



Thursday, October 26, 2017
9:30 am – 12:30 pm
3801 M.L.K. Jr. Blvd., Denver, CO
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/275472237>
Join the Conference Call: 515-739-1223
Code: 690666

Meeting Objectives:

- Approve meeting minutes from August 24, 2017
- Hear about the Education Leadership Council
- Discuss Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission Draft Bills
- Learn about recent Health Care Updates
- Hear from the Early Childhood community during Public Comment

Attendees:

Jeanne McQueeney (by phone), George Welsh (by phone), Cindy Schulz, Letty Bass, Anna Jo Haynes, Elsa Holguin, Tom Massey, Jeff Kuhr, Melissa Colman, Erin Ulric, Heather Craiglow, David Padrino, Susan Steele, Mary Anne Snyder, Kristina Mueller, Charlotte Brantley, Gerri Gomez Howard, and Dalia Milford

Welcome and Business Meeting

Anna Jo Haynes called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

- Approval of minutes from August 24, 2017
Anna Jo Haynes called for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2017 meeting. Tom Massey moved to approve the minutes as distributed, Elsa Holguin seconded the motion; the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.
- Education Leadership Council
David Padrino stated the Council will consist of 25 members from across Colorado and the education sectors. Their mission is to increase collaboration and engage stakeholders throughout Colorado. They will be soliciting input from teachers, students and parents on their vision for education. He requested the ECLC provide their input as well.
- Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission Update
Anna Jo Haynes reminded the group that the ECLC staff was providing support to the Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission (ECSRLC), however the ECLC was not taking positions on any legislation they might run. Kristina Mueller stated the ECSRLC met on September 19, 2017 and plan to move forward on five bill drafts:
 1. Bill 1: Counting Pupils in Kindergarten & Twelfth Grade
 2. Bill 2: Align Early Childhood Quality Improvement Programs
 3. Bill 3: Substitute Placement Agency Licensure
 4. Bill 4: Extend Repeal Early Childhood Legislative Commission
 5. Bill 5: Use of Colorado Preschool Program Positions.Sessions 3 and 4 will take place on November 1st, where the ECSRLC members will discuss and vote on whether to move the bills forward.

- 2017 Annual Report – Kristina Mueller reminded the Commission the Annual Legislative Report is due in January. The Commission discussed whether they should keep the same theme and appearance as the last two or try a different direction. ECLC staff has taken the lead on creating the report in previous years and Kristina inquired if there were any Commissions who would like to participate in developing this year’s report. Gerri Gomez Howard and Charlotte Brantley volunteered. Gerri also made the suggestion of making the report interactive on the ECLC website.

New Business (Anna Jo Haynes)

- Health Policy Update –With current uncertainty surrounding federal funding, Rachel Reiter came to help familiarize Commissioners with the Colorado Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). It was enacted in 1997 for low-income children and pregnant women. CHIP is jointly funded by federal and state governments and pays for Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+). However it was only financially authorized through September 30, 2017. If it is not reauthorized nearly 76,000 children and pregnant women in Colorado will be left without coverage when Colorado’s funding runs out in January 2018.

Charlotte Brantley motioned to have a letter from the Commission sent to the federal legislatures educating them on Colorado’s need and the importance of reauthorizing funds. George Welsh seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

- Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Tom Massey)
Tom Massey stated HCPF is strategizing for every option available to them so they will be ready to act on any decisions made by the federal government. The Department is still encouraging families to apply. Funds are expected to run out in January 2018 if funding is not reauthorized. More resources, letters and information will be distributed soon.
- Early Childhood Policies and Strategies
Bill Jaeger and Sarah Barnes discussed the Children’s Campaign’s partnership with Clayton Early Learning to create an early childhood policy agenda. They will be diving into what policies could specifically drive the desired outcomes within the Early Childhood *Framework*. They have created an Advisory board to inform the policy options and are reaching out to stakeholders across the state. Along with policy, they plan to also determine costs and unmet needs. This project will be funded by a national Alliance for Success grant in conjunction with 7 local funding partners.

Public Comment (Anna Jo Haynes)

Joyce Johnson from Colorado State libraries made the Commission aware of the program Growing Readers Together. The program is funded by the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation and works to enhance literacy, specifically focusing their services outside the Denver metro area.

Department Updates

- Colorado Department of Human Services - OEC Updates (Mary Anne Snyder)
Mary Anne took a moment to acknowledge Pamela Harris on her recent testimony in front of the Federal Committee on Education and Workforce. She mentioned Colorado Community Response, which works with families reported to Child Protective Services, but are screened out. CCR is a voluntary program for those families and provides wrap around services. A

recent evaluation of the program was provided to all members.

- Colorado Department of Education – (Melissa Colman)
Melissa Colman told the group that the Academic Standards are currently up for review and public comment. They will be discussed at the November State Board of Education meetings. Four topics will be discussed at each meeting. She also said CDE will provide a report on the Teacher Shortage Report at the next Commission meeting. Lastly, this will be the last year donating to the Colorado Preschool Program will be an option on the Colorado Tax form unless there is legislation passed.
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Erin Ulric said Immunizations sent a letter to Child Care Directors through CDHS requiring them to report immunization rates. CDPHE has also created an IZ Map where families can view IZ rates for schools and child care, which is particularly important for immunocompromised kids.

Erin stated they have 2-Gen focus projects which include:

- Develop a new Maternal and Child Health surveillance system (Healthy eMoms Project) that will capture maternal attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors shortly before, during, and three years following the birth of a child.
- Identify opportunities to streamline pregnancy related depression screening and developmental screening.
- Work across WIC, CDHE, and CHDS to look at providing more comprehensive supports to the student-parent population.

The Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger should be finalized by mid-January. While this isn't specific to early childhood, it will absolutely impact early childhood as it has goals related to child nutrition programs, WIC, as well as the broader community. CDPHE is awaiting the FOA for Title X Family Planning funding. Current funding was cut to two years, and ends June 30, 2018.

WIC participation has stabilized for the first time in nearly a decade (it has been dropping since 2009). We are continuing to evaluate why this has happened, but the program has rolled out a significant number of projects aimed at improving access and this has likely contributed to the stabilization.

Early Childhood Workforce is also being looked at from a Public Health perspective, primarily the wellness of the workforce. Local Public Health Agencies are also identifying this as a priority.

ECLC Subcommittee Updates

- Data Subcommittee
Per Charlotte Brantley, the Data Subcommittee met on October 13th and had great discussions. They are currently focused on creating guidelines and criteria for including resources and reports on the Framework Website. At their next meeting they will hone in on what key words will be used for sorting and searching.

- Communications Subcommittee
Elsa Holguin announced the first meeting is scheduled for mid November and the co-chairs have been recruiting members. They have communication priorities and will use that meeting to develop an action plan.
- Program Quality and Alignment Subcommittee
The Subcommittee is going to use the next meeting to focus on alignment. The group will discuss what supports and systems have been aligned, and where there are opportunities to better align work.

Co-Chairs' Final Thoughts and Adjourn

Anna Jo Haynes congratulated Letty Bass on the award she will receive on November 9th, 2017 for National Philanthropy Day.

Charlotte Brantley motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Letty Bass. Meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm.

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

ECLC Meetings:

The next ECLC Meeting will be held on December 14, 2017 at HCPF 303 East 17th Avenue, 11th floor Conference Room, Denver 80203

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