

**POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT
 NOVEMBER 10, 2021 ♦ 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Microsoft Teams ▪ To join by telephone: 323.776.6996; Conference ID: 880 538 588#

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions

- | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 10:00 | 1. Roll Call of Membership | Action Item | Debra Colman, OAECE |
| 10:10 | 2. Comments from the Chair | Information | Karla Pleitéz Howell, Chair |

General Business

- | | | | |
|-------|--|-------------|---|
| 10:20 | 3. Approval of Minutes – October 13, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call Vote | Action Item | Karla Pleitéz Howell, Chair
Leanne Drogin, OAECE |
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Our Unified Strategic Plan in Motion

- | | | | |
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| 10:30 | 4. Board Engagement Follow Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Supervisors Engagement Process and Updates | Discussion | Karla Pleitéz Howell, Chair,
Leanne Drogin, OAECE
<i>Board of Supervisors
Engagement Team Leads:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karla Pleitéz Howell • Justin Blakely • Terry Ogawa • Alejandra Albarran Moses • Ellen Cervantes |
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11:05 **BREAK**

Public Policy Update

- | | | | |
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| 11:10 | 5. Public Policy Forecast <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Policy Issues • Exploring Emerging Policy Issues • Introducing Policy Issues During Meetings with Board of Supervisors | Information
Discussion
Discussion | Michele Sartell, OAECE
Karla Pleitéz Howell, Chair |
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COVID-19 and Early Care and Education

- | | | | |
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| 11:43 | 6. Update on COVID-19 and ECE in Los Angeles County | Information | Debra Colman, OAECE |
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Wrap Up

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|-------|--|-------------|---|
| 11:50 | 7. Announcements and Public Comment | Information | Karla Pleitéz Howell, Chair |
| 11:55 | 8. Meeting in Review and Call to Adjourn | Information | Alejandra Albarran Moses,
Vice Chair |

Next Virtual Meeting:

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 ▪ 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Vision

Children are healthy, thriving and have equitable opportunities to achieve optimal development and succeed in life.

Mission

Lead, build, and strengthen an affordable and high-quality ECE system for the children and families in Los Angeles County.

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POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

OCTOBER 13, 2021 ♦ 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 10:00 | 1. Roll Call of Membership | Action Item | Debra Colman,
OAECE |
| 10:10 | 2. Comments from the Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome Commissioner Jessica Perea | Information | Karla Pleitéz Howell,
Chair |
| 10:20 | 3. Meet and Greet: Discussion with Children’s Deputies <ul style="list-style-type: none">Elise Weinberg, Assistant Chief of Staff, Office of Supervisor Hilda SolisLisa Pinto, Child Welfare Deputy, Office of Supervisor Sheila KuehlMaral Karaccusian, Children & Human Services Deputy, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn | Discussion | Karla Pleitéz Howell,
Chair |

10:45 **BREAK**

Our Unified Strategic Plan in Motion

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| 10:50 | 4. Policy Roundtable Role & Approach: Board Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none">Role of the RoundtableBoard Engagement Approach and Next Steps | Discussion | Karla Pleitéz Howell,
Chair |
|-------|--|------------|--------------------------------|

General Business

- | | | | |
|-------|---|--|---|
| 11:20 | 5. Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2021
Action Item <ul style="list-style-type: none">Roll Call Vote | | Karla Pleitéz Howell,
Chair
Leanne Drogin,
OAECE |
|-------|---|--|---|

COVID-19 and Early Care and Education (ECE)

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-------------|------------------------|
| 11:30 | 6. Update on COVID-19 and ECE in Los Angeles County | Information | Debra Colman,
OAECE |
|-------|---|-------------|------------------------|

Public Policy Update

- | | | | |
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| 11:38 | 7. Status of Priority Legislative First Year of 2021-22 Legislative Session | Information | Michele Sartell,
OAECE |
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Wrap Up

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|-------|--|-------------|---|
| 11:47 | 8. Announcements and Public Comment | Information | Karla Pleitéz Howell,
Chair |
| 11:55 | 9. Meeting in Review and Call to Adjourn | Information | Alejandra Albarran
Moses, Vice Chair |

Next Virtual Meeting:

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 ▪ 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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**Minutes for Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission
OCTOBER 13, 2021**

Welcome and Introductions

1. Roll Call of Membership

Debra Colman, Director of the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE), opened the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development (Roundtable) Commission meeting at 10:03 a.m. by reading the grounding statement pertaining to conducting a virtual meeting. She then called roll of the Roundtable Commission's membership.

2. Comments by the Chair

Chair Karla Pleitéz Howell welcomed Commissioners, alternates, and guests to the meeting and invited participants to turn on their video to enhance communications. Chair Pleitéz Howell shared that the Roundtable Commission will continue to use a virtual platform to host its meetings through the end of 2021 and the decision to continue hosting meetings virtually will be assessed later. Chair Pleitéz Howell added that even though the meetings are virtual it is important to stay connected and have a sense of community. She added that to help create this connectivity people are welcome to log-in ten minutes before the meeting starts to "check-in" and connect with one another. Chair Pleitéz Howell also welcomed newly confirmed Commissioner Jessica Perea to serve as District 5 Board of Supervisor Kathryn Barger's appointment to the Roundtable Commission.

Our Unified Strategic Plan in Motion

3. Meet and Greet: Discussion with Children's Deputies

Chair Pleitéz Howell shared that the Roundtable Commission is focused on ensuring children in LA County have opportunities that all youth deserve. She highlighted that the Roundtable Commission is guided by the *Unified Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education (Strategic Plan)* and has a focus on *equity* by working with the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to create resources for children who are furthest from opportunities. Chair Pleitéz Howell then welcomed the following Board of Supervisors' staff to the Roundtable Commission for a discussion and to share their respective Board of Supervisor's priorities.

- **Maral Karaccusian**, Children & Human Services Deputy, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn, District 4: Deputy Karaccusian framed the Supervisor's priorities in context of the impacts of COVID-19 such as the loss of child care services. She highlighted previous work regarding child care that should be revisited, such as the Fiscal Analysis and LA County facilities landscape assessment, and that the American Recovery Plan (ARP) funding should be reviewed to target how can it help the communities that need it the most. Deputy Karaccusian also raised the importance of looking at the needs of both young children and senior adults on parallel tracks, and not losing sight of the needs of the middle class and supportive policies such as paid family leave.
- **Lisa Pinto**, Child Welfare Deputy, Office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, District 3: Deputy Pinto shared that Supervisor Kuehl's priorities are equity and drawing down more funds. Deputy Pinto applauded the Roundtable Commission's vision that includes a focus on equity. She highlighted existing child care challenges that have been exacerbated and elevated by COVID-19, such as access to child care, workforce issues, and available hours of providers. She highlighted the importance of First 5 LA's recent approval to conduct a landscape analysis of family child care providers and foresees that the Roundtable Commission will be involved in this effort as well. Deputy Pinto recounted important CARES funding that the Board directed to early care and education (ECE) and the OAECE's work in establishing a child care stabilization fund. She then posed three questions to the Roundtable Commission: 1) What is next, 2) What is the Roundtable Commission's priorities, and 3) What has the Roundtable Commission learned.
- **Elise Weinberg**, Assistant Chief of Staff, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis, District 1: Asst. Chief of Staff Weinberg highlighted that there is a lot of alignment among the Board of Supervisors regarding child care, particularly when COVID-19 struck. The BOS looked at what could be done to help health care

workers and other essential staff and they saw that child care vouchers could be an effective means of support. Asst. Chief of Staff Weinberg raised the importance of having a focus on the labor market, such as the declining rate of women participating in the labor force can be attributed to the dearth of child care options in communities. Asst. Chief of Staff Weinberg noted that getting people back to work is connected to the availability of child care. She also highlighted LA County's newly established Workforce Development Department and that the Department is poised to include a focus on the connection between participation in the workforce and child care. Asst. Chief of Staff Weinberg added that there is a need to continue to identify funding for child care vouchers, provide needed resources to build up and stabilize family and neighbor care, and address the need for facilities. Previously, Supervisor Solis led a motion to review if LA County libraries are a viable facilities option for child care and that maybe this needs to be revisited. Supervisor Solis would also like to pursue more opportunities that connect and align important services such as child care and child welfare as exemplified by the Emergency Child Care Bridge program.

Chair Pleitéz Howell then highlighted the alignment between the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education Report, the Strategic Plan, and points raised in the presentations and opened the discussion for questions from the meeting's attendees.

Commissioner Steve Zimmer raised the point that many children are experiencing significant trauma as a result of COVID-19 and what is the BOS considering regarding helping child care providers have the grief and trauma informed resources needed to serve children. Deputy Karaccusian shared that she is aware of the information he referenced and one of the places to start is to have a better understanding of the data specific to LA County and then be strategic in developing how to address it. She also highlighted programs to refer to as possible resources. Deputy Pinto acknowledged the breadth of trauma people, particularly children, have experienced during the pandemic. Deputy Pinto stated that there is a need to check in with Department of Mental Health (DMH) to find out what else is needed and she referenced the child care stabilization fund established through the OAECE includes a focus on education and recruitment that might be a possible resource as well. Asst. Chief of Staff Weinberg highlighted a Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) five-year pilot placement program and Supervisor Solis' a motion to expand this program countywide. She added that DCFS is going to partially expand the program and it needs to be expanded countywide.

Commissioner Jacquelyn McCroskey replied to Deputy Pinto's question "What is next?" Commissioner McCroskey shared that the Roundtable Commission is making a concerted effort to connect ECE to other LA County early childhood programs, including learning from other programs. Commissioner McCroskey invited the Board of Supervisors staff to share any programs the Roundtable Commission should consider looking at more closely to learn from and or connect with. The BOS staff suggested looking at the Child Care Bridge program, opportunities with DCFS and the Department of Health Services, LA County's Homeless Initiative, and Home Visitation services.

Chair Pleitéz Howell invited attendees to share any other questions they may have in the chat and highlighted that "alignment" was a consistent theme in this discussion. As a closing question, Chair Pleitéz Howell asked what is needed to make meetings efficient with BOS Offices. Deputy Pinto and Deputy Karaccusian shared several points that ranged from being prepared and clear about what is being requested of the BOS to sharing what is happening at the state level and other current events affecting ECE.

BREAK

Chair Pleitéz Howell transitioned the meeting into a five-minute break.

Our Unified Strategic Plan in Motion (continued)

4. Policy Roundtable Role & Approach: Board Engagement

Chair Pleitéz Howell reviewed the Roundtable Commission's roles and priorities and re-introduced the Commission's BOS Engagement Plan. She shared that the BOS Engagement Plan is designed to be in-step

with the legislative and budget cycles of LA County and the state. The first step of the BOS Engagement Plan is to establish BOS Engagement Teams comprised of Commissioners and designate a Team lead. The BOS Engagement Teams will meet with the BOS Offices and promote a unified voice to each BOS Office. The BOS Engagement Plan comprises three phases of engagement with the BOS offices:

1. Phase 1 (September 2021– December 2021) focuses on relationship building between the Roundtable Commission with the BOS Offices via the Teams. The Teams will promote the Commission’s role with the BOS and provide an overview of the status of ECE issues.
2. Phase 2 (January 2022 – February 2022) occurs parallel to when the Governor releases the state budget. The Roundtable Commission will fine tune which items to prioritize and identify opportunities to create alignment between LA County’s budget to the state budget regarding items related to ECE.
3. Phase 3 (March 2022 – June 2022) centers on elevating priority items using a united voice and providing legislative and Pursuit of Position recommendations to the BOS.

Chair Pleitéz Howell reiterated that to achieve a united voice, the Roundtable Commission will operate with constant transparency which includes utilizing Roundtable Commission meetings as the forum to openly discuss disagreements among Commissioners and being transparent about conversations held with BOS and their Offices.

Chair Pleitéz Howell reviewed some of the anticipated time commitment and roles for participating on the BOS Engagement Teams and then inquired which Commissioners would like to participate on the Teams and who would like to volunteer to lead a BOS Engagement Team. The following Commissioners volunteered to lead/or participate on the Teams.

- Karla Pleitéz Howell, *First Supervisorial District*
- Jessica Perea, *First Supervisorial District*
- Justin Blakely, *Second Supervisorial District*
- Terry Ogawa, *Third Supervisorial District*
- Alejandra Albarran Moses, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
- Ellen Cervantes, *Fifth Supervisorial District*
- Joannie Aguayo, *Fifth Supervisorial District*
- Dawn A. Kurtz, *Child360*

Debra Colman encouraged all Commissioners to participate on a BOS Engagement Team and Commissioners were directed to contact OAECE staff Leanne Drogin if they want to participate on a Team.

Chair Pleitéz Howell then invited any suggestions on how to improve the BOS Engagement Plan. Commissioner Terry Ogawa shared insights regarding what worked and areas of improvement from prior BOS Office visits Commissioners conducted. One of the recommendations Commissioner Ogawa provided was to include representatives from other LA County children services and systems such as the Commission for Children and Family and the Child Care Planning Committee.

Chair Pleitéz Howell provided next steps which includes the Teams meeting before the November 2021 Roundtable Commission meeting the Team leads presenting at that meeting. Team leads will be asked to provide an overview of Teams’ discussion, what the Team is planning to present to the BOS Office, and when is the Team’s meeting with BOS Office.

General Business

5. Approval of the Minutes

Chair Pleitéz Howell presented the minutes from September 15, 2021 and asked for a motion to approve. Commissioner Justin Blakely made the motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Fran Chasen seconded the motion. The motion on the minutes passed with three abstentions: Commissioners Ellen Cervantes, Alejandra Albarran Moses, and Ofelia Medina.

COVID-19 and Early Care and Education (ECE)

6. Update on COVID-19 and Early Care and Education in Los Angeles County

Debra Colman provided updates regarding the status of COVID-19 cases in LA County. She shared that transmission in LA County is no longer considered to be high, case numbers are down, COVID-19 outbreaks in ECE programs remain low, and vaccination rates are up. She also reported that there are changes to the vaccination mandate in LA County.

Public Policy Update

7. First Year of 2021-22 Legislative Session

OAECE staff Michele Sartell shared that she is developing a summary of the year's ECE budget items and legislation that were enacted this year. Building from an overview of the state and ECE related budget items presented the Roundtable Commission September 2021 meeting, Sartell reported on the status of these items.

The following two bills that were of high interest were vetoed by Governor Newsom:

- AB 865 (Quirk-Silva) proposed amendments to the Alternative Payment Program to reimburse providers based on families' certified hours of need and increase the percentage of funds that may be retained in reserves. The bill was vetoed due to cost pressures that were not address in the state's spending plan.
- SB 50 (Limón) broadly stated would have addressed eligibility for subsidized ECE programs. The Governor's veto message suggested that the bill was premature given January 2022 modifications will be proposed to the State Preschool Program in the 2022 budget to align the program with the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care.

The following two bills of high interest were approved by Governor Newsom:

- AB 361 (Robert Rivas) amends the Brown Act with respect to virtual meetings during declared states of emergency
- AB 1363 (Luz Rivas) sets forth a process for enrolling and working with Dual Language Learners

Sartell concluded by providing a federal update on the following key points:

- The effort to raise the debt ceiling through mid-terms next year was delayed to December 2021
- Budget negotiations regarding the Build Back Better reconciliation package continues to be on-going

Wrap Up

8. Announcements and Public Comment

Chair Pleitéz Howell invited announcements and public comment.

Commissioner Ariana Olivia provided an update regarding the Child Care Planning Committee (CCPC). She shared that Roundtable Commissioner Justin Blakely presented the Roundtable Commission's recently adopted Equity Statement at CCPC's October 2021 CCPC meeting and that CCPC discussed adopting the Equity Statement as well. Commissioner Olivia also reported that the CCPC's Access and Inclusion Workgroup has started planning LA County's Child Care Needs Assessment 2022. She highlighted that this will be a good opportunity for collaboration between CCPC and the Roundtable Commission.

9. Meeting in Review and Call to Adjourn

Chair Pleitéz Howell adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Attendance

Commissioners Attending

1. Karla Pleitéz Howell, *First Supervisorial District*
2. Jessica Perea, *First Supervisorial District*
3. Justin Blakely, *Second Supervisorial District*
4. Terry Ogawa, *Third Supervisorial District*
5. Alejandra Albarran Moses, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
6. Joannie Aguayo, *Fifth Supervisorial District*
7. Ellen Cervantes, *Fifth Supervisorial District*
8. Dawn A. Kurtz, *Child360*
9. Ariana Oliva, *Child Care Planning Committee*
10. Steve Zimmer, *Commission for Children and Families*
11. Ofelia Medina, *First 5 LA*
12. Fran Chasen, *Southern California Chapter – California Association for the Education of Young Children*
13. Faith Parducho, *Department of Park and Recreation*
14. Jeannette Aguirre Carrillo, *Department of Probation*

Alternate Commissioners Attending

13. Paul Pulver, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
14. Jacquelyn McCroskey, *Commission for Children and Families*
15. Debbie Anderson, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*
16. Colleen Pagter, *Los Angeles Unified School District*
17. Lisa-Marie Kay, *Department of Children and Family Services*
18. Debra Colman, *Department of Public Health*
19. Nora Garcia-Rosales, *Department of Public Social Services*

Guests Attending

1. Larisa Albers, *Department of Public Health*
2. Cristina Alvarado, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
3. Gus Bribiesca, *Department of Public Social Services*
4. Richard Cohen
5. Jane Cong-Huyen, *Department of Public Social Services*
6. Jennifer Cowan, *Connections for Children*
7. Carmen Gosey, *Office of Supervisor Holly Mitchell*
8. Jessica Guerra, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
9. Maria Hendrix, *Department of Public Social Services*
10. Maral Karaccusian, *Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn*
11. Shoghig Khandarian, *Department of Public Social Services*
12. Alan Lee, *Department of Public Health*
13. Esther Nguyen, *First 5 LA*
14. Lisa Pinto, *Office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl*
15. Kelly Reynolds, *Early Edge California*
16. JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia, *CA Federation of Family Child Care Association*
17. Alina Valencia-Mosquera, *Department of Public Health*
18. Elise Weinberg, *Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis*

Staff

1. Debra Colman, *Director*
2. Leanne Drogin, *Senior Program Analyst*
3. Michele Sartell, *Child Care Planning Coordinator/Program Specialist III*
4. Erica Weiss, *Intermediate Clerk*
5. Charli Lewis, *Intern (Master of Social Work and Master of Public Administration)*
6. Erica Torres-Ness, *Intern (Master of Social Work)*

LA County Board of Supervisors Engagement Plan

Policy Roundtable for Child Care & Development Commission

October 13, 2021



Role of Commission

- Develop recommendations for Board of Supervisors
- Distribute an annual report to Board of Supervisors
- Develop policy recommendations related to child care
- Advise LA County departments in developing strategies to connect clients and/or employees to child care
- Identify strategies to secure leverage, coordinate, monitor and maximize funding for child care services



Engagement: Fall 2021 (September – December)

Goal: Build Relationship with Board of Supervisor's Office

Key Agenda Points:

- Share general information about the Policy Roundtable including mission, membership, and strategic plan highlights
- Ask Board of Supervisor's staff how the Policy Roundtable can help them?



Engagement: Winter 2022 (January & February)

Goal: Set stage for legislative agenda

Key Agenda Points:

- Share early care and education highlights from the governor's budget.
- Share legislation that the Roundtable has prioritized
- Ask Board of Supervisor's staff if there is early care and education legislation or budget items they would like to elevate to the Policy Roundtable



Engagement: Spring 2022 (March – June)

Goal: Introduce Pursuits of Position*

Key Agenda Points:

- Share any Pursuits of Position recommended by the Policy Roundtable
- Ask Board of Supervisor's staff for support on the Pursuit of Position

*Note: Pursuit of Position must be submitted by March 31, 2022



Next Steps: Engagement Fall 2021

- **Board Engagement Teams**

- Commissioners will be assigned to a Board Engagement (BE) team
- Board Appointee with lead scheduling meeting(s) with Office of the Board of Supervisor (BOS)

- **Engagement Process for October – December 2021**

Dates	Board Engagement Team Activities
By 11/4/21	Individual BE Teams meet
11/10/21: Roundtable Meeting	BE Teams present their approach, timeline, & considerations to Roundtable
By 12/3/21	BE Teams meet with Office of the BOS
12/8/21: Roundtable Meeting	BE Teams present progress & discussions with Office of the BOS to Roundtable



Questions?

