



All New London children birth through age eight are healthy, safe, thriving, and successful  
 nlschoolreadiness.com

---

## New London School Readiness Council Meeting

April 8, 2024

Zoom

12:00 - 1:09 pm

### Notes

Attendance: Kelly Davis NLSR Liason , Tina Salcedo New London Youth Affairs, Co-Chair, Jersa Valencia Coordinator Family Engagement NLPS, Co-Chair, Erin Mokler NLSR Education/Admin Consultant, Andrea Watson- TVCCA Head Start, Laurelle Texidor Co-Chair, New London Curriculum Coordinator, Monica Franzone- Associate Director Children's Lab School Connecticut College, Cynthia Ritchie- Superintendent NLPS, Debbi Poirier TVCCA- Director, Dougenie Alexis- Parent Ambassador, Jodi Walker Site Director Riverfront Children's Center, Brittany Watts- Director Childworks Preschool, Tori Congdon Children's Librarian PLNL, Reona Dyess NL City Council President & Drop In Learning Center Executive Director, Ola Szczesny Parent Ambassador, Roberta Travers OIC,

Agenda Item		Comments/desired outcomes
Opening		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intros and welcome to existing and new members</li> </ul>
Slots/Enrollment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same 10 slots available according to ECE reporter, but not official until today's <b>deadline for input by end of business day today.</b></li> </ul>
LECC Grant		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LECC Grant Money extension thanks to Jersa and Tina</li> <li>A portion of this money is used on the early childhood community gathering events in NL. Building strong relationship between the council and the community.</li> <li>Also purchasing stuffed puppies and transition to Kindergarten books to support incoming Kindergarten students.</li> </ul>
OEC Updates		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrollment based grant link has come through</li> <li>Next year will be a full grant opening year-open enrollment</li> <li>Currently no updates on legislation updates from OEC at this time</li> <li>Once Kelly gets info, she will send out</li> </ul>
Parent Ambassador Update		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to be on a call with OEC- discussion about broadening the scope of parent ambassador involvement at the state level</li> <li>Meeting this afternoon will provide more information</li> </ul>



All New London children birth through age eight are healthy, safe, thriving, and successful  
 nlschoolreadiness.com

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ola is looking to collaborate with a community member who has ties to local church communities to help spread the word about NLSR</li> <li>• Ola will be attending the quarterly parent ambassador cabinet meeting in person. If you have any questions, concerns, comments to bring forward at the meeting feel free to reach out to them.</li> <li>• Dougenie attempted to reach out to a local church about NLSR, but there were concerns since she did not have a badge. Kelly will look into getting a badge made.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Events</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great turnout for the most recent early childhood event hosted by NLPS.</li> <li>• NLSR had a table and invited families to plant seeds to bring home. Barbara Timkin also provided wonderful books to support the theme of gardening, nutrition, and healthy choices.</li> <li>• Erin, Ola, and Dougenie were supporting the NLSR table.</li> <li>• Ola brought up concern about families approaching us, but</li> <li>• 4imprint- research freestanding sign, banner</li> <li>• <b>COMING UP-</b> Touch a Truck, Get Loose Thursday NL events- CT Maritime Heritage Festival- will be a children's parade-hosted in Fort Trumbull this year</li> <li>• Erin mentioned how she was brainstorming with Kelly for ideas to spread awareness about the opportunities and support NLSR provides. Considerations about a possible ice cream social- Monica suggested collaborating with PLNL-Tina mentioned possibility to involve Steve Elci in the event as well</li> <li>• Tina mentioned the Mitchell College music in education event. Workshops for educators in the morning and then welcomed families for an afternoon concert.</li> <li>• PLNL- hosting Spring Break activity week. A different craft will be hosted each day. Meet the animals program with Niantic Children's Museum. Train event as well. Story Time Wednesday. Baby and Me on Friday.</li> </ul>



All New London children birth through age eight are healthy, safe, thriving, and successful  
 nlschoolreadiness.com

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CT Lab School - put out a bid to present CTAEYC in Mystic-Saturday 21, September- regarding Pyramid Model with one of their teachers and associate director</li> <li>• Save the date for OIC graduation- June 29th 10-Noon @ Garde Arts Center</li> <li>• Reona Dyess mentioned the summer program at The Drop In Learning Center</li> </ul>
<b>QE Spending</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you have your invoices, please get them to Kelly. If you do not get your check in two weeks, please reach back out to Kelly so she can follow up with the business office.</li> <li>• Please make sure you are actively spending your money down.</li> <li>• <b>All money needs to be spent down by JUNE 30</b></li> </ul>
<b>COLA's &amp; ARPA</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paula is the OEC rep- if you got something from her, please respond with necessary info, as it's due soon.</li> <li>• Our district was not directly contacted by OEC with concerns.</li> </ul>
<b>Committee Updates</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curriculum Committee-</b> Kelly did not hear back from any members from the committee. We need reorganization with updates and goals. If you are interested in joining this committee, please reach out.</li> <li>• <b>Transition to K Committee-</b> Reminders will be sent to principals for the meeting. Agenda is still being developed. Trying to assure representatives from the preschool centers will attend. <b>April 24th</b> is the next planned Transition to K meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Important Dates</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>APRIL 24th- 3:15-4:30 next Transition to K meeting with PreK &amp; K teachers @BP Mission</b></li> </ul>
<b>Program Sharing/General Updates</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reminder for Lead Pipe water replacement program in the community</li> <li>• Community need for three year old summer programs seen by Tina- Reona mentioned a need for five year olds.</li> <li>• Rec summer camp reg. is open. Early registration discount.</li> </ul>



All New London children birth through age eight are healthy, safe, thriving, and successful  
[nlschoolreadiness.com](http://nlschoolreadiness.com)

---

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NL Year Round school program starts in July. Please register if interested.</li><li>• K screenings for NL students not turning 5 by September 1. This is now mandated by the state. Screenings need to be scheduled. Please get numbers of how many students to Superintendent Ritchie. NLPS are able to get the letters to families if addresses can be shared. Families can be sent to the Welcome Center for more information. Final push to get all the necessary names on the list.</li><li>• Programs, please ensure communication is given to families in regards to NL school registration process.</li></ul>