

## March Liaison Call Notes

### Federal and State Updates

There is nothing new to report. At this point it is just a wait and see on both budgets. In two weeks, it would be good to have a couple of parents/staff make district visits or write letters in support of the gov's budget. It might be helpful to identify staff and two or so parents who would be willing and able to do these things when you ask.

### PHSA

We are getting ready for the 2018 Annual Conference. Since we are putting a big focus on parents and families this year, we would like for programs to have classes submit artwork that includes a family tree, leaving it up to their interpretation. One idea would be to have their fingerprints be the leaves of the tree. The only request we are making is to put the program name on the papers. If your program is within an hour or two of Harrisburg I can pick them up, otherwise if you have someone in your program attending the conference they can just bring them along with them and we will hang them up as we get them. You do not need to mail them, as that could get pricey. If you do not have anyone attending and your program is not close enough for me to pick them up but you still want to participate, feel free to mail them to our office at:

Pennsylvania Head Start Association  
415 Market St. Suite 206A  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

To make it easier to explain our role in the PreK for PA Campaign, I have put together a packet with info flyers, FAQ sheet, and a sign-up sheet, which I will be sending out to everyone by the end of this week. We do offer reimbursement for getting sign-ups, which will also be explained. Anyone can participate in this. Getting parents to sign up will ensure that I have up-to-date email addresses for everyone when I send out the reminder emails about the parent call and they will also receive email updates and helpful information from us, depending on what lists they include themselves in when they sign up. Beginning in April, I will host the parent call at 9:30AM to see if I can get more parents on in the morning. I have set up an account in the Reminder101 app which will allow me to send the reminders through text or email, whichever the parents prefer. I will need you to get this information from parents, however you feel is the best way to do that, i.e. going to policy council, asking parent engagement staff to talk to parents about it, etc. I have had an administrator ask for a flyer about the parent update call that she can email to parents so I will be drafting that and sending it out to all of you also when it is finished.

As always, please keep me updated on any advocacy work you're programs are doing so I am able to include it in my reports. Our next call will be April 20, 2018 at 11AM.

Thank you,  
Michelle Smith