



### Conference Call Information

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## Program Quality and Alignment Subcommittee Minutes

April 4, 2018 ~ 9:00-11:00 am

Merle Chambers Fund, 44 Cook Street, Suite 240, Denver 80206

### Meeting Objectives:

- Approve the meeting minutes from January 12, 2018
- Discuss PQA Action Planning
- Have Subcommittee Working Group Updates
- Review Child Trends Validation Study
- EC Needs Assessments for School Improvement Planning Discussion
- Allow an opportunity for updates, new business and public comment

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Attendees: Stacey Buchannan, Dalia Milford, Letty Bass, Anji Gallanos, Melissa Colman, Eileen Auer Bennet, Lydia Prado, Heather Craiglow, Emily Bustos, Karen Enboden, Kristina Heyl, Anna Jo Haynes, Lisa Miller, Evie Hudak, Bill Jaeger (phone) and Cindy Schulz (phone).

### Welcome and Introductions:

Anna Jo Haynes welcomed and everyone introduced themselves. The group reviewed the minutes from January 12, 2017. Melissa Colman moved to approve the minutes, Letty Bass seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

### PQA Action Planning:

Kristina Heyl provided a handout entitled Program Quality and Alignment Reflecting on Progress in Colorado. A list of areas for alignment was created at the last meeting, and this discussion is to dive in deeper to those areas. Questions Kristina would like to focus on today are:

- In what areas has Colorado made strides in connecting and lignin services, supports, and policies?
- In what areas does Colorado need to continue to work to connect and align?
- What specific areas should the PQA subcommittee focus on and what should the ECLC as a full commission focus on?

The Subcommittee discussed the term P-3 and the varied interpretations of P, such as prenatal or preschool. The Framework website is launched and will continue to improve. Eileen emphasized the importance of ensuring 'families' are included throughout the work. Letty Bass acknowledged families were a priority in areas for improvement, but agreed it could be a bigger focal point for the PQA and ECLC. Evie Hudak recommended the ECLC maintain alignment with the Early Childhood School Readiness Legislative Commission (ECSRLC) and Heather Craiglow suggested coordination with the Education Leadership Council (ELC). Kristina will utilize the feedback to expand the document prior to the next meeting.

### Colorado Shines QRIS Validation Update:

Karen Enboden stated the Colorado Shines system just passed its three year mark. Since that time child trends have been doing a validation study to determine the following:

- Outreach and Participation in CO Shines
- Participants Perceptions of CO Shines
- Quality Improvement: Supports & Perceptions of changes in Practices
- CO Shines Structure and Validity

The data gathered from this study has shown to be valid and will help guide future policy. More information can be found on the Office of Early Childhood Website under Quality Initiatives.

**Early Childhood Needs Assessments for School Improvement Planning – Implementation of SB17-103:**

Melissa Colman gave a summary on how the bill came to be, and that it now requires an early childhood needs assessment be done for schools on improvement plans. Since there is no set template they would like to provide resources and recommendations to aid the schools.

Lisa Miller, of CDE, explained there are approximately 200 identified struggling schools per year. She also provided a background on school needs assessments and the opportunities for alignment within them. Schools and districts will need to assess the early childhood supports in their communities. The group discussed opportunities to help inform and support schools in this process. The Framework website could be a great tool for districts. It was recommended this topic be a continuous agenda item.

**Working Groups, Organizations and Legislative Updates:**

Framework Working Group – Letty Bass stated the Framework website has been Launched. Kristina Heyl did a webinar with ECCLA, and it was presented at the Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Conference. Next step will be to market the site and add a section for policy recommendations. Cindy Schulz will be working closely with school districts and how they can best use the website. Letty Bass recognized Kristina Heyl’s tremendous efforts and work on this project.

ECPD Advisory Working Group – Heather Craiglow shared that they have had two meetings to date and both had great presentations. The Working Group is now overseeing 6 goal groups of varying sizes. She stated Melissa Martin from Community College Systems and Thomas Hartman from CO Workforce and Development, provided information on how to get EC Workforce as a priority for the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC). The CWDC meets in May to decide priorities and the ECPD Advisory is unclear on the best way to proceed. One idea the ECPD co-chairs suggested is for the Working Group to become Subcommittee due to the nature of their work and ongoing needs. Kristina will bring the suggestions to the Executive Subcommittee.

Young Child Wellness Council – Kristina Heyl shared they have three newer Co-Chairs, 2 which are parents, and have done a wonderful job driving the agenda’s. Princess Mack has done a lot conferences and panels across the US and is a champion for the inclusion of parent voices.

**Public Comment, New Business and Next Steps:**

- There was no public comment.
- Letty Bass moved to adjourn and the meeting concluded at 11:02am.

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