NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK (NOEEN)

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

April 15, 2026

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER	ENTITY REPRESENTED
Stacey Barquet	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver
Tomorow Fondal	Louisiana Department of Health Early Steps System Point of Entry
Thelma French	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
Dr. Fateama Fulmore	NOLA Public Schools (NOLA-PS)
Dr. Shayla Guidry Hilaire	Child Find
Amy Hook-Poirier	Orleans Parish Ready Start Network
Sheraé Hunter	New Orleans City Council
Jonika Julian-Harris	Orleans Parish Lead Agency
VACANT	Head Start
Tonia Loria	Orleans Parish Child Care Resource & Referral Agency
Kate Mehok	Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program (LA 4)
Joy Mitchell	Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
Angelique Morris Francois	CCAP B-3
Yolanda Motley	Early Head Start
Emmy O'Dwyer	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
Amanda Peek	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver
Benita Plaisance	Nonpublic School Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD)
Melanie Richardson	Family Child Care Providers
Jen Roberts	NOEEN Nonprofit Corporation Board of Directors
Monique B. Rouege	Early Childhood Education Fund (ECEF)
Meshawn Siddiq	City of New Orleans
Rochelle Wilcox	City Seats

NOEEN'S MISSION

To ensure an excellent start for every child in New Orleans by strengthening early childhood education and providing families access to high-quality early learning programs that help them realize their dreams for their children.

III. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion is to adopt the draft minutes from the:

- *March 18, 2026 NOEEN Steering Committee Meeting*

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

IV. COMMUNITY NETWORK UPDATES + CONSIDERATIONS

COMMUNITY NETWORK LEAD AGENCY (CNLA) UPDATES

Memorandum

March 18, 2026 to Present

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT UPDATES

March 18, 2026 to Present

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2025-2026 UPDATES

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS | EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

2025-2026 Timeline

Feb 2026
Main Round Closes

Ongoing 25-26 verifications placements

Feb 20: *Main round app closes for new applications*

Feb 23 - Feb 27: *Document Submission Period for incomplete applications 5pm*

Document review period begins

Mar 2026
Main Round Match Prep

Ongoing 25-26 verifications placements

Mar 6: *Document Review period ends 5pm*
Main Round Application closed

Mar 9-10: *Incomplete Family Messages (Getting Ready for Open Enrollment)*

By Mar 13: *Priorities sent to providers*

Office Hours will be held

Mar 20: *Priorities due from providers*

Mar 27: *Preliminary Waitlist Feedback due*

Apr 2026
Main Round Results Released

Ongoing 25-26 verifications placements

BESE Allocations

Week of April 27 *- Match results released* ***(EHS, HS, LA4, NSECD)***

May 2026
Open Enrollment Prep

Ongoing 25-26 verifications placements

May 4: *Deactivation Requests begin for declined seats*

May 22: *Registration Deadline*

Deactivation Requests begin families who missed registration deadline

May 30: *2025-2026 Open Enrollment Ends*

2025-2026 *application closes*

June 2026
Open Enrollment

Ongoing 25-26 verifications placements

June 1: *Open Enrollment begi (Early Head Start, Head Start, LA4, NSECD)*

TBD: Open Enrollment begins (City Seats, ECEF)

June 3,10, 17 &24: *Summer In person verifications*

Wednesdays in July

25-26 ENROLLMENT UPDATE AS OF APRIL 14, 2026

Funding Source	Total Filled	Seats Offered	Total Allocation	Percentage of Seats Filled	Infants		1 Year Olds		2 Year Olds		3 Year Olds		4 Year Olds	
					Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats
CS	1000	0	1000	100%	115	0	225	0	326	0	334	0		
*ECEF	804	0	810	99%	95	1	175	1	221	1	319	4		
EHS	647	0	647	100%	83	0	237	0	326	0				
HS	920	0	933	99%							517	5	416	9
**LA4	1,264	4	1,276	99%									1,276	8
NSECD	373	0	374	99%							82	0	291	1
Total Seats	5,009	4	5,040	99%	295	1	638	1	871	1	1,252	9	1,984	18
*reduction in seat allocation 10/12/25 ** increase in seat allocation by Total of 36 seats *** available HS seats @ 1 grantee					*99% Filled*		*99% Filled*		*99% Filled*		*99% Filled*		*99% Filled*	

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2026-2027 UPDATES

MAIN ROUND APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS

2026 - 2027 Total applications by status as of April 1, 2026	
Total Applications	10,253
Total Applicants	4,438
Verified	3,671
Incomplete	752
Canceled	32
No rank	40
Verification Attempts	14,285 (Jan 5 - March 6)

2026-2027 LA4 Allocations

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) sent 2026-2027 Preliminary Notices of Award Letter to LA4 programs during the week of February 23rd.

- As part of the Coordinated Funding Request, NOEEN requested 1,404 LA4 seats at 34 locations.
- The preliminary allocations sent by the LDOE provided funding for 1,280 seats at 34 locations.
- The LDOE stated that 2026-2027 seat allocations were made based on the number of available seats in the state.
- The Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) will approve the LDOE's allocation recommendations during the April BESE meeting.

2026-2027 NSECD Allocations

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) sent 2026-2027 Preliminary Notices of Award Letter to NSECD programs during the week of February 23.

- As part of the Coordinated Funding Request, NOEEN requested 447 NSECD seats at 11 locations.
- The preliminary allocations sent by the LDOE provided funding for 353 seats at 10 locations.
- The LDOE stated that 2026-2027 seat allocations were made based on the number of available seats in the state for sites and no new sites were added unless they received Excellent Profile Scores.
- The Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) will approve the LDOE's allocation recommendations during the April BESE meeting.

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EVENTS

June Events

Total Community Action
June 5, 2026
1416 S. Norman C Francis Pkwy
New Orleans, LA 70125
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Langston Hughes Academy
June 12, 2026
3519 Trafalgar St
New Orleans, LA 70119
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Fannie C. Williams Charter
June 26, 2026
11755 Dwyer Rd
New Orleans, LA 70128
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

July Events

Dorothy Height Charter
July 10, 2026
3501 Seine St
New Orleans, LA 70114
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Harmony Neighborhood
July 17, 2026
2514 Washington Ave
New Orleans, LA 70113
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Esperanza Academy
July 24, 2026
3121 Saint Bernard Ave
New Orleans, LA 70119
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

READY START NETWORK + MILLAGE CAPACITY BUILDING

READY START NETWORK (RSN) UPDATES

March 18, 2026 to Present

NOEEN SPRING COLLABORATIVE

The annual NOEEN Spring Collaborative was held on Thursday, April 9, 2026.

- As part of the collaborative, 50 providers participated in a professional development session focused on empowering educators to support high-quality literacy instruction.
    - Leaders engaged in activities to support teachers in developing early language and literacy skills. They chose a focus area—observation and feedback, resources, or professional development—and outlined strategies, timelines, and success metrics.
    - 28 directors participated in creating an action plan for supporting their teachers in early language an literacy instruction over the next quarter.

The next collaborative will be held in the fall of 2026.

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MILLAGE CAPACITY BUILDING UPDATES

March 18, 2026 to Present

MILLAGE UPDATES*

Access and Enrollment

- All 1,000 City Seats are filled across 38 centers citywide, with state match funding supporting 810 additional seats.

Wrap Around Supports

- Supports continued through all wrap around partners across all focus areas. Additionally, Tulane Mental Health Consultants (T-MHCS) supported sites to ensure providers have the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the developmental needs of the children in their care, thereby supporting children's continued enrollment in funded seats programs.

Workforce and Quality Initiatives

- Workforce and quality initiatives continued with over 1,250 hours of practice-based coaching and technical assistance and 22 workshops were provided to City Seats teachers and directors

Wage Enhancements

- Another round of educator stipends is anticipated in May 2026.

**Updates as of April 6, 2026*

MILLAGE BUDGET UPDATES

- The 25-26 Program Budget has been adjusted to account for the $1.365M CNO funding shortfall and commensurate reduction in state matching fund drawdown.
- Highlights:
  - Educator Wage Enhancement restored to include a Summer 2026 payment.
  - Increase in Mental Health Supports + Wraparound Supports
  - Reduction in outreach events and sponsorships
  - Reduction in Professional Development
  - Reduction in Workforce Development / pathway support
  - Reduction in Facilities Support
  - Reduction in ECHO grants (quality grants, non traditional play space)
  - Reduction in facilities support
- *Ratification (vote)*

Category (CEA)	Amount	Description	April 2026 Revision	Adjustment
Administrative Cost and Evaluation	$1,024,959.00	As Defined in CEA #K22-756	$ 1,024,959	0.00%
Student Enrollment and Programmatic Payment*	$12,000,000.00	Enrollment Payments (1,000 Children @ $12K/Year for July 2024- June 2025)	$ 12,000,000	0.00%
Comprehensive Wraparound Services* ($2.5M)	$450,000.00	Mental Health Services	$ 543,540	20.79%
	$105,000.00	Family Engagement and Outreach	$ 35,255	-66.42%
	$65,000.00	Caregiving Resources for Families	$ 10,000	-84.62%
	$50,000.00	Vision + Hearing Screenings	$ 50,000	0.00%
	$750,000.00	Practice-Based Coaching and Professional Development	$ 425,140	-43.31%
	$1,000,000.00	Medical, Social Work, and Disability Intervention, Services, and Referrals	$ 1,421,790	42.18%
	$10,000.00	Transportation Support	$ 4,275	-57.25%
	$60,000.00	Data Management Software	$ -	-100.00%
	$10,000.00	Outreach Materials	$ 10,000	0.00%
Family Navigation and Engagement Support	$500,000.00	As Defined in CEA #K22-756	$ 500,000	0.00%
Coordinated Enrollment	$1,000,000.00	As Defined in CEA #K22-756	$ 1,000,000	0.00%
Capacity Building to Expand Quality (Up to $4.25M)*	$1,250,000.00	Facilities Support	$ 687,500	-45.00%
	$110,000.00	Zoning + Permitting Support	$ 110,000	0.00%
	$375,000.00	Nontraditional Play Space Support	$ 35,926	-90.42%
	$40,000.00	Workforce Recruitment Support	$ 1,000	-97.50%
	$100,000.00	Capacity Building Program Assessment & Accountability	$ 82,842	-17.16%
	$350,000.00	Education Pathways Development (High School, CDA, ECAC)	$ 300,000	-14.29%
	$375,000.00	Professional Development and Support for Directors	$ 375,000	0.00%
	$1,100,000.00	Professional Development and Support for Educators (all Orleans sites)	$ 743,111	-32.44%
	$500,000.00	24-25 City Seats ECHO Program Grants	$ 500,000	0.00%
	$50,000.00	Family Engagement and Outreach	$ 46,746	-6.51%
Educator Wage Enhancement*	$2,400,000.00	As Defined in CEA #K23-031	$ 2,400,000	0.00%
TOTAL	**$23,674,959.00**		**$ 22,307,084**	-5.78%

V. SUBCOMMITTEE + WORKING GROUP REPORTS

EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

March 18, 2026 to Present

EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING: BYLAW AND NOEEN MEMBERSHIP SELECTION PROCEDURE REVIEW

The Executive Subcommittee will meet in late April/early May to complete the NOEEN bylaw and NOEEN membership selection procedure review.

- The date of the meeting will be announced the week of April 20, 2026 via email.
  - Meeting information will also be available on the NOEEN website (noeen.org)

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

March 18, 2026 to Present

APRIL COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee met on April 7, 2026.

- 8 out of 11 members were present
  - 3 attendees were proxies
- Meeting topics included
  - 2025 - 2026 Enrollment
  - 2026 - 2027 Enrollment
- Members discussed enrollment terminology, availability of seats vs. demand, and communication with families.

The next meeting will be held on May 5th, 2026.

VII. OPEN FORUM

FUTURE MEETINGS

Steering Committee Meetings

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- **May 13** @ NOLA-PS
- **June 10** @ NOLA-PS

Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee Meetings

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- **May 5** @ NOLA-PS
- **June 2** @ NOLA-PS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT