

Learning Community Coordinating Council Meeting Agenda

November 19, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

1612 North 24th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Learning Community Vision: *That all children within the Learning Community achieve academic success without regard to social or economic circumstances.*

The subjects to be discussed or considered, or upon which any formal action may be taken, are as follows: **

1. Opening the Meeting:

- a. **Call to order:** The regular meeting of the Learning Community Coordinating Council is called to order on November 19, 2025, at _____ p.m.
- b. **Council Mission Statement:** Together with school districts and community organizations as partners, we demonstrate, share, and implement more effective practices to measurably improve educational outcomes for children and families in poverty.
- c. **Public Notice and Compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Law:** Public Notice was published in The Daily Record on November 14, 2025, and on the Learning Community Website.
- d. **Council Roll Call:** Present: _____ Excused: _____ Absent: _____ Quorum: _____
- e. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Please stand and face the flag for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment: Are there any public comments?

3. Reports:

- 1. Good News Report.
- 2. Chair Report:
- 3. CEO Report:
- 4. Treasurer Report:
- 5. Legal Counsel:
- 6. Foundation:

4. Consent Agenda:

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda

will be acted in the same motion.

- a. Minutes of October 16, 2025, meeting of the Council.
- b. Treasurer's Report – November 2025

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

First: _____ Second: _____

Discussion:

Moved to vote: Yes ____ No ____ Abstain ____

Motion: passed ____ failed ____

VI. Subcommittee Reports:

- a. Elementary, Learning, and Diversity (ELD) subcommittee:
- b. Budget, Finance, and Audit subcommittee:
- c. Legislative and Policy subcommittee:
- d. Administration and Personnel subcommittee:

VII. Programming Update:

- a. Center Updates:
- b. Partner Updates: D2 Center
- c. Director of Strategic Initiatives:

VIII. New Business:

- a. CAP Plan 2026-2029

Action Item: Motion to approve the Community Achievement Plan (CAP) of the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties, 2026–2029 and recommend for consideration of the Nebraska State Board of Education

Motion: To approve the CAP plan as presented.

First: _____ Second: _____

Discussion:

Moved to vote: Yes ____ No ____ Abstain ____

Motion: passed ____ failed ____

- b. MMI Learning Community Evaluation Report 24-25
- c. Millard Behavioral Program Initiative

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at: _____

Next Meeting – January 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. – Learning Community Center of North Omaha, 1612 North 24th Street, Omaha, NE 68110

***Executive/Closed Session:** If, during the meeting, a discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the council will conduct a closed meeting per the Nebraska Open Meetings Law.

****Sequence of Agenda:** The sequence of agenda topics is subject to change at the discretion of the Council. Please arrive at the beginning of the meeting.

UPCOMING LEARNING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

LC Coordinating Council	January 15, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Learning Community Center of North Omaha, 1612 N. 24 th Street, Omaha, NE 68110
Subcouncil #1	TBA
Subcouncil #2	TBA
Subcouncil #3	TBA
Subcouncil #4	TBA
Subcouncil #5	TBA
Subcouncil #6	TBA

HANDOUTS TO ACCOMPANY THIS AGENDA ARE AS FOLLOWS

- CEO Report
- Treasure Report
- September Mins
- CAP Plan -Via email
- MMI Learning Community Evaluation Report 24-25
- Millard- Behavioral Program Initiative
- Centers Update

402-505-4301
1612 North 24th St
Omaha, NE 68110

Chief Executive Officer
Gerald M. Kuhn, II

**COORDINATING
COUNCIL OFFICERS**

Chair
Sharnell Shelton

Vice Chair
Mark Hoeger

Secretary
Cindy Johnson

Treasurer
Tim Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Achievement Subcouncil 1
David Preston, Jr
Cindy Johnson

Achievement Subcouncil 2
Carol Hahn
Sharnelle Shelton

Achievement Subcouncil 3
Mark Hoeger
Warren Whitted, Jr

Achievement Subcouncil 4
Raquel Dixon Rodriguez
Stephen Bloom

Achievement Subcouncil 5
Douglas Brady
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Achievement Subcouncil 6
Jason Taylor
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LearningCommunityDS.org

11.13.2025

I am pleased to provide this update on key activities, partnerships, and initiatives underway at the Learning Community.

CEO Evaluation

We recently received valuable insights on our annual CEO evaluation from Caden Frank of NASB. These reflections will help us strengthen our preparation process for next year and ensure our evaluation criteria continue to align with the goals and expectations of the Council and the communities we serve.

Partnership Development

Our outreach and collaboration efforts continue to grow in meaningful ways.

We are excited about a potential partnership with *Nebraska Outlook*, an organization providing critical support to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. A tour of the Learning Community is forthcoming, and we look forward to exploring areas of shared mission and impactful collaboration.

Additionally, we were honored to receive positive feedback from Sarpy County Commissioner Don Kelly regarding the strengthened reputation of the Learning Community in the community. We will continue to keep him informed of our work, particularly within Sarpy County.

Our partnerships with local school districts and state leaders also remain a priority. We recently hosted tours for four Nebraska senators and intend to extend additional invitations in the weeks ahead. These visits have already resulted in meaningful conversations about our mission and the impact of our programs. I also met with our lobbyist in Lincoln to discuss contract deliverables for 2026 as we prepare strategically for the upcoming year.

NCFL Conference Participation

Our attendance at the 2025 NCFL Conference reinforced the value of our partnership with the National Center for Families Learning. Their support has provided significant benefits, including \$190,000 in grant funding in 2024. We look forward to continuing this partnership and exploring additional opportunities for collaboration.

Statewide Literacy Center Proposal

Finally, we remain engaged in discussions regarding the statewide Literacy Center initiative funded by the Lozier Foundation. This proposed center represents an important investment in literacy across Nebraska.

We anticipate that this work will strongly align with our mission, and we will continue to track the development of this initiative with an eye toward potential implementation and future benefits for the Learning Community.

Warm regards,

Gerald Kuhn

Chief Executive Officer

Learning Community of Douglas & Sarpy Counties

	2025-2026 Budget	Monthly Expense	Year to Date Expense	Percentage Year to Date
Rent	\$ 874,000	\$ 69,142	\$ 137,551	15.74%
<i>North Center</i>	\$ 632,000	\$ 49,209	\$ 98,340	15.56%
<i>South Center</i>	\$ 242,000	\$ 19,932	\$ 39,212	16.20%

Research and Evaluation	\$ 762,542	\$ 184,704	\$ 194,004	25.44%
MOEC	\$ 50,000			0.00%
MMI	\$ 712,542	\$ 184,704	\$ 194,004	27.23%

Programming				
Parent University	\$ 2,056,785	\$ 126,540	\$ 266,739	12.97%
<i>Wages</i>	\$ 1,322,342	\$ 90,892	\$ 196,774	14.88%
<i>Benefits</i>	\$ 359,143	\$ 9,264	\$ 9,264	2.58%
<i>Other</i>	\$ 375,300	\$ 26,384	\$ 60,701	16.17%

ELC Programming	\$ 16,314,056	\$ 2,399,791	\$ 3,195,102	19.58%
<i>ELC Programs (Districts 1.0)</i>	\$ 1,323,376	\$ 657,100	\$ 809,920	61.20%
<i>Districts 2.0</i>	\$ 2,719,903	\$ 556,241	\$ 596,363	21.93%
District 2.0 carryover	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Avenue Scholars	\$ 1,374,111	\$ 86,687	\$ 86,687	6.31%
Whispering Roots	\$ 114,290			0.00%
D2 Center	\$ 280,000	\$ -	\$ 67,497	24.11%
One World	\$ 3,183,581	\$ 223,361	\$ 441,099	13.86%
<i>Superintendents Plan</i>	\$ 3,870,530	\$ 326,197	\$ 643,332	16.62%
OPS Early Childhood Partnership (Sub 5)	\$ 1,150,705	\$ 241,968	\$ 241,968	21.03%
OPS Early Childhood Partnership (Sub 2)	\$ 1,797,560	\$ 308,237	\$ 308,237	17.15%
Henry Doorly Zoo	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Workforce Hub (New 2025-2026)	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%

Central Admin	\$ 1,759,607	\$ 104,014	\$ 177,739	10.10%
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 756,847	\$ 60,594	\$ 117,608	15.54%
<i>Benefits</i>	\$ 284,761	\$ 6,658	\$ 6,658	2.34%
<i>Other</i>	\$ 718,000	\$ 36,762	\$ 53,474	7.45%
Marketing/Advertising	\$ 110,000	\$ 5,449	\$ 5,449	4.95%
Legal	\$ 75,000	\$ 11,268	\$ 11,268	15.02%
Insurance	\$ 90,000	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Lobbying	\$ 33,000	\$ 5,167	\$ 5,167	15.66%
Other	\$ 300,000	\$ 10,760	\$ 16,339	5.45%
Technology (computers, website, IT)	\$ 80,000	\$ 4,119	\$ 15,251	19.06%
Travel/Conference	\$ 30,000			0.00%

Coordinating Council	\$ 60,000	\$ 112	\$ 134	0.22%
Travel/Conferences	\$ 15,000			0.00%
Daily Record / Advertising	\$ 2,000	\$ 23	\$ 45	2.27%
Contracted Services	\$ 38,000		\$ -	0.00%
Misc	\$ 5,000	\$ 89	\$ 89	1.78%

Total Expense	\$ 21,826,990	\$ 2,884,302	\$ 3,704,531	16.97%
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Revenue				
Interest	\$ 500,000	\$ 67,558	\$ 137,373	27.47%
Elementary Learning Center	\$ 12,891,773	\$ 134,529	\$ 458,232	3.55%
Capital Projects	\$ 1,281,324	\$ 13,151	\$ 45,381	3.54%
General Funds	\$ 1,247,000	\$ 155,593	\$ 625,593	50.17%
NCFL Grant - PU	\$ 30,000			0.00%
Total Revenue	\$ 15,950,097	\$ 370,830	\$ 1,266,578	7.94%

Learning Community Coordinating Council Meeting Agenda

October 16, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

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1. Opening the Meeting:

- a. **Call to order:** The regular meeting of the Learning Community Coordinating Council is called to order on October 16, 2025, at _6:01__p.m.
- b. **Council Mission Statement:** Together with school districts and community organizations as partners, we demonstrate, share, and implement more effective practices to measurably improve educational outcomes for children and families in poverty.
- c. **Public Notice and Compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Law:** Public Notice was published in The Daily Record on October 10, 2025, and on the Learning Community Website.
- d. **Council Roll Call:** Present: ___8_ Excused: ___2__ Absent: ___2__ Quorum: ___8__
- e. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Please stand and face the flag for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment: Are there any public comments?

3. Reports:

- 1. **Good News Report:** Ms. Lulu and child attends Liberty Elementary, and I am the early home visitors, and she I wanted to share a little bit about what we have done, and a book has been created. We do visits and talk about child development. This program has helped me out. BECI Amy: We want to have communication tools. We are also working literacy and being Adriana and marana Building a book series to highlight the work that we do. It is a way for families to engage at home, and it is a great resource for families. These books are being used at the Learning Community, and both BECI and LC is credited for the work.

2. Chair Report: Mayor is going to have a town hall on Monday at 6pm. We know that the LC staff are getting better. The Evaluation for CEO has been completed. Happy to see everyone at the Tiny Tots
3. CEO Report: Not too much to report. There is not much signage out front, and I found a company that can put up signage for us. It will be on the east side of the building. The lights will be on a timer to save money. We will get rid of the sign that is currently out there. The second sign will be in front of the building and it will be a brick sign and will be illuminated. South Center will get a better sign as well and I think that it will be a light. Taylor: I am curious if it is large and what kind of pricing that is because it will be 1000.00 for mine. Gerald: I am not sure of the price as they are putting that price together for us. When you have a Gem as the Learning Community, you need to have it look good and allow the community to know who we are. Preston: Are there restrictions in south Omaha with the city? Gerald: the company will pull permits to see what the restrictions are. I spoke with the superintendent that they are seeing a rise in behaviors K-3grade. Those behaviors in the classroom can really be disruptive to the classroom and the school. They train the paraprofessional to help with the kids in classrooms. What is the wrap around. The kids could be dealing with things at home, and they said that they will triage these students and make sure that they get the resources they need. Operations: Employee Engagement, Chili Cookoff 2nd annual cookout. I cooked smoked white chicken chili and I won 1st place, but I am taking all 6 participants to lunch.
4. Treasurer Report: No report
5. Legal Counsel: No report
6. Foundation: LC went to a conference in New Orleans for family engagement.

4. **Consent Agenda:**

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted in the same motion.

- a. Minutes of September 18, 2025, meeting of the Council.
- b. Treasurer's Report - October 2025

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

First: __Rodriguez__ Second: __Hall__

Discussion:

Moved to vote: Yes __8__ No __0__ Abstain __0__

Motion: passed __x__ failed _____

- c. Food Meal Policy

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

First: __Shelton__ Second: __Bloom__

Discussion:

Moved to vote: Yes __8__ No __0__ Abstain __0__

Motion: passed __X__ failed _____

VI. Subcommittee Reports:

a. Elementary, Learning, and Diversity (ELD) subcommittee:

i. We talked about the proposal and looking

b. Budget, Finance, and Audit subcommittee:

i. We have nothing this month

c. Legislative and Policy subcommittee: No update

d. Administration and Personnel subcommittee:

i. Food Meal Policy and reviewed the HR handbook.

VII. Programming Update:

a. Center Updates

i. Ms. Annette, welcome to the Learning Community. Annette: I am Annette Shannon here at the Learning Community, and I got to go to the Conference, and it was a good time. I was honored to engage in the conference theme was connect, and the keynote shared motivating words about family engagement. We got to be in a 2nd line parade and that was my first time and south Omaha got to go as well. Paw Tha was an adventure. Building innovation. Participating in engaging families from the start. Activities should be hands on and minds on. This Conference embodied everything that we want to do at the Learning Community. Shelton: Any strategies you want to share? Annette: They talked about how they collaborated with other states. Book Vending Machines and put them in convenient stores, laundry mats, and thinking about where we could implement that. Gerald: To add color to that, School district Kentucky where they did a nighttime zoom meeting, and they would read bedtime stories to kids, and it would be a fun way for the kids to engage in reading. The second thing is don't be surprised if we don't have a band or a mariachi

band and do a 2nd line parade. Nayeli: Training, Work, South Omaha: Primetime Family Reading Program, Enrollment Day. Reminder of upcoming activities Avenue Scholars at South Omaha High School, LC data walk, please come and bring a guest.

b. District Initiatives:

i. Springfield Platteview Community Schools

1. Ryan Summers- Superintendent, District Director, and Social Worker. I want to share a little bit about our district. We are just on the outskirts of Papillion, and typically we were on the lower end of funding. LC was a negative word. This is something that we can share a good thing and the culture and partnership with the learning community. We do have a band One of the largest districts in Nebraska. Large land district. Small population of students 1233 and 4 buildings, two elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Sarpy County, plugged in the new pipe that runs through sarpy county. We are wanting to be aggressive in that approach, and we know that with growth it will come with great things but also with some challenges, and we see that there are 3 different neighborhoods that are going on. I am excited to share today about the grant that the LC has been so kind to share the 100,000.00 to hire a social worker to support four buildings. First time ever and it was a great joy to go to the board, and we were very particular in picking the right person. The community doesn't know what to do quite yet with a social worker, so we are educating those members. Taylor, Social worker, and I was able to start in this position and still have a very new position. I was able to build the foundation, and the integration has been good since I grew up in Springfield. Developing relationships with the community is important. I looked at attendance data and sat down with administrators and developing processes and with that talk about the issues that we are having with attendance. We do have issues with crisis responses. I am the first line of defense when it comes to that. Developing a community resource list. I had trauma informed practices. I am working on a solid social work referral process, sent that out yesterday. Implementing programs, backpack snack coordinator and running that. I am the program coordinator, and we are starting our match meetings. Hiring me was a highlight of the grant, Professional learning equipping staff. Start providing that support to all of the district, Jackie Lucas- District Service Director- Thank you Learning Community and history of being in bigger district it has been a big learning curve and is a good help with some really hard things. Student support, family support, and Attendance are our goals. Taylor is able to go out into the community. Raquel: Are the teachers paid by the Learning Community or the districts?

ii. Completely Kids

1. Anne Wallace, COO and Karla, CEO . Ane: We are going to talk about all the pillars of Completely Kids and the what the Learning Community funds. Completely Kids have five different buckets: after school program, Food program, we provide food bags every weekend. Started the program in we have a crew of volunteers to help with the food and there is a ton of people, family programming, and so we decided we wanted to do more with families where they are self-sufficient and we started an adult education in 2009 and do GED and Haircutting class. English GED and Spanish GED. We have had two years of graduation. The program continues to grow. We use partnerships with MMC and Iowa Western so that we aren't paying for all of the classes. Lending link helps with taxes. Karla: We actually were able to build another building for Completely kids and is now our main building. We have a Teen Program, our junior and Seniors get to interview and create resumes, and they get to come work for us. Every other Friday they get to come and learn how to fill out FASFA and interview skills; 100 of them graduated from high school and 85% of them stay on and continue to work for us. 2-3 crisis call after school for homicidal calls, trauma, anxiety. We have a team that works for us, and they group work and they teach them how to identify emotions, and they do risk assessment, they do one on one services. No fees, and you get access to the services that you need. Anne: The Learning Community funds the before school at the field club we do a before school program and after school and during the day in the summer program. There are equal number of boys and girls and majority of the kids are Hispanic. Most of the kids are eligible for free and reduced lunch. This is a snapshot of things that we have done at the program. We have providers who come in and do things with the kids. We split the school year up and each 5-10 week and we have different curriculum. We are trying to keep excited and have fun by doing all hands-on activities. Jason: Do you have opportunities available for special in form trauma care. We can handle the situation and if we can't help we refer them out to Methodist.
- c. Director of Strategic Initiatives- CAP I sent out the updates from the past few years. We are now gearing up for the new plan so what you will receive is the community plan and we will vote on that in November. Everything is going well so far. Community Advisory Board 1st meeting is October 30th . We will be sharing the list of members with you. Council Members if they can come. I will speak with Gerald about that. We are gearing up for the mayors town hall. Community knows and also have a Senators visit as well. Created a we are The Learning Community Booklet and I have passed that out.

VIII. **New Business:**

- a. **Superintendent's Plan- Evaluation Presentation (MMI)**

- i. **Nayeli passed out the executive summary for the evaluation plan. Sharing highlights of the plan. I'll start by sharing system level outcomes and child learning outcomes. We asked principals and asked them questions. There has been a increase in developing clear goals and creating a postive and safe place environment. Up next we looked into instructional excellence where we aske d teachers about their 3 domains of student engagement, instructional management and classroom management. We find that the largest areas of growth is assisting families and helping their children to do well in school. We also asked district to rate their progress 24-25 scale 1-100 were constant. Mark asked what are the actual mechanism that are in place at the elementary school level. Presentation of the evaluations continued**

b. *Action Item:* CEO Evaluation

The Council will review and discuss the results of the CEO's annual performance evaluation. Following discussion, members will consider and take action on a proposed merit increase based on performance outcomes and organizational benchmarks. Motion to approve the proposed merit increase for the CEO based on the results of the annual performance evaluation, effective August 26, 2025

Andrew: Contract states August 26th but starts September 1st.

Maragret confirms that September 1st as the effective date

Mark asked Gerald if he is good with September 1. Jason is asking is the 4% a normal increase.

Mark stated that the 4% is contractual.

Andrew stated that the contract is the increase is 1-4% Aug. 26th , 2025-Aug 31st, 2026

Possible Motion Language:

"Motion to approve a merit increase of 4% for the CEO, effective September 1, 2025, based on satisfactory completion of the annual performance evaluation and demonstrated achievement of organizational goals."

Motion: To approve the Action Items as presented.

First: __Hoeger__ Second: _Taylor__

Discussion:

No discussion

Moved to vote: Yes __8__ No _0____ Abstain__0__

Motion: passed__X__ failed _____

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at: __7:53pm____

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Subcouncil #1	TBA
Subcouncil #2	TBA
Subcouncil #3	TBA
Subcouncil #4	TBA
Subcouncil #5	TBA
Subcouncil #6	TBA

HANDOUTS TO ACCOMPANY THIS AGENDA ARE AS FOLLOWS

- CEO Report
- Treasure Report
- September Mins
- BECI Executive Summary
- Food Meal Policy
- Center Reports
- Avenue Scholar's Report

learning community center OF SOUTH OMAHA

402-502-5512

2302 M St.
Omaha, NE 68107

Chief Executive Officer
Gerald M. Kuhn, II

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learning
community
DOUGLAS
SARPY

LEARNING COMMUNITY CENTER OF SOUTH OMAHA

10/9/2025 – 11/13/2025

General Info

- Three LCCSO participants passed their GED exam in the past month.
- The Simple Foundation CEO visited the center after visiting his program last month. Meeting to learn about the program and consider how we can deepen our partnership to recruit new families/demographics to the center.
- One staff member who is part of an indigenous group became certified in a Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) mental health training curriculum after receiving a private grant to pay for her training fee, food and lodging.
- Senator Dunixi Guereca toured the LCCSO
- Four more preschool-aged children from LCCSO enrolled in the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo School (Nine total)
- LCCSO participants were “special guests” Joslyn Museum’s “Art-Tastic Saturday” and “Nights at the Joslyn”
- Presentation for Binational Education Week
- Participated in OneWorld’s Community Baby Shower
- Parent/Teacher Conferences for the LCCSO program at both the main site and Bancroft (to learn about progress in the program and talk to the child’s teachers.)
- OneWorld nurse offered free flu shots for participants at both locations and in all groups
- LCCSO continues as a Nebraska Diaper Bank location, and each participant with children needing diapers are offered free diaper packs once a month.
- Celebrated National Case Management Week with the Family Engagement team
- Photo shoots with Stable Grey – one at center, two during home visits
- School outreach and recruitment
 - o Coffee with principal presentation at Field Club Elementary School
 - o Attended Trunk or Treat events at both Spring Lake and Gomez Heritage Elementary Schools
 - o Bellevue Public School administrator and family literacy staff toured the LCCSO.
 - o Recruitment at 14 Sub-5 schools during Parent/Teacher Conferences (130 interested in programming)

Center Programming

The LCCSO offers programming Monday – Thursday from 9 am-12 pm, 12:45 pm - 3:45 pm, and from 5 pm-8 pm. Friday programming is from 9 am-12 pm and 12:45 pm-3:45 pm. Saturday programming is offered at least once a month and lasts between two to six hours.

- Interactive Parent/Child Programming
 - o Creating Healthy Routines program (bilingual program at Bancroft)
 - o Kindergarten Readiness program offered at Bancroft (bilingual program for 17 children)
 - o Home visits are scheduled approximately every three to four weeks
 - o Prime Time Family Reading Program
 - o College Prep for Families program
 - o Parent/child violin classes through Omaha Conservatory of Music for 4 classes of kids

learning community center

OF SOUTH OMAHA

402-502-5512

2302 M St.
Omaha, NE 68107

Chief Executive Officer
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learning
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DOUGLAS
SARPY

- National Geographic: A Pirate's Life and Dia de los Muertos event at Holland – free tickets
- Joslyn Art-Tastic event – brought families
- Parent Programming
 - ESL for Parents: 15 cohorts
 - GED for Parents: 3 cohorts
 - Parent Workshops included:
 - Intro to Finances (Lending Link)
 - Community Café (LCCSO participants hired by The BRIDGE) -
 - Bienvenidos mental health program (LCCSO staff with UNMC)
 - NCFL Parent Leadership program (2 LCCSO staff)
 - Love & Logic (LCCSO staff)
 - Circle of Security (LCCSO staff and Child Saving Institute) -
 - Nurturing Parenting (LCCSO staff) -
 - Workforce Development parts 1 and 2 (LCCSO staff)
 - Typing Club (LCCSO staff)
 - Digital Literacy classes (LCCSO staff) -
 - Pyramid Model (Child Saving Institute)
 - OneWorld Patient Leadership Group (OW senior leader)
 - Civics and Literacy (LCCSO staff)
- Child Learning programming during parent classes
 - Regular programming for children aged 0-5
 - Lil' Rosies Storytime through the Rose Theater twice a month
 - Opera Omaha Storytime and child-focused programming
- Community Childcare training/coaching for South Omaha childcare providers
 - 16 childcare providers receiving weekday coaching and Saturday trainings/collaboration meetings

Staff Training

- Inside Out Learning – UNL Extension (LCCSO Program Manager)
- DEI Training with Learning Community (LCCSO managers)
- OneWorld Leadership Training – 2 days (LCCSO director)
- ELG Language and Literacy training (Navigators and Child Learning staff)
- Growing Great Kids Curriculum training (Peer Navigator)
- Infant CLASS Training/Certification (Early Childhood Coach)
- Child Development Associate study (LCCSO Program Manager)
- National Families Learning Conference (2 Managers)

Success Stories

One of our participants, Alondra, took a break from high school. She attempted to re-enroll but was unable to do so due to her age, so she enrolled in our GED classes in August 2024. She brought her young child to our Child Learning classrooms while studying for her GED, and she passed her exam last month! She and her son are now enrolled in and actively participating in our College Prep Program, where she is learning about college life, completing a FAFSA, discovering available services on a college campus, and gaining additional information to support their future educational goals. Alondra has a personal goal of becoming an Ultrasound Tech, and she is exploring this career further through the

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402-502-5512

2302 M St.
Omaha, NE 68107

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VISION

That all children within the Learning Community achieve academic success without regard to social or economic circumstance.

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College Prep program. She will also receive Workforce Navigation support from the LCCSO to help connect her to this program at Metro Community College. Alondra is a clear example of strong determination, and we will continue to support her as she takes the next steps to improve her family's economic future.

- Submitted by Roberto Menjivar, Workforce Navigator



On October 30th we offered a class on creating healthy routines, which had great attendance. One parent shared that she really loved the session. She also mentioned that creating a visual schedule for her son was something she had been wanting to do for a while, as it would be extremely helpful at home with her young child, who has a speech delay. She also shared how she plans to use it with him and how her older children will be involved as well.

- Submitted by Jessica Mollao, Program Assistant



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LEARNING COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTH OMAHA

October 2025

Center Highlights

Parent University Boo Bash Celebration Report

This year's Boo Bash was an incredible success! The event brought together our families, staff, and community partners for an evening filled with fun, learning, and connection.

Event Highlights:

- 61 Families attended
- 160 Children participated
- Approximately 221 total attendees enjoyed the event

Families had the opportunity to:

- Enjoy a free dinner and Halloween-themed treats and desserts
- Participate in arts and crafts, themed games, and creative activities
- Connect with our community partners, including DHHS and Molina Healthcare
- Receive free produce boxes courtesy of Molina Healthcare

The Boo Bash fostered family engagement, built community connections, and gave our families a safe, festive space to celebrate together. Costumes were optional, but smiles were mandatory — and there was no shortage of laughter, joy, and togetherness throughout the night.

A heartfelt thank-you to our staff, volunteers, and partners for helping make this event a memorable one for our Parent University families. Events like this reflect the power of collaboration and the heart of our mission: building learning communities for generations.

Educational Navigator KIPS Evaluation Success Report

Program Area: Parent University Home Visiting

Our Educational Navigators deserve a huge round of applause for their dedication and commitment to continuous improvement and family engagement! During October, the team made tremendous progress completing KIPS (Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale) evaluations during home visits. The KIPS tool is a nationally recognized, evidence-based measure that assesses the quality of parent–child interactions through brief video-recorded observations. It focuses on key domains of responsive parenting, including:

- Sensitivity – how well parents respond to their child's cues
- Encouragement – how parents support autonomy and learning

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402-505-4301

1612 North 24th St
Omaha, NE 68110

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- Involvement – how engaged and connected parents are with their children

Year-over-Year Progress:

2024: 8 KIPS assessments completed

2025: 32 KIPS assessments completed — a 300% increase! 🎉

While some families continue to express understandable hesitation with the video recording component, our Navigators have handled these concerns with empathy, transparency, and trust-building conversations — ensuring that families feel safe, respected, and valued throughout the process.

This growth demonstrates our team's commitment to quality improvement, relationship-based practice, and data-driven family engagement. Each KIPS evaluation provides valuable insights into parenting strengths and areas for support, helping us tailor services that truly meet families where they are.

Thank you to our incredible Educational Navigators for their hard work, persistence, and care for every family they serve. Your dedication reflects the heart of Parent University's mission: empowering families through education, connection, and trust.

Parent University Team Attends National NAFSCE Conference

Parent University proudly sent a leadership delegation — Dr. Tanya Santos (Director), Annette Shannon, (Family Engagement Manager), and Tee Johnson, Educational Navigator— to the National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE) Conference this month.

The conference brought together educators, researchers, and community leaders from across the country to advance equity-driven, evidence-based family engagement practices that strengthen connections between families, schools, and communities.

Key Takeaways & Learnings:

- Reframing Family Engagement as Partnership: We deepened our understanding of how true engagement goes beyond participation — it's about co-creation, shared decision-making, and honoring families as leaders in their child's learning journey.
- Using Data to Strengthen Impact: Sessions emphasized measuring both the quality and impact of engagement efforts, inspiring us to refine how we collect and use feedback from families to shape programming at Parent University.

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- **Culturally Responsive Practices:** We learned new strategies for embedding cultural humility, linguistic inclusion, and identity-affirming practices into all levels of family engagement.
- **Building Systemwide Capacity:** Insights were shared on aligning early childhood, K–12, and community partners to create consistent family engagement pathways — a key goal of our own two-generation (2Gen) model.

Next Steps for Parent University:

Our team will be integrating these learnings into upcoming Family Engagement Team Trainings and Program Planning Sessions by:

- ⇒ Incorporating co-design opportunities with families in event and program planning
- ⇒ Embedding new tools from NAFSCE to strengthen family–school–community partnerships
- ⇒ Sharing highlights and resources from conference sessions with all staff to enhance our collective practice

Attending this national convening reaffirmed our commitment to building strong, trusting relationships that empower families as full partners in education. We are energized and inspired to bring these insights back to our North Center community and continue leading with purpose and partnership.

Together, we are redefining what it means to learn and grow — as families, educators, and a community.

Center Programming

- ESL for Parents
- GED for Parents
- TKO/5 for PACT
- Thriving Sisters English and Spanish
- String Sprouts