi	Seconded: Haylee Fellows	Approved: YES

2. Vote to approve the hire request of Juanita Smith as a Disability Aide for all areas – Steph Wood		
<p>Juanita taught Special Education Preschool for 20 years for Box Elder School District and has a degree in Early Childhood Special Education. Juanita retired from that position during COVID and then had the opportunity to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. She has been back for two years now and has felt she still has more to give and still has energy and ability to play with kids. Juanita would bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and a voice for children to this position. It would be an honor for her to serve the children and staff at Bear River Head Start. Sarah has known Juanita, who goes by Nita, for a long time. She is an excellent choice. You cannot go wrong with her. Sarah wasn't planning to be on this meeting call but since she was, she gave her full support to Nita Smith. She's a great hire!</p>		
Motion to approve the hire request of Juanita Smith as a Disability Aide for all areas		
Motion: Festus Odunuga	Seconded: Karli Leonardi	Approved: YES

3. Vote to approve the hire request of Lauren Casper as a PHS On-Call Teacher Assistant for all areas – Steph Wood		
<p>Lauren hopes to be starting soon as an On-Call Teacher Assistant. She is really looking forward to joining Bear River Head Start and is very excited to continue growing her knowledge and professionalism. Lauren is graduating Magna Cum Laude this Thursday with a Bachelor's Degree in Human Development and Family Studies with a Child Development emphasis. She is also receiving an undergraduate certificate in Early Childhood. Lauren's time and education at Utah State University and working as a Teaching Assistant at the Dolores Dore Eccles Center for Early Care and Education has really prepared her for this role. She is confident she will be a great addition to this organization. Lauren loves being around children, helping them learn, grow and develop new skills. They're so fun to be around; she loves it. Lauren has lived in Utah her whole life and has been married for almost two years. She enjoys crafting, reading, going on walks, playing games and being outside. She loves it here in Logan and is looking forward to the warm summer. Lauren is so grateful for this opportunity. She can't wait to, hopefully, learn and grow here and make a positive impact on all of the children, families and communities that Bear River Head Start serves.</p>		
Motion to approve the hire request of Lauren Casper as a PHS On-Call Teacher Assistant for all areas		
Motion: Haylee Fellows	Seconded: Karli Leonardi	Approved: YES

4. Vote to adjourn the April 28, 2025 Interim Policy Council Meeting – Josie Smith		
<p>With no other business to conduct, the April 28, 2025 Interim Policy Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.</p>		
Motion to adjourn the April 28, 2025 Interim Policy Council Meeting		
Motion: Festus Odunuga	Seconded: Kristin Fellows	Approved: YES