

Parent Call Minutes 1/18/2018

1. We are watching to see if the Continuing Resolution will pass the Senate and House to avoid a government shutdown. Hopefully, they will keep the funding for CHIP included. At this point, it is just a wait and see.
2. Governor Wolf will release his budget the first Tuesday in February (2/6/18). Once we see what his allotment is for HSSAP and PreK Counts, we will be able to better plan our advocacy approach.
3. This is a gubernatorial race year so much of our advocacy will be focused on that. There are also some areas who will be voting in new legislators. I am encouraging parents and staff (not during working hours) to attend any town hall meetings or rallies that these candidates may hold in your areas to further educate them and our communities on the importance and benefits of Head Start. I will be reaching out with further advocacy strategies and opportunities. We encourage each program to develop their own advocacy strategy and have started a Liaison Program that will ensure each program has a contact (staff or parent) that I communicate any opportunities for advocacy to. If your program does not have a liaison, I can send you information about the program and would be happy to talk with anyone that has questions about it.
4. PHSA Annual Conference is April 11-12, 2018 at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Seven Springs, PA. This conference will have workshops for administrators, staff, and parents. Registration will be open soon and we will be emailing that out when it is available. If you are interested in attending the conference speak with your program's parent engagement staff because there may training funding in your policy council budget that can be used for this.
5. Our next meeting is Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 7PM. If anyone has any questions or comments in the meantime, please feel free to email me at michelle@paheadstart.org.

Thank you!
Michelle Smith