



Curriculum Advisory Council September 2, 2009

Members Present: Marie Carlberg, Eddy Workinger, and Junie Albers-Biddle (by phone)

Staff Present: Laura Close

Not Present: Dr. Greata

The meeting held on 09/02/09 was recorded but due to unknown circumstances, the recording is not available. The minutes that follow are based on notes of the discussion by Laura Close, Quality Operations Manager.

The Curriculum Advisory Council commenced the meeting at 11:35am. Ms. Albers-Biddle joined the meeting by telephone. Ms. Close announced that she had met with Mr. Workinger to share information about the workings of the committee in preparation for today's meeting. Ms. Close started the meeting by presenting the group with the request from Montessori at Roseborough to consider the AMI-USA Montessori curriculum for their center. Ms. Close stated that Montessori Nest, the previous name for Montessori at Roseborough, held a contract for several years. During the 2008-2009 contract year, Montessori Nest was placed under a CAP for not having a curriculum from the approved list. Montessori Nest signed the 2009-2010 contract with the CAP due to expire September 30, 2009. During the month of August, CCCS and ELCLC were made aware of the name change and move to a new building. Under the new pre qualification process, Montessori at Roseborough is treated as a new provider. The provider still currently uses the accredited Montessori curriculum from AMI. In an attempt to understand the hesitancy to change curriculum, Ms. Close was able to speak to Katie Laughlin with AMI to verify the accreditation process and the inability to combine another curriculum with Montessori; therefore, the need to request approval. Ms. Carlberg and Ms. Albers-Biddle both expressed the appropriateness of the curriculum. Ms. Albers-Biddle shared with the group of someone she knows that has knowledge of the curriculum and that she would speak with Jan to give some guidance on the accredited Montessori curriculum. Ms. Carlberg shared that once the rubric is completed, the Montessori curriculum would score well and feels it would be added to the DAP approved list. If approved, the committee will require that the center be an approved, accredited school under AMI-USA to facilitate the Montessori curriculum. Ms. Close discussed the documents given to the group. The first was a compilation of approved curriculum lists from the 31 ELC's in Florida. The results showed that 67% (20 out of 31) of the

coalitions list Montessori – AMI curriculum as one of the approved curricula. Ms. Close shared the other documents showed approval processes from several coalitions. The documents also included 3 evaluations/rubrics including the VPK form from the state. Ms. Carlberg shared that she had a role in the approval of the VPK curriculum using the evaluation form. She requested that we look over the three samples and make notes as to what we would want to keep or change to create our own tool to evaluate curriculums presented. Ms. Close shared another document showing the approved VPK curricula. Ms. Carlberg stated that she would want all the curricula to be added to the ELC approved list. The members agreed.

Ms. Close returned the conversation back to the request from Montessori at Roseborough. Ms. Carlberg suggested that we allow Montessori at Roseborough to operate with temporary approval for 90 days while the committee reviews the curriculum. The members agreed.

Ms. Close stated that she would send the members a copy of the three samples to review. She stated that she would prepare the letter for Montessori at Roseborough and send it for review.

Ms. Carlberg stated that the group would need to meet the following week. The group agreed to meet on Thursday, Sept. 10, 2009 at 10:00am.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Laura Close – Quality Operations Manager