Tuesday, November, 2015
9:00 AM – 11:15 AM
Steve Burnett Research and Extension Office
66364 Lonerock Road • Moro, OR 97039

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions, Nancey Patten, Vice-Chair
2. Additions to the Agenda
3. Review of October 27 Minutes
4. Hub Coordinator Report, Christa Rude
   a. RAC Update, KPI Effort
   b. Defining “Hot Spots”*
   c. UPDATE to Strategic Plan and Metrics
   d. Input Session “OUR KIDS”
5. Fiscal Report- Amber DeGrange
   a. Q3-Q4 Payment Process*
   b. 2016-17 Funding Strategy *
6. Updates and Announcements
   a. 2016 Calendar & Location Discussion
   b. December Meeting Date
7. Adjourn

PROPOSED Next Meeting Date: January 26, 2016

Proposed Agenda to include:
- 2016-17 Budget Review and Approval
- KPI Strategy Review and Approval

*Action Item
FOUR RIVERS EARLY LEARNING HUB

Governance Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 27, 2015
9:00 AM – Noon
Steve Burnett Research and Extension Office
66364 Lonerock Road • Mono, OR 97039

Present (italics indicate Governance Board Member)

Teddy Fennern- Gilliam County
Sammi Lane - UMHS
Linda Watson, Eastern Oregon CCO
Amber DeGrange – Sherman County
Christa Rude- Regional Hub Coordinator
Holli Frances, The Next Door Inc.
Debby Jones - Wasco County
Matthew Solomon- MCCC (Mid-Columbia Children’s Council)
Brooke Anstegui- North Central ESD/Preschools
Janet Hamada- Social Services
Doreen Hotchkiss-MCCC
Jen Heredia- OCDC (Oregon Child Development Coalition)
Nancey Patten- Early Learning Services
Barbara Seatter- Behavioral Health
Gary Peterson – K-12 Education
Teri Thallofer-Health (Also ELC member)
Debra Gilmore- DHS District Manager
Teri Vann – Hood River County

Absent or Excused Board Members:
Kristen Richelderfer- Parent Representative
Jennifer Bold- Business Sector
Judge Chris Perry – Wheeler County

MINUTES
The Chair welcomed the group and facilitated introductions around the room.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

a. Nancy would like to make a request.
b. Executive Summary of the Kindergarten Report
Review of September 22 Minutes
While copies of the minutes were not available in paper form, they had been sent to the group and there was a call for acceptance of the minutes. Nancy Patten moved to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Teri Thalhofer followed by a unanimous vote to approve.

Fiscal Report - Amber DeGrange
Amber noted her role as the unofficial liaison for the fiscal agent, Sherman County and shared that the Board of County Commissioners had approved (per review by legal counsel) the IGA between Sherman County and Columbia Gorge ESD for Coordination and also with CGCC for the Focus Family Childcare network.

Amber noted that the next steps regarding sub-contracts would be to arrange payments for previously funded programs at a pro-rated amount. These contracts will be until December 31, 2015, and then new contracts would be established for January 1 - December 31, 2016. Amber noted that there are questions about how to implement the payments; specifically to who? Also there remain questions about the reporting structure locally and to the state; we need a system to gather needed information from subcontractors. There was a reminder that in establishing new contracts, the governance board wanted to incorporate some requirement for QRIS participation (as applicable to sub-contractor).

There was a suggestion to manage as best as possible in taking next steps toward both funding and reporting through December 31 with the intention of developing a 4RELH finance committee to develop systems. Also suggested that we simply trust the fiscal agent as we are developing systems and the room supported this concept.

Amber also suggested that a fiscal report of financials and where we are be brought to each meeting for review. Amber also shared that Sherman County Court wanted to know if there was the possibility of taking a 5-8% admin to support fiscal functions of the hub. The group noted that this is a standard practice, that there is a work load and so it seems agreeable. There was a discussion about whether 5% or 8% would be more appropriate for the Hub fiscal agent. It was noted that it would be important to ensure that this funding would be important to review in order to ensure that the % did not go over 15% (per the contract with the state. Suggested that we get the definition of activities that the state is categorizing as “administrative”. It was also noted that some state agencies are charging 17.5% administrative rate.
A question was raised about the variance in percentage of Admin to ESD and Admin for Sherman; what would be considered a fair load? The ESD has a distinct “indirect rate”. Suggested to review what is meant by administrative rate and then figure it out.

Noted that this could be a conversation that needs to be had at the hub leadership level (across the state) about if and how this rate is causing a barrier across the state; none of us can do more work for free.

No determination regarding exact percentage for Sherman County as fiscal agent was made. Amber clarified that she will go back to the Board and suggest that a range is good.
Governance System and Calendar

Christa shared a visual of how she perceived the communication and work for the HUB will flow. Circles in the document: “The network” & “Ready”, are the core strategies from the Strategic Plan that we are working on. The Governance Board will review and discuss how these strategies will be implemented at a strategic level. They will then funnel down to the Early Childhood Committees, and will be worked on locally in each of the communities and communication will then funnel on to the Regional Early Childhood Committee and then we will be able to make recommendations back to the Governance Board. This will be a continuous flow through each of the committees.

Christa had been reaching out to each of the ECC’s to see who is the Chair; how can she support the process; how can we set up a schedule to follow. Christa suggested a calendar of scheduled Governance Board Meetings for the next year. Suggesting 6-7 meetings for the year. Considering January; March; May; June; August; October and December, with the understanding that we could call an additional meeting if needed. We would like to set up a structure for how we are going to get our work done. Would like to have the County ECC meetings before the Regional ECC and then convene the Governance Board meetings, so that information and work can flow.

The ECC’s was recommended to meet on the off months from the HUB meetings, so that we are not overwhelmed with meetings. Next meeting we can look at specific timing and dates of meetings and maybe alternate locations of the HUB meeting.

Strategic Plan and Metrics

Christa presented an updated version of the strategic plan starting with a reminder of the definitions and phases of collective impact. It was noted that there was reason for celebrating successes and also that we are moving on to Phase II which includes:

- Governance and Infrastructure — Create infrastructure (backbone and process)
- Strategic Planning — Create common agenda (goal and strategy)
- Community Involvement — Engage Community and build public will
- Evaluation and improvement — Establish shared metrics (indicators, measurement, and approach)

There was a recap of Statewide Outcomes:

- The Early childhood system is aligned, coordinated and family-centered
- Families are healthy, stable and attached
- Children are supported to enter school ready to learn.

High level Regional Strategies were proposed and the group generally reviewed the strategies outlined in each section of the document.

- The Network — Home visiting connections NETWORK that supports child and family well-being through efficient intake and referral process utilizing trauma Informed approaches and practices
FOUR RIVERS EARLY LEARNING HUB

Governance Board Meeting

- Ready – Region-wide participation in QRIS, Increased Access to pre-school and smooth transition and alignment with K-3
- Systems Development – Early learning HUB infrastructure and system development based in collective impact and utilizing sector and geographical engagement mechanisms

The group also reviewed the proposed Metrics and it was noted that work was still underway to wherever possible get consensus and buy in from partners who share these metrics (CCO’s as an example).

Discussion of the Strategic Plan ensued:

It was noted that HVC is more than a referral for home visiting, it is designed to be more of a total referral process. Suggested that a more neutral name for the Home Visiting Connections referral process be considered and that there be a focus on a shared system of referral.

Affirmation was made that 4RELH NEEDS to work very closely with the CCO’s so we don’t set up two separate structures. There may be things that are already happening around referrals and that people/organizations are excited and want to support the work so how do we connect it to CCO’s? We need to be sure to have a link to support the referral work and that we are coordinated in this effort. Also noted that we need to determine and coordinate with public-health as another key proponent of this work as there is both a medical model and a population based health approach to consider.

There was a discussion about how the role of primary care is involved in the broad system work. Noted that there is a need for a universal intake system.

It was also shared that GO3HI is looking for a Regional Public Health coordinator for children and families. This role would be about helping to coordinate the work with the focus on the developmental screens and systems that will increase availability of HV systems and their services. The position will focus not just on the HV, but also systems development for the eastern Oregon.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA A:

Nancie Patten shared that the CCDF Administrator from the OCC Kelli Walker, would be in The Dalles, November 3, to host a parent forum on what families are most needing in Childcare and to learn how changes at the federal level might impact them. Nancie encouraged the group to inform her of any parents who might be able to attend this input session.

RAC AND JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE PROPOSAL:

Christa presented information from Building Bridges, the Regional Achievement Collaborative. The RAC has a subcommittee called “Team Learn” that is focused on Early Learning. After meeting with several education and Hub leaders, Christa suggested to the group that she request that this subcommittee be a joint subcommittee between the 4RELH and the RAC with a key and strategic focus on the P-3 efforts to link and align with elementary

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schoo ls. The group gave unanimous support for this concept and offered their support of bringing this proposal to the next RAC Board of Director’s meeting. Christa will provide an update at the next meeting.

Break

**EARLY LEARNING DIVISION UPDATES - DENISE AND ZENaida, ELD**

Denise Swanson, Early Learning Hub Manager from the ELD joined us on the call for an update about Preschool Promise:

- The ELD is hosting a variety of Community Input Session regarding “Preschool Promise” as well as talking to hubs to get input on what the system would look like.
- RFA to come out in January or there about to do a few pilot programs across the state in order to determine what works, what doesn’t work and what needs to change. The hope is that preschool is something that the legislature will eventually fund.
- Denise inquired about November: Can we get on the agenda for an input session? Anywhere between 45 and 90 minutes of your time. We will talk about funding, pilot, and the whole works.
- There is also an internal team at ELD working out a schedule and timeline. There is an ad hoc committee of ELC (made up of hubs and CBO’s) who are providing input on this and timeline. Goal to get things kicked off and going by March so that the ELD/ELC can go into full legislative session in 2017 with almost a year under our belts and how to expand the funding.

<<Open the conversation up to Questions>>

**Questions:** Clarification, so the plan is to have funding to do pilots, and then that there would be additional funding at some point?

Yes.

**What will the role of the Hubs be in the RFA process?**

ELC will move through the hubs. The internal committee is creating the elements for the hub. They are creating a readiness assessment and hubs will apply. Hubs will not be conducting <the preschools> them, but the hub will be the convener of the funds. Regional approach determined by Hubs. QRIS rating would be considered one of the indicators for “readiness”.

**Q: If there are sites that haven’t been rated, can they not be in the pilot?** Possibly... there is a sense that if they are not even at CCC2Q it won’t fly... There may be a glide-path or an option where communities who have no QRIS rated programs could find a way to apply. Overall, it’s not about NEW... It’s about using what already exists.

**What about the need in the community or a new program with a school district? But aren’t rated... for instance, if you have a 5 star center, they may need to open a new facility to serve more children, but it would not yet be a rated by March.**
Denise will take the conversation back to David for the ADHOC committee. Denise will email David with a CC: to me. Interest in the community ad-hoc meeting. As for where the funding is to be allocated: up to 200% for FREE preschool... the mindset is reaching children of color and children in poverty. Diverse and vulnerable children. Use of the equity lens and quality, culturally relevant lens. Culturally relevant approaches will be key.

Will the ask be for new funding for new pilots or expand models?

Noted that if you are a pilot, you get to be a pilot... If you are not in the pilot then you are not in the pilot.

The ELD staff noted that they will be here in November for the next meeting. NEXT STEPS: The chair asked for volunteers to be a part of a Planning work group: Matthew, Teddy, Amber, Nancey, Jen, Brooke, and Sammi offered. Christa will convene.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Christa Rude with support from Teddy Fennern.
FUNDING STRATEGY

Context

As we move forward with our efforts to fund activities related to the Strategic plan, we are in need of a structure to support decision making processes. Below is proposed framework for allocating funding in the new contract season (January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017).

PROPOSAL

Create three funding mechanisms in order to ensure the funding of activities relating to the core strategies of the 4RELH Strategic Plan, as well as maintain the capacity to be responsive to emergent needs and barriers through the remainder of the biennium. Finally, establish an Innovation Fund that would encourage schools, child care programs and early learning service providers to create and test innovative strategies that have potential for scaling at the elementary school zone and/or regional levels. Descriptions of each funding mechanisms are:

- **“Core” Funding:** to support key strategies as outlined in the 4RELH
- **“Responsive” Funding:** to respond to emergent barriers and opportunities as identified at both local and regional levels
- **“Innovation” Funding:** to encourage and incentivize best practices at local levels that have scalable potential.

Needed

- Approval form GB to move forward using these three mechanisms
- Finance Sub-committee to further define the processes and structures for funding (proposed work structure on the back of this document.
  - Deliverable for this work group will be:
    - Proposed systems for funding and reporting
    - Proposed budget allocations
- Budget Summary
- Funding Stream guidelines
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<th>Momentum</th>
<th>Funding Strategy</th>
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The Four Rivers Early Learning Hub Governance Board brings to Building Bridges Regional Achievement Board of Directors the following proposal:

**Proposed:** Establish Team Learn as a joint sub-committee between Building Bridges and Four Rivers Early Learning Hub with specific focus on shared strategies between early learning and K-3 to ensure kindergarten readiness across the region.

**Staffed by:** Four Rivers Early Learning Hub Coordinator and Building Bridges Regional Achievement Collaborative Executive Director/Coordinator.

**Proposed Membership** (not limited to but including):

- RAC Board Members for Early Learning
- District Superintendent(s)
  - K-3 principals (as designated by Superintendent)
- Child Care Resource and Referral Director
- Four Rivers Early Learning Hub Early Childhood Committee Chair Persons
- Early Intervention, Early Childhood Special Education Representative
- DHS Representative for Employment Related Child Care (ERDC)
- Education Specialists from Districts
- Head Start/Migrant Seasonal Head Start Directors (or designees)
- Library
- Other as determined
## Aligned Outcomes/Metrics:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Bridges RAC</th>
<th>Four Rivers Early Learning Hub (4RELH)</th>
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<td>Percentage children with completed developmental screens</td>
<td>2-4A: Increase in percent of children who receive a developmental screen before the age of three:</td>
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<td>Percentage Pathways referrals completed</td>
<td>1-4A: Program participation data demonstrates in services to children and families from identified priority populations</td>
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<td>Percentage parents accessing best practices parenting classes</td>
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<td>Percentage of children in pre-school</td>
<td>2-3A: Increase in number of 3, 4, and 5 star QRIS providers serving children from &quot;hot spots&quot; and communities of color and in increase in the number of children served in hot spots and communities of color.</td>
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<td>3-1A Increase in percentage of children in Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) in a 3-4 or 5 Star QRIS program</td>
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<td>Percentage of Pre-3 children attending regularly</td>
<td>2-5A: Increase in percentage of children enrolled in kindergarten before start of school year</td>
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<td>Percentage of students screened for reading proficiency and intervened when indicated</td>
<td>2-1A: The hub has demonstrated shared activities among early learning providers, families and K-3 partners</td>
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<td>Percentage of students meeting 3rd grade reading</td>
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<td>Percentage of students meeting SBAC reading and math in 5th grade</td>
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<td>Reduction in childhood obesity rates</td>
<td>3-3A: Increase in the percentage of children on OHP who make it to 6 or more well-child visits by 15 months of age.</td>
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**GREEN** sections indicate initial focus of the Joint Subcommittee.

**YELLOW** sections indicate shared reporting areas between governance boards.
DEFINING HOT SPOTS

CONTEXT

In setting metrics and prioritizing resources, the state has asked us to identify “hot spots”. For our region, the Oregon Department of Human Services Office of Forecasting, Research and Analysis has identified high poverty hotspots as Southeast Wasco County, Wasco County The Dalles, and Sherman County. Additional data for these determinations can be found at the DHS website.

This data did not provide us with enough information to prioritize and/or hone in on areas that we know need support and it left out areas that we also know might be areas to prioritize.

After talking with Leaders from other hubs, and in order to develop a strong data set that would be replicable from year to year, analysis of these primary data sets were conducted in an effort to establish more specific “hot spots”:

- Oregon Kindergarten Assessment Scores
- % of free and reduced lunch at elementary schools
- Diversity of elementary school children
- Geographic context
- Child Welfare – specifically # of children under 5 spending at least 1 day in foster care

A methodology for rating and reviewing this data was developed and interviews with most District Superintendents to review the methodology and gather contextual results was conducted.

These data are submitted to the Four Rivers Early Learning Hub for consideration:

- As a consistent strategy for determining hot spots
  - Using Elementary School District Zones
  - Based on the Data sets provided
- For discussion about prioritization for the remaining 2015-2017 biennium.

<<<See data on reverse side/next page>>>

Christa Rude, 4 RELH Coordinator
(541) 206-2255
christa.rude@cgesd.k12.or.us
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<td>8</td>
<td>2010 Census Quick Facts for county size</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Aggregate Rank** - LEGEND

* Rank of 14 or lower in 4 OKA categories and Top 5 free and reduced = 1
* Rank of 15-17 in 3 OKA categories AND Top 7 free and reduced = 2
* Rank of 10-15 in 2 OKA categories AND Top 10 free and reduced = 3
OUTCOME: The early childhood system is aligned, coordinated and family-centered
Metric 1-4A: Program participation data demonstrates increase in services to children and families from identified priority populations;

OUTCOME: Children are supported to enter school ready to succeed
Metric 2-3A: Increase in number of 3, 4, and 5-star QRIS providers serving children from “hot spots” and communities of color and an increase in the number of children served in hot spots and communities of color;
Metric 2-4A: Increase in percent of children who receive a developmental screen before the age of three;

OUTCOME: Families are healthy, stable and attached
Metric 3-1A: Increase in percentage of children in Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) in a 3, 4 or 5-star QRIS program;
Metric 3-3A: Increase in the percentage of children on OHP who make it to 6 or more well-child visits by 15 months of age;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>METRIC</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Target YR 2</th>
<th>Target YR 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Base/Target Due</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Provider</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Base/Target Due</td>
<td>19.00%</td>
<td>26.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>10.10%</td>
<td>19.00%</td>
<td>26.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Base/Target Due</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>70%</td>
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</table>
Why?

**Early Childhood Awareness:** On a broad level, brain science has helped us understand why early childhood is so important to human development and success. In some social service and education circles, we have a sense of what this means, but not everyone does. We need a way to talk about early childhood development and create a shared understanding that there are key stages of children's development. This awareness will help us as we seek to partner with parents and across sectors in our region to improve outcomes for children at the early stages and then in the later stages.

**Shared Language:** As our region moves forward with improving outcomes for children, we need to generate interest and support from parents and partners. We need to develop a framework that is broad enough for parents, teachers, child care providers, local businesses, health care and other interested folks to talk about and link to early childhood initiatives in our community.

What?

Our Kids Network is designed to be a framework for achieving multiple objectives:

- Build a sense of “normed” and collective interest and intention for young children in the Four Rivers Region (regardless of SES and/or current engagement with any system).
- Provide parents in 4RELH region with developmental “tool kits” and create a caring touch point at key stages of development that:
  - Engages families toward increased awareness about their child’s development and supports them in celebrating their child’s growth.
  - Provides an access point to cross sector programs and organizations to welcome the child to the next phase of their development, build relationship and create a
sense of belonging within the greater community, and make connections to more supports as needed.

- Identification strategy to help us understand where all of our children are and link them to resources and supports.
- Forward facing, non-biased collective that can assist in linking families to additional resources through a single point of contact.

How?

- During each stage, a family will receive a “tool kit” with developmentally appropriate objects and supports including but not limited to: “tips and tricks for caring for your baby/toddler/preschooler”, notice about VROOM, activity sheets and kits from ASQ and/or developmental frameworks, either a link to a “portal of resources” and/or a packet of resources.

**Proposed focus areas for toolkits:**
- **Welcome Baby:** Attachment Nurturing and Well Child
- **Toddler:** Early Literacy, Potty/Toilet Training and Well Child
- **Pre-School:** Approaches to Learning/Self-regulation, Name Writing, Counting, and Transition to Elementary School
- **Family:** Overall family screener at appropriate time in relationship cultivation.

Who?

County ECCs could be actively engaged in further developing this concept and identifying all of the natural touch points where families are in their area and according to each proposed elementary school zone.

**ECCs could:**

- Further develop this concept and connect key efforts to it.
- Develop a list (including costs) for tool kit “tools”, and “tips and tricks”
- Brainstorm ideas and strategies for:
  - Distribution and Tracking families and children
  - Partners who might be willing to be involved
## Data

Below reflects the rate births per year and by county. This data is also available by zip code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Births by county</th>
<th>5 year olds</th>
<th>4 year olds</th>
<th>3 year olds</th>
<th>2 year olds</th>
<th>1 year olds</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gilliam</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>95</td>
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<td>Hood River</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>1436</td>
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<td>Sherman</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>84</td>
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<td>Wasco</td>
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<td>284</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>1484</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheeler</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>54</td>
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</table>

### Needed:

- [ ] Approximate cost for each toolkit
- [ ] Distribution Strategy
- [ ] Tracking System
- [ ] Referral Process

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*Four Rivers Early Learning Hub*
*Christa Rude, Coordinator*
*541-506-2255*
# PROPOSED Four Rivers Early Learning Hub Meeting Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Proposed Location</th>
<th>Proposed Content</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 26</td>
<td>Regional ECC &amp; Governance Board</td>
<td>Wasco County</td>
<td>Budget and Strategy Review and Approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Regional ECC</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Governance Board</td>
<td>Sherman County</td>
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<tr>
<td>(spring break is 21st)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Regional ECC</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Governance Board</td>
<td>Hood River</td>
<td>Data Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 27-</td>
<td>Regional ECC</td>
<td>NCESD</td>
<td>(New Biennium/Contract review et.al)</td>
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<td>OPTION</td>
<td>(Governance Board-OPTION)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Regional ECC</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>Governance Board</td>
<td>Wheeler County</td>
<td>Data Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Regional ECC</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Regional ECC</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 13</td>
<td>Governance Board</td>
<td>CGESD</td>
<td>Year End Reporting/Data Review</td>
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