

Thank you for joining! We will begin shortly.

# ECLC

*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

## Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee

September 10, 2021

9:00-10:30 am

Google Hangouts



- Please remember to mute your computer or phone when not speaking ●
  - We will be recording the meeting ●
- All materials can be found at: <http://www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/program-quality-and-alignment-subcommittee> ●



# Welcome, Introductions and Approve Minutes

Anji Gallanos

- ACTION: Approve the July 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- REVIEW: [Final Updated PQA Subcommittee Charter](#)

# Meeting Objectives

- Approve the July 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Learn about Ideal Learning Principles
- Provide feedback on the Early Childhood Family Engagement Framework
- Discuss updates to the Colorado Shines Brighter Birth-Five Strategic Plan
- Review progress on Early Childhood Transition Planning and Universal Preschool Recommendations
- Hear comments from the Early Childhood Community



# Ideal Learning Principles

Cathrine Floyd, Heather Craiglow



Trust for  
Learning



EARLY MILESTONES  
COLORADO

# MAKING THE CASE FOR IDEAL LEARNING IN COLORADO

## **Program Quality and Alignment Subcommittee**

CO-CHAIRS: ANNA JO HAYNES, ANJI GALLANOS AND JEANNE MCQUEENEY

September 10, 2021

Heather Craiglow

Director, Colorado Head Start Collaboration

[heather.craiglow@state.co.us](mailto:heather.craiglow@state.co.us)

Cathrine Floyd

Trust for Learning, Grant Partnerships Manager

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## Mission

Trust for Learning believes that every child has unlimited potential, and ideal early learning environments unleash it. We support expansion of ideal learning programs in the public sector to reach every child, particularly those who have been historically underserved.

## Racial equity statement

*While Trust for Learning works to expand access and opportunity for all underserved children and families, we start with a racial equity approach because of the unique role that structural racism and anti-Blackness play in exacerbating other inequities.*

### *We believe...*

...low-income children, children of color and indigenous children, multilingual learners, children experiencing risk or trauma, and children with diverse learning needs have limitless potential and the right to flourish.

...ideal early learning childhood environments should be racially and socioeconomically integrated, affordable, supportive of children, families, and educators, and aspire to our shared ideals as a country.

...all of us have potential and responsibility to grow and change, and philanthropy has a particular responsibility to examine and mitigate issues of power and access. We commit to continual reflection, seeking community accountability and adapting our staff, partner, and grant work to create inclusive collaborations and proactively advance more equitable experiences and outcomes for children, families, and educators.



## Early Milestones Ideal Learning Advisory Team

### Early Milestones Colorado, Project Staff

Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)  
Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance (ECCLA)  
Trust for Learning  
Manager

Katie Nicolaou and Esperanza Ybarra

Heather Craiglow, Director, Head Start Collaboration Office  
Maegan Lokteff, Executive Director

Cathrine Floyd, PhD, Grant Partnerships

### Model Experts

EL Education  
HighScope

Christina Riley, Director, Curriculum Design

Jeff Beal, PhD, Senior Research Associate and Co-Director of The Center for Early Education Research & Evaluation

Montessori

Seth Webb, MAEd, Director of School Services, National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector

Tools of the Mind

Martha Teien, Founding and Executive Director of Mountain Montessori

Dr. Deborah Leong, Co-founder and President of Tools of the Mind and Professor Emerita of Psychology at Metropolitan State University of Denver

Reggio Emilia

Dr. Elena Bodrova, Director for Research and Development at Tools of the Mind and a Research Fellow at the National Institute for Early Education Research at Rutgers University

Alison Maher, M.A., Executive Director, Boulder Journey School

### National

Dr. Lisa Roy, Director Of Program Development · Buffett Early Childhood Institute at the University of Nebraska

Kristie Kauerz, EdD, Director, National P-3 Center, associate clinical professor at University of Colorado Denver School of Education and Human Development

Parent Representative Brenda Bautsch Dickhoner, PhD, President and CEO at Ready Colorado

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## What do young children need to be valued, healthy and thriving?

*What can we learn from...?*

- *scientists*
- *families*
- *economists*
- *educators*



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## The science of early learning is clear and compelling

- *Children learn and grow naturally from birth - they can't help it!*
- *Strong, stable relationships with families and caregivers are the foundation of brain development*
- *Racism, poverty and trauma are harmful to children*
- *Nurturing environments are protective*
- *Play leads learning*



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## **We know that families of all backgrounds want early learning environments that support whole-child development**

- *Yes, parents care about reading and math, but*
- *They also want their children to be well-rounded, joyful, and capable*



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## The economic investment is a transformational win for children, families, and communities

- *Investment can have immediate and long-term effects*
- *But only if we focus on quality, and*
- *It's not quality if all children don't have access to it!*



EARLY MILESTONES

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**Expert educators agree early childhood is a unique developmental period that requires expert, sensitive teaching**

- *children learn best through exploration and interaction*
- *play is how children learn, not an add-on*
- *children's identities develop early - and we can support every child*



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## WHAT IS IDEAL LEARNING?

- A term developed by ECE researchers and experts across different learning approaches as a way to create a common language to describe equity-centered learning that focuses on all aspects of a young child's development
- Also referred to as *whole child*, *individualized* or *student-centered learning*



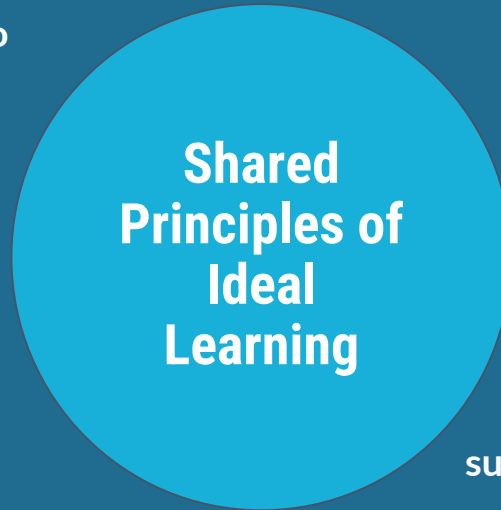
Decision-making reflects a commitment to **equity**

Instruction is **personalized** to acknowledge each child's unique development

**Play** is an essential element of young children's learning

The **teacher is a guide**, nurturing presence, and co-constructor of knowledge

**Children construct knowledge** from diverse experiences to make meaning of the world.



Young children and adults learn through **relationships**

The **environment** is intentionally designed to facilitate children's independence, exploration, and interaction

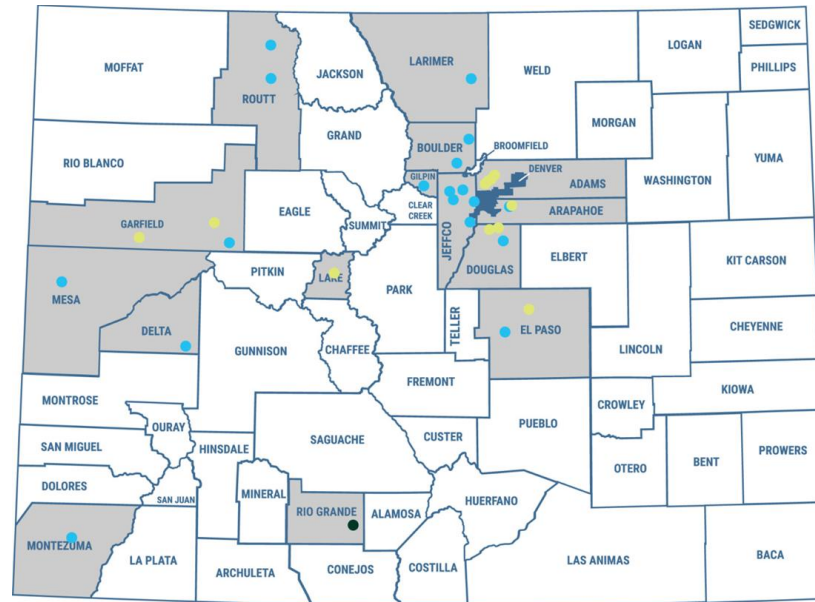
Continuous learning environments support **adult development**

The time of **childhood is valued**

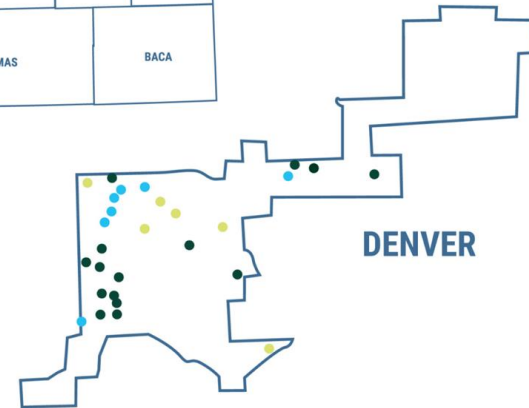


## IDEAL LEARNING MODELS IN COLORADO

- EL Education (formerly Expeditionary Learning)
- HighScope
- Montessori
- Reggio Emilia-inspired
- Tools of the Mind



- Montessori
- Tools of the Mind
- EL Education





**QUESTIONS?**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP FOR TRUST FOR LEARNING UPDATES, VISIT:**

**[trustforlearning.org](https://trustforlearning.org)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP FOR EARLY MILESTONES UPDATES, VISIT:**

**[earlymilestones.org/IdealLearningColorado](https://earlymilestones.org/IdealLearningColorado)**



**EARLY MILESTONES**

# THANK YOU!



[EARLYMILESTONES.ORG](http://EARLYMILESTONES.ORG)



[TRUSTFORLEARNING.ORG](http://TRUSTFORLEARNING.ORG)



# Early Childhood Family Engagement Framework

Amanda Culbertson, Carrie Germeroth



**Colorado Shines Brighter Birth-Five  
Strategic Plan 2021 Updates  
Carrie Germeroth**



September 10, 2021

# Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan Update

Program, Quality, & Alignment  
Committee

Carrie Germeroth

*“This project was made possible by grant number 90TP0054. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official view of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.”*

# PDG Goals and Outcomes



- ✓ Colorado families have access to quality formal early care and education settings of their choosing which best meet the need of their child and family, especially those who are vulnerable and infants and toddlers.
- ✓ Informal early care and education environments are enhanced to enrich and support children’s physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development.
- ✓ Colorado’s birth through five early childhood state system is coordinated and aligned to enhance the resources available to families and to improve the quality of relationships among families, caregivers and children.





# 2021 Inputs to the CSB Strategic Plan

## Engage

Engage a diverse group of stakeholders, including PQAC and beyond, to inform the recommendations especially families and caregivers of children birth through five.

## Facilitate

Facilitate strategic plan workgroup meetings  
November 3 and 17,  
10-12pm

## Review

PDG Evaluation data  
New EC Agency Transition notes/draft plan  
Early Milestones COVID research briefs  
Status on PDG funded strategies  
Stimulus funding support of PDG strategies



**MARZANO**  
RESEARCH

**Thank You**

Please visit our website and follow us on twitter for more information about our research and access to our many free resources.

Or contact us

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# Early Childhood Transition Planning and Universal Preschool Recommendation Updates

Kristina Heyl



# Member Updates and Public Comment

Anna Jo Haynes



# Next Steps, Final Thoughts and Adjourn

Anna Jo Haynes

# ECLC

*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

## Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee



Next Meeting:  
Friday, November 12, 2021  
9:00-11:00 am