

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2023

Welcome and Introductions

1. Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners, Alternates and Guests

Chair Karla Pleitéz Howell opened the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) meeting at 10:03 a.m. by welcoming Commissioners and guests.

2. Comments by the Chair

Chair Pleitéz Howell requested that Commissioners inform Leanne Drogin, OAECE Deputy Director, if they will attend the May 10, 2023 Policy Roundtable meeting. Drogin shared that Commissioners who are interested in attending a Policy Roundtable meeting virtually, the following criteria must be met:

1) technology must be available for the meeting to be accessed virtually; 2) the Commissioner requesting virtual attendance has an extenuating circumstance that prohibits the Commissioner from attending in-person; 3) the Commissioner is permitted to attend up to two Policy Roundtable meetings virtually; and 4) the Commissioner's virtual attendance will not count toward quorum.

General Business

3. Approval of Minutes - March 8, 2023

Chair Pleitéz Howell presented the minutes for the March 8, 2023 Policy Roundtable meeting and asked for a motion to approve these minutes. Commissioner Paul Pulver made the motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Justin Blakely seconded the motion. Chair Pleitéz Howell opened the floor for comments. Commissioner Nurhan Pirim noted that his attendance was not included in the minutes and requested the minutes to reflect his attendance. The March 8, 2023 minutes passed with one abstention: Vice Chair Alejandra Albarran Moses.

Public Policy

4. Response to the Governor's Budget

Commissioner Blakely provided the status of the Pursuit of Position approved by the Policy Roundtable at its March 8, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Blakely shared that the Pursuit of Position is being reviewed by LA County Chief Executive Office's (CEO) Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Division (LAIR) to determine if the County will advocate for the Pursuit of Position.

Commissioner Blakely emphasized the importance of the Board of Supervisor (BOS) Delegation Teams to inform the BOS Offices about the Pursuit of Position. He invited Commissioners Jennifer Cowan and Amber Rivas, Supervisor Horvath's Commission appointees, to share the discussion their BOS Delegation Team had with Supervisor Horvath's Child Welfare Deputy Elizabeth Shuster about the Pursuit of Position. Commissioners Cowan and Rivas noted that Deputy Shuster was interested in learning more about the Pursuit of Position and would inquire about its status with LAIR. Commissioner Blakely highlighted the importance of a unified voice during the BOS Delegation meetings and that many people outside the early

care and education (ECE) system are not aware of the challenges ECE is experiencing. He then opened the floor for discussion. Some of the points raised during the discussion included the need to eliminate family fees; the alternative methodology for rate reimbursement is complicated and work is underway to capture the actual cost of care; key messaging to policymakers should focus on how LA County regional rates need to be reflected in the alternative methodology; the importance of storytelling; and including parents to share their stories.

5. Legislative Updates

Commissioner Blakely, who is also Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Legislation, provided a summary of the March 16, 2023 Joint Committee on Legislation meeting and presented changes made to the bills identified as high interest by the Joint Committee on Legislation. Commissioner Blakely provided an update regarding Bonta AB 51, and Reyes AB 596 and Limón SB 380. Discussion also included clarification about Carrillo AB 555 and Menjivar AB 635. The PowerPoint presentation provides more detailed information about the bills that are high interest. Commissioner Blakely noted that the May Budget Revise will not have accurate budget projections due to the extension of the tax deadline for many California residents and businesses.

Unified Strategic Plan

6. Board of Supervisors Engagement Teams

Chair Pleitéz Howell reminded the group that the Policy Roundtable created BOS Delegation Teams comprised of Policy Roundtable Commissioners and Child Care Planning Committee (CCPC) BOS appointees to increase engagement and have a consistent voice with BOS. Once the Pursuit of Position was approved at the March 8, 2023 Policy Roundtable meeting then BOS Delegation Teams were charged with meeting with their respective BOS Office. Chair Pleitéz Howell invited each Team to share the status of their engagement efforts with their respective BOS Offices.

Supervisor Hilda Solis, District 1: BOS Delegation Team Lead Chair Pleitéz Howell reported that the Team is in the process of reaching out to Supervisor Solis' Office.

Supervisor Holly Mitchell, District 2: BOS Delegation Team Lead Commissioner Blakely reported the Team will meet with Supervisor Holly Mitchell's Human Services & Child Welfare Senior Deputy Kelvin Driscoll on April 20, 2023.

Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, District 3: BOS Delegation Team Lead Commissioner Cowan reported the following themes from the Team's April 3, 2023 meeting with Deputy Schuster:

- The Team discussed the following key points listed in the BOS Delegation Toolkit provided by OAECE staff:
 - Overview of the Policy Roundtable and CCPC
 - Review of the Unified ECE Strategic Plan Priorities (access; quality; workforce; and families and communities)
 - Status of ECE
 - Child Care Policy Priorities (Pursuit of Position)

- Deputy Schuster is interested in learning more about universal pre-kindergarten (UPK) and ECE. Commissioners noted that Supervisor Horvath's Office is meeting with multiple people/organizations to gain a better understanding of the ECE landscape.
- Deputy Schuster requested quarterly meetings with the Team

Supervisor Janice Hahn, District 4: BOS Delegation Team Lead and Vice Chair Albarran Moses reported that the Team will schedule a meeting with Supervisor Hahn's Children and Human Services Deputy Maral Karaccusian.

Office of Supervisor Kathryn Barger, District 5: BOS Delegation Team Lead Commissioner Ellen Cervantes reported that the Team will schedule a meeting with Supervisor Barger's Family and Children's Deputy Monica Banken.

7. Universal Pre-Kindergarten: Changes to Early Care and Education

OAECE Director Debra Colman and Commissioner Luis Bautista, Executive Director of LA County Office of Education (LACOE) Head Start and Early Learning Division, provided an update on planning efforts for building out a UPK mixed-delivery system in LA County. The CCPC/OAECE and LACOE are co-leading these efforts with the CCPC responsible for planning activities and LACOE responsible for implementation activities. Each entity is receiving state funding to support these activities. Colman and Commissioner Bautista reviewed the benefits and challenges of UPK and key activities between April 2023 to June 2023. The PowerPoint presentation provides more detailed information about LA County's UPK planning and implementation efforts. Colman and Commissioner Bautista opened the floor for questions and discussion. Some of the points raised in the discussion included: recognition that UPK is good for families even though it is a tremendous shift for the ECE industry; community providers are at an alarming and unfair disadvantage because local education agencies (LEAs) cannot contract out UPK programming to community pre-school providers; LEAs are experiencing challenges with meeting facility needs and staffing requirements; parents need full day and year-round care and want local programs they can trust.

Wrap Up

8. Announcements and Public Comment

Chair Pleitéz Howell requested that announcements should be emailed to Leanne Drogin.

9. Meeting in Review and Call to Adjourn

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

Attendance

Commissioners Attendance

1. Karla Pleitéz Howell, *First Supervisorial District*
2. Justin Blakely, *Second Supervisorial District*
3. Jennifer Cowan, *Third Supervisorial District*
4. Amber Rivas, *Third Supervisorial District*
5. Alejandra Albarran Moses, *Fourth Supervisorial District*

6. Ricardo Mota, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
7. Ellen Cervantes, *Fifth Supervisorial District*
8. Nurhan Pirim, *Department of Public Social Services* (virtual attendance)
9. Ariana Oliva, *Child Care Planning Committee*
10. Luis Bautista, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*
11. Dean Tagawa, *LA Unified School District*
12. Ofelia Medina, *First 5 LA*
13. Fran Chasen, *S. CA Chapter - CA Association for the Education of Young Children*

Alternate Commissioners Attendance

1. Paul Pulver, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
2. Jacquelyn McCroskey, *Commission for Children and Families*
3. Rebeca Hurtado, *Department of Mental Health*
4. Debi Anderson, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*

Guests Attendance

1. Cristina Alvarado
2. Rachel Klein
3. Esther Nguyen
4. Becca Patton
5. Jose Ramos
6. Kelly Reynolds
7. Margaret Wong

Staff Attendance

1. Debra Colman, *Director*
2. Leanne Drogin, *Deputy Director*
3. Charli Lewis, *Administrative Aid*
4. Betsy Jacoby, *Staff Analyst*
5. Zenaida Meza, *Staff Analyst*
6. Julia Bruton, *MSW Intern*