

Early Childhood Advisory Council
December 7, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Call to order

The meeting of the Kentucky Early Childhood Advisory Council was called to order at 1:03 pm on December 7, 2017 at the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Court, (AOC), Frankfort, KY.

Roll Call

The following members were present: Christa Bell, Senator Danny Carroll, Anita Dowd, Amy Duvall, Tracy Haddix, Joe Hamilton designee for Secretary Vicki Glisson, Paula Goff, Linda Hampton, Cindy Heine, Wayne Lewis designee for Secretary Hal Heiner, Rick Hulefeld, Jennifer Miller, Tamra Parka, Amanda Ellis designee for Commissioner Stephen Pruitt, Brigitte Blom Ramsey, Nicki Patton Rowe, Anna Shepherd, Amy Wooldridge and Rachel Yarbrough. The following members were not in attendance: Barbara Colter, Dreama Gentry, Amy Hood, Representative Regina Huff, and Rita Williams.

Approval of Minutes, September 21, 2017

The minutes of the September 21, 2017 ECAC meeting were unanimously approved.

Special Presentation..... Linda Hampton

Linda Hampton, Executive Director of the Kentucky Governor’s Office of Early Childhood, thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Ms. Hampton welcomed special guests of the Race to the Top Projects that are ending December 31, 2017: Project 3 – KY Early Childhood Standards; Project 5 – Strengthening Families; Project 6 – Professional Development (Unified Registry and Super Stars Leadership Academy); and Project 7 – Longitudinal Data System. Ms. Hampton introduced Amanda Wright, from KET TV and mentioned that she would be presenting to the Council today. At this point, Ms. Hampton introduced the children from Great Beginnings Child Care, along with Director Jenny Weeks and staff. The children sang two songs to honor the Race to the Top projects that are ending.

Lakeshore Learning provided learning materials for all the children entitled “Kids of Kentucky What do you want to be?” The materials included a career puppet along with career hats and the book “Kids of Kentucky, What Do You Want To Be?”

The Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Project Leads each spoke about their project’s deliverables for the life of the Grant: Project 3 KY Early Childhood Standards – Nicki Patton Rowe; Project 5 KY Strengthening Families – Tal Curry; Project 6 Leadership Academy – Alicia Sells; Project 6 Unified Registry – Katie Ryan Fotiadis; and Project 7 Longitudinal Data System – Roxana DelCampo. The presentations may be found on the KY Governor’s Office of Early Childhood (KYGEOEC) website www.kidsnow.ky.gov.

Linda Hampton gave one more thank you to all the projects that are sun setting from the Race To The Top grant.

Executive Director’s Update Linda Hampton

Ms. Hampton announced that she would be meeting with Kentucky’s First Lady next week in regards to a particular project the Governor’s Office of Early Childhood has been asked to be a part of, along with the Department of Agriculture and the Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy. More information will be forthcoming, as it will pertain to the Early Childhood Advisory Council. Ms. Hampton also reported that the office is diligently working on the Community Early Childhood Council RFA and information will come before the Council when the final RFA is completed. The work has been extended with the Contractor, as was approved by the Council in the last ECAC meeting. The RFA is due to the Finance Department by January 5, 2018. Next week, Ms. Hampton, Christa Bell, Director, Division of Child Care, Sally Shepherd, Department of Education and Dr. Kate Akers, Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics (KCEWS), will be presenting before the Health & Welfare Committee, providing an update on the Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge. The same update will be forthcoming before the Education Committee.

Race to the Top Sustainability Plan..... Kate Irish

Ms. Hampton introduced Kate Irish, MSW Independent Consultant. Ms. Irish is the consultant that is working with Compass on the Race To The Top-Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) Sustainability Plan. Ms. Irish explained that the sustainability planning for the KY RTT-ELC process would take place October 2017 through June 2018. During that time, a sustainability plan will be developed to ensure the work of the grant continues and improves. The plan will communicate goals, obstacles and resources needed and plan for next steps in acquiring resources.

Sustainability planning is the process by which interested stakeholders and partners create a road map for what to sustain, why, and how, so that policy, initiatives and programs are continuously improved, adapted, or discontinued to achieve intended outcomes and goals. Sustainability planning is important to sustain the programs, strategies, innovations, and progress of the work that has already been done. It demonstrates the value of the work and strengthens the understanding of the efforts needed to keep the work operating and improving, as well as develops long-term strategies and benchmarks for success.

An advisory group of national experts will guide the sustainability planning, provide critical questions and analyses and review a draft sustainability plan. The panel will consist of the following: Kelly Maxwell, Child Trends, Gerry Cob, BUILD Initiative, Anne Mitchell, Early Childhood Policy Research and Louise Stoney, Opportunities Exchange.

The results being achieved is for Kentucky to have a sustainability plan moving forward that would be able to guide the work. The plan will be developed based on

data collection and with input and guidance from the Sustainability Work Groups and Advisory Committee.

Ms. Irish’s complete presentation can be found on the KYGOEC website at www.kidsnow.ky.gov.

KET.....Amanda Wright

Amanda Wright, Director, Early Childhood Education, KET, presented before the Council regarding KET Education, “Where Learning Comes to Life”. KET first went on the air in 1968 and has always been interested in early childhood. The mission is to make Kentucky a better place and strengthen its communities by educating, inspiring, informing, and connecting its citizens through the power of public media. Ms. Wright reported that KET PBS Kids is the #1 educational media brand, most trusted by parents, and #1 in innovation. PBS Kids is a 24/7 Kids Channel. It goes far beyond what you see on television. PBS Kids does extensive research to make sure they provide instructional resources, toolkits, teacher materials, parent packets and hands-on workshops. The instructional resources provide engaging digital resources, short videos, interactive games, PBS LearningMedia, and can be found at <https://ket.pbslearningmedia.org>. These resources are free for everyone.

KET also provides Child Care Training Professional Development. They offer engaging online courses and resources, high-quality, consistent, cost-effective delivery, with 24/7 access, credentialed training for preschool teachers and childcare providers. The Child Care Training Course catalog can be found at <https://www.ket.org/education/early-childhood/child-care-training>.

KET is involved in family and community engagement. They are one of 16 stations across the United States doing the work. Focusing on Ready to Learn Community Collaboratives in Eastern KY and Louisville. These collaboratives focus on bringing families together to learn and to create. They provide workshops, camps and family events. Ms. Wright suggested that the Council, as well as everyone present at the meeting, check out the PBS Kids website. There are many hands-on activities from workshops and camps.

There was interest by the Council in getting the KET message out to anyone who may be interested, or could benefit from it. Linda Hampton mentioned that the Governor’s Office of Early Childhood is interviewing for a Communications position tomorrow and has agreed that the Communications person will talk with PBS to be able to share the message with everyone. Ms. Hampton requested the ECAC come up with ideas of how this message may be shared by all.

Cabinet for Health and Family Services KY All STARSChrista Bell Regulation Proposal

Christa Bell, Director Division of Child Care, announced her presentation today was given in advance to all of the ECAC members to allow them to review before the

meeting today. The Kentucky All STARS handout is a good summary of what the Division of Child Care (DCC) has been providing throughout the year. 371 screening tools have been distributed to providers. There have been 364 curriculum assessment tools distributed. 1,663 providers were supplied with classroom learning materials through Lakeshore Learning, and 3,623 providers served through 355 no-cost training sessions that relate to the standards. Among providers who accept childcare assistance there are 18,478 attending All STARS 2-5 and 12,518 All STARS 3-5. Ms. Bell announced that the Cabinet is ready to file a regulation due to the KY All STARS process and rating system. The regulation was drafted from the Stars for Kids Now regulation and then items were added to coincide with the KY All STARS. Ms. Bell presented a spreadsheet showing the Incentive Comparison of STARS for KIDS NOW vs. All STARS. Under the Stars for Kids Now monetary incentives, the monthly award was being paid to levels 2, 3 and 4 rated facilities. Under the new incentive, providers would only receive incentives if they are a 3, 4 or 5 Star rated facility. All of the handouts can be found on the KYGOEC website www.kidsnow.ky.gov.

Discussion regarding the proposed regulation was ensued by the Council.

A motion was made for an Ad Hoc Committee of three from the ECAC be formed to meet with the Division of Child Care, Kentucky Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Early Childhood at the upcoming planned meeting to discuss the regulation on December 15th. Chair Rick Hulefeld called for a vote. Chair Hulefeld asked for a show of hands from all members. He asked those in favor to raise their hands. The vote unanimously passed. The ECAC Ad Hoc Committee will attend the regulation meeting on December 15th. Chair Hulefeld asked any of the Council members interested in serving on the Ad Hoc Committee to please inform Linda Hampton.

Christa Bell informed the Council that the Administrative Regulation regarding the background check for providers will be filed on December 15, 2017 to ensure compliance with federal law.

People who come in to the Division of Child Care to enroll in CCAP are being made aware of other programs they may be eligible for, and enrollment has gone up by 8%.

Conclusion and Adjourn **Rick Hulefeld**

Chair Rick Hulefeld wished everyone a blessed holiday. He told the Council there is work to do and he is looking forward to it.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm