New Orleans Early Education Network (NOEEN)
Steering Committee Meeting
Mahalia Jackson, 2405 Jackson Ave
January 21, 2026 | 10am - 12pm

Minutes

Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the Steering Committee of the New Orleans Early Education Network (NOEEN) was held on January 21, 2026, at 10:00 am at Mahalia Jackson Elementary. Rochelle Wilcox, Chair, presided over the meeting.

Attendees

Steering Committee Members in Attendance
Tomorrow Fondal, Asya Howlette (Meshawn Saddiq) Amy Hook-Poirier, Sheraé Hunter (Razan Badr), Jonika Julian-Harris, Tonia Loria, Kate Mehok (Parliamentarian), Angelique Morris Francois, Yolanda Motley, Emmy O'Dwyer, Melanie Richardson, Jen Roberts, Monique B. Rouege, Rochelle Wilcox (Chair)

Guests in Attendance
Caitlin Boley

Steering Committee Members Not in Attendance
Stacey Barquet, Thelma French (Past Chair), Dr. Fateama Fulmore, Dr. Shayla Guidry Hilaire, Joy Mitchell, Amanda Peek, Benita Plaisance

Approval of Minutes

Kate Mehok moved to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025, Steering Committee Meeting, which was seconded by Yolanda Motley. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Steering Committee Member Reports

Jonika Julian-Harris presented the Coordinated Enrollment Report.
- Steering Committee members discussed family outreach and in-person events, terminology, and a detailed overview of the enrollment process.

Amy Hook-Poirier and Jen Roberts presented the Ready Start Network and Mileage Capacity Building Report.
- Steering Committee members discussed the LDOE CNLA & RSN Request for Applications, an upcoming NOEEN Steering Committee Retreat, and millage budget updates.

Amy Hook-Poirier presented the NOEEN Executive Subcommittee Report.
- Steering Committee members discussed the appointment of Meshawn Saddiq.

Jonika Julian-Harris presented the Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee Report.
- Steering Committee members discussed the submitted Coordinated Enrollment Plan.

Motions

On the motion of Rochelle Wilcox, the NOEEN Steering Committee received the Community Network Lead Agency Report.

On the motion of Rochelle Wilcox, the NOEEN Steering Committee received the Coordinated Enrollment Report.

On the motion of Rochelle Wilcox, the NOEEN Steering Committee received the Ready Start Network and Millage Capacity Building Report.

On the motion of Rochelle Wilcox, the NOEEN Steering Committee received the NOEEN Executive Subcommittee and Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee Reports.

On the motion of Emmy O'Dwyer, seconded by Yolanda Motley, the NOEEN Steering Committee voted to support Agenda for Children and NOLA-PS applying as Co-Lead Agencies for Orleans Parish for the 2026-2027 & 2027-2028 program years. Jonika Julian-Harris, Tonia Loria, and Jen Roberts abstained.

On the motion of Kate Mehok, seconded by Emmy O'Dwyer, the NOEEN Steering Committee voted to support Agenda for Children's application to serve as the Ready Start Network Orleans Parish for the 2026-2027 & 2027-2028 program years. Tonia Loria and Jen Roberts abstained.

On the motion of Melanie Richardson, seconded by Emmy O'Dwyer, the Steering Committee voted unanimously to approve Meshawn Saddiq to the City of New Orleans seat on the NOEEN Steering Committee.

Announcements

Dates and times of upcoming NOEEN Steering Committee and Subcommittee meetings were announced.

Adjournment

Rochelle Wilcox moved to adjourn the meeting, which was agreed to at 10:55 am.