

### **About the Bethel Early Literacy Project:**

Research has shown that investing in early childhood education offers the most significant return on a community's investment. Literacy is a critical foundation for all other learning, and research shows that children who enter school with early literacy skills have the best opportunity for success throughout school and in to adulthood.

The Eugene Public Library is committed to expanding early literacy programming in the Bethel neighborhood by engaging the community. We know that the best way to engage the community is to build relationships with community members and learn from them how they want to be involved and support early literacy. Our hope is for this project to lead to a Bethel community that is actively involved in supporting early literacy development and that *all* Bethel students can develop their literacy skills and goals.

The Family Early Literacy Council will gather feedback and ideas from parents in their communities and represent them as the decision-making body for the Bethel Early Literacy Project. In monthly virtual meetings, council members will plan and lead the project strategies and help to promote them throughout the community.

### **Roles & Responsibilities:**

- Create and help implement agreed upon strategies for the project
- Actively participate in monthly meetings and other project activities as they arise
- Provide prompt feedback (within 48 hours) as well as proposed plans and ideas via e-mail or phone
- Represent parents and families in your community through your role on the council
- Collaborate with library staff and other partner organizations to implement the project strategies and spread the word about programming

### **Qualifications for Family Council members:**

- Experience navigating early childhood systems as a parent or guardian
- Passion for helping other parents/guardians: meeting them where they are, supporting them to access services, engaging them to develop their leadership
- Ability to engage with people who have diverse perspectives and ideas in a collaborative setting
- Attention to detail and ability to follow through on commitments
- Willingness to learn new technology (video conferencing)
- Ability to consistently commit 2-4 hours per month, including regular attendance at meetings

**Terms:** Family Council members will be asked to commit 2-4 hours/month for the duration of the project (ends December 31, 2021).

**Stipend:** Family Council members will receive a monthly stipend for their participation on the council. Additional stipends will be provided to cover transportation expenses and child care if needed.

**Are you interested in becoming a member of the Family Early Literacy Council?**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you live in the Bethel area?** (Circle one)      Yes      No

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

Is it ok for us to contact you by phone in regards to the council?

Yes

No, please contact me via:

**What time(s) of day works best for you to meet for 1 -2 hours?**

Morning (9:00am – 11:00am)

Afternoon (noon – 2:00pm)

Late afternoon (2:00pm – 4:00pm)

Evening (5:00pm – 7:00pm)

**Meetings will most often take place virtually via Zoom. Do you have access to a computer and internet for our virtual meetings?**

Yes

No \*We can work with families to provide access to the internet for meetings

**Is English your preferred language?** \*We can provide translators for meetings and events if needed.

Yes

No, my preferred language is: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact Amanda: [Amanda@mshconsultingnw.com](mailto:Amanda@mshconsultingnw.com) or 541-914-2451