



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 22, 2017
9:30 am – 12:30 pm
303 East 17th Street
11th Floor conference room
Denver CO 80203

Meeting Objectives:

- Approve meeting minutes from April 27, 2017
- Learn about Safe Sleep Updates
- Vote on Endorsement of the Early Childhood Workforce 2020 Plan
- View presentation on the ELDG videos and new website
- Report on HB1003 Strategic Plan To Address Teacher Shortages
- Listen to the early childhood community during public comment

Attendees:

Anna Jo Haynes, Barbara Grogan, Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne, Mary Anne Snyder, Susan Steele, Karen Trierweiler, George Welsh, Letty Bass, Anna Robinson, Charlotte Brantley, Gerri Gomez Howard, Tom Massey, Doug Clements, Melissa Colman, Heather Craiglow, Jerene Petersen, Jeanne McQueeney, Jeff Kuhr, Elsa Holguin, George Welsh, Kristina Mueller, Dalia Milford, and Cindy Schulz (by phone)

Welcome and Business Meeting

Barb Grogan called the meeting to order at 9:36am. Lt. Governor Donna Lynn thanked all who participated in creating the Early Childhood Workforce 2020 Plan. She stated the EC Workforce 2020 Plan lays out an ambitious, yet achievable roadmap for a comprehensive professional development system designed to recruit, retain, compensate, develop and support a highly-qualified workforce.

Approve meeting minutes from April 27, 2017

Barb Grogan called for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 27, 2017 meeting. Jerene Petersen moved to approve the minutes and Susan Steele seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Vote on Endorsement of the Early Childhood Workforce 2020 Plan

Christi Chadwick, Nancie Linville and Brian Conly presented on the final version of the Early Childhood Workforce 2020 Plan. The plan has been developed with the ECLC and stakeholders given numerous opportunities to learn about the work and read the plan drafts along the way. Anna Jo Haynes called for a vote on the endorsement of the plan which was motioned by Jerene Petersen. Charlotte Brantley seconded the motion and the plan was endorsed by a unanimous vote.

Report on HB1003 Strategic Plan To Address Teacher Shortages

Robert Mitchell and Kachina Weaver introduced the Strategic Plan to Address Teacher Shortages. BH17-1003 requires the by Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education to develop a strategic plan for Colorado's teacher shortages by December 1,2017. Approximately 3,000-3,500 teachers are needed, but the number of

individuals interested in careers in education has continued to decrease. Rural Colorado has seen the biggest impact from the teacher shortages.

When asked if early childhood education was also included in the plan, Robert Mitchell replied that it would be included.

He also invited all who are interested to attend any of the town hall meetings he will be holding throughout the state. Kachina Weaver stated they are seeking input from as many sectors and interested parties as possible.

Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission Updates

Kristina Mueller stated that the ECLC staffed the interim commission last year, and has contacted this year's Chair, Senator Priola, in regards to the ECLC staffing the interim commission again this year. Senator Priola welcomed the idea and asked that she reach out to the Children's Campaign, the EC Summit, and others to gather ideas for topics.

Anna Jo Haynes initiated a vote on whether the ECLC should staff the Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission. Tom Massey motioned for approval and was seconded by Jeanne McQueeney. The decision was approved unanimously.

Early Learning and Development Guidelines – Videos and New Website

Lindsey Dorneman introduced the Early Learning and Development Guidelines (ELDG) videos and new website (EarlyLearningCO.org). The purpose of the ELDG is to:

- Improve families' and professionals' knowledge of child development.
- Guide families and professionals working with children in planning and implementing developmental and learning activities.
- Inform or guide developmental support, instruction, assessment, and intervention.
- Provide unifying guidelines that are embraced by and embedded in programs and services across the comprehensive early childhood service delivery system.

Discussion on Substitute Pool for Early Care and Learning

Erin Mewhinney and Kathi Wagoner presented on the development of a system to support a qualified substitute pool. The Child Care Licensing statute (26-6-103.3) contains requirements related to substitute child care providers. It directs the Department to promulgate rules to certify substitute child care providers for family child care homes. Certification requirements are outlined in the statute, including training, criminal background checks and child abuse or neglect checks.

The focus of this project is to increase access to substitute teachers for child care programs, develop training and certification requirements and create a dedicated registry component in the Professional Development Information System for substitutes who meet the qualifications. The next steps for this process are to differentiate between long term and short term time periods and sets of qualifications, training requirements and certifications.

Department Updates

- Colorado Department of Human Services

Mary Anne Snyder shared news that Jordana Ash, the Program Director for Early Childhood Mental Health Services, was awarded the Colorado Association for Infant Mental Health 2017 Harmon Lecture and Award.

- Colorado Department of Education

Melissa Colman informed the Commission the ESSA Plan has officially been submitted to the federal government. A response is expected anytime between now and September 2017.

- Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Finance

Tom Massey stated the department is currently preparing for any changes that may take place if the American Health Care Act 2017 is passed. A priority is to continue serving the public and creating the smoothest transition possible with whatever changes may occur.

- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Kate Jankovsky presented an update on Colorado's Child Fatality Prevention System Infant: Safe Sleep. The child fatality review process identifies problem areas, looks at specific risk and protective factors that may exist for certain types of death and certain instances, identifies best practices and possible interventions to prevent the child deaths, and implements and evaluates interventions to see if there is an impact.

Crude rates of deaths reviewed by Child Fatality Prevention System occurring in Colorado between the years 2011-2015 showed sudden unexplained infant death (SUID) responsible for 65.93% of deaths.

Notable changes from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Updated in 2016 Recommendations for a Safe Infant Sleeping Environment include:

- Breastfeeding is recommended.
- It is recommended that infants sleep in the parents' room, close to the parents' bed, but on a separate surface designed for infants, ideally for the first year of life, but at least for the first 6 months.
- There is no evidence to recommend swaddling as a strategy to reduce the risk of SIDS.

ECLC Subcommittee Updates

- Communication Subcommittees:

Tom Massey stated the Communication Subcommittee recently held a focus group to obtain strategies on how to best carry out the recommendations provided in the Early Childhood Communication Collaborative Report. He thanked all who participated. Elsa Holguin reviewed the top strategies that were given for engagement, quality and noise reduction. Next steps for the Subcommittee are to develop the subcommittee structure and membership.

- Data Subcommittee

Charlotte Brantley informed the Commission the Subcommittee is in the process of narrowing down actionable items and will be working closely with the Framework Working Group to determine what data will be available on the Framework Website.

- Program Quality and Alignment Subcommittees:

Letty Bass shared an update on behalf of the Framework Working Group. The group was recently reconvened to review the layout design on the *Early Childhood Colorado Framework* website tool, and to discuss survey results. Next, Kristina Mueller walked the Commission through the website layout.

Public Comments:

Evie Hudak was unable to attend in person and requested her written statement be read aloud. Dalia Milford read the statement which informed the Commission Evie has been in touch with the Early Childhood School Readiness Legislative Committee (ECSRLC) and offered to staff their required meetings. The Commissioners agreed that given the previous conversation pertaining to the ECSRLC, the ECLC staff should move forward working if Senator Priola and engage with stakeholders to determine topics and presentations and keep everyone informed on the process.

Co-Chairs' Final Thoughts and Adjourn

Anna Jo Haynes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:29pm.

Note: Any presentation requested by the ECLC does not constitute or imply an endorsement of the product, process, service, or organization by the ECLC.

Next meeting: August 24, 2017 9:30a – 12:30p at HCPF: 303 East 17th, Denver, CO 80203, 11th floor conference room.

For information about future meeting dates, times and locations, visit www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org.