



Child Care Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2024

1. Welcome and Introductions

Lisa Wilkin, Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) began the meeting at 12:13 p.m. by welcoming members and guests. Wilkin shared the vision and mission statement and invited members to introduce themselves, share their affiliated organization, and their role within the Planning Committee.

2. Governance

Ancelma Sanchez, Governance Ad hoc Co-Chair, provided an overview of the revised membership application. The OAECE and Governance Ad hoc group developed one application to streamline the application process. Applications are due on March 7th, 2024. Sanchez noted the Planning Committee must also initiate the nominations for the office of Chair and Vice Chair. She added that Lisa Wilkin is ending her term as Chair as this is her second year as Chair and Manuel Fierro is ending his term as Vice Chair, as the position is for a one-year term. Sanchez highlighted the process, eligibility, and responsibilities of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Chair Wilkin opened the floor for Child Care Planning Committee Chair and Vice Chair nominations.

Kathy Schreiner nominated Manuel Fierro for Chair and Ancelma Sanchez seconded the nomination.

Kathy Schreiner nominated Andrea Fernandez for Vice-Chair.

Jessica Guerra nominated Humberto Manuel Estratalán for Vice-Chair.

3. Policy Update

A. Governors Proposed Budget for 2024-25/Early Care and Education

B. Launch of Joint Committee on Legislation FY 2023-24

Stacy Lee, Chief Learning Officer and Senior Managing Director of Early Childhood at Children Now, provided an overview of the January 2024 Governor's Proposed Budget. Lee celebrated the 2023-24 Rate Reform Campaign. Lee summarized the Governors January 10, 2024 budget in regard to Early Learning and Child Care which included;

- Continued funding to align with previous commitments made to Child Care Providers UNITED and aligns increases for others in the child care sector at \$723.8 million
- Affirming the Governor's commitment to develop a single rate structure and alternative methodology by July 2024
- Delaying \$550 million intended for preschool, TK, and kindergarten facilities to 2025-26.

Lee shared highlights from the 2024 California Children's Report Card and noted that Child Care received a C- indicating that child care is not affordable for most families in California. Lee acknowledged the Children's Movement of California for urging members to join more than 5,000 organizations across the state who also believe that kids need to be better supported in California. Lee's PowerPoint presentation provides more detail.



Chair Wilkin provided information about the launch of the Joint Committee on Legislation. She noted previously the Joint Committee on Legislation would review all relevant legislation that impacts the children of Los Angeles. OAECE convened the Chairs from the Planning Committee and the Policy Roundtable for Child Care Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) to discuss the structure of the Joint Committee on Legislation to ensure compliance with the Brown Act. After consulting with Los Angeles County Counsel and discussing with the chairs of both bodies, the following motion for the Launch of the Joint Committee on Legislation and Appointment Authorization was developed. The Joint Committee on Legislation would be required to be convened in-person and the Chairs from each body will appoint four members, eight members total. The Joint Committee on Legislation will be open to the public which does not limit the number of people who may attend from each body.

The Chairs of the Planning Committee and the Policy Roundtable request a motion that authorizes the Chairs to launch the FY 23-24 Joint Committee on Legislation and appoint respective members to the Joint Committee on Legislation. If this motion is approved by the Planning Committee then the Planning Committee and Policy Roundtable members would be asked to email suggestions for appointments to the OAECE. The OAECE will compile the recommendations and share them with the Planning Committee Chairs. The latter complies with the Brown Act and avoids the perception of “serial” meetings. The Chairs’ appointments will be communicated via email to the Planning Committee after the February Policy Roundtable meeting.

Jen Baca Beltran from SEIU Local 99 inquired about the role of the Joint Committee on Legislation. Chair Wilkin explained that this committee examines the budget and pending legislation in regard to early care and education. If the Committee forms an opinion on a policy priority issue it will be communicated to the Policy Roundtable. The Policy Roundtable will consider the input when discussing the Policy Roundtable Priorities.

4. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 1, 2023

B. Approval of Launch of Joint Committee on Legislation for FY 2023-24 and Appointment Authorization

Vice Chair Manuel Fierro presented the Consent Calendar which included the November 1, 2023, minutes, the launch of Joint Committee on Legislation for FY 2023-24, and appointment authorization; Vice Chair Fierro then asked for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Member Andrea Fernandez made the motion to approve the minutes; Member Ana Lopez seconded the motion. Vice Chair Fierro opened the floor for discussion. The Consent Calendar to approve the November 1, 2023, minutes, the launch of Joint Committee on Legislation for FY 2023-24, and appointment authorization passed with no abstentions.

5. Universal PreKindergarten Los Angeles (UPKLA)

A. Access and Family Engagement Ad hoc Update



B. Workforce for 3- and 4- year-olds Ad hoc Update

Andrea Fernandez and Ilyssa Foxx, Access and Family Engagement Ad hoc Co-chairs, presented an overview of their Ad hoc activities from the first meeting on December 14th, 2023. The Ad hoc reviewed State-level reports about parent preference from Catalyst California and the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) to get a sense of data produced around parent choice. The Learning Policy Institute was invited to present their soon-to-be-released parent survey, in partnership with RAPID. The Learning Policy Institute focus is to explore if there is a difference between a family's preference and their decision-making when dealing with barriers. The Ad hoc is gathering County-level family surveys and reports to determine if enough data has been captured to inform our next steps.

Brittie Crawford, Workforce for 3- and 4-year-olds Ad hoc Co-chair, presented an overview of the Ad hoc activities from the first meeting on January 18th, 2024. The Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (CSCCE) presented a longitudinal analysis on "The Early Care and Education Workforce and Workplace in Los Angeles County". In 2020 they surveyed over 1,400 providers and were able to follow up with about 25% of them into 2023. Their survey focused on three main topics: workforce trends and changes, program-level changes, and individual well-being dimensions. Findings were differentiated by provider type, FCC size, Center funding type, and race/ethnicity, giving the Ad hoc opportunity to reflect on different supports needed by different providers.

6. Infant Toddler Blueprint

A. Presentation of Draft Recommendations

B. Discussion

Leanne Drogin, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) Deputy Director, introduced the Infant Toddler Child Care Blueprint (Blueprint). Drogin announced that on September 12, 2023, the LA County Board of Supervisors passed a motion that directed the OAECE, in partnership with the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), to develop in 180 days a Blueprint to fortify the infant toddler child care system in LA County. Drogin addressed the levels of community engagement completed by the OAECE team over the past 4 months, which includes more than 50 meetings such as holding public listening session, conducting multiple provider focus groups, surveying parents & providers, meeting with local and national experts in the ECE field to inform the policy recommendations. OAECE engaged with over 300 people to receive input on the priority issues and to develop recommendations to include in the Blueprint. Drogin reviewed the Blueprint's five issue categories which included: 1) Capacity and Infrastructure, 2) Access to Affordable Care, 3) Program Operations, 4) Workforce Compensation, and 5) Workforce Pathways and Qualifications.

Members, alternates, and guests divided into small groups by issue categories to discuss the Blueprint policy recommendations. OAECE inquired from each group about their top priority recommendation and whether there are existing partners engaged in comparable strategies.

7. Announcement and Public Comment

Vice-Chair Fierro opened the floor for announcements and public comment.

- Sarah Soriano shared that the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee is hosting the Long Beach Early Childhood Symposium on March 9, 2024
- Rachel Klein announced:
 - The LA City offers tax preparation support to individuals and families, regardless of immigration status, to ensure they get access to their biggest refund. Hours and locations can be found at www.freetaxprepla.org or by calling 1-800-906-9887.
 - The City of Los Angeles has been awarded a technical assistance grant to develop and advance a strong agenda for young children and families in LA City. The work is being led by the Mayor's Office and will include stakeholders from multiple City departments, as well as a diverse set of local ECE leaders.
- Elsa Leal highlighted a survey for Infant and Toddler Care Professionals to help OAECE learn about experiences working as a professional providing infant and toddler care, particularly interested in professional development, workplace environment, and employee benefits
- Humberto Manuel Estratalán shared Unite LA is hosting an “Education Means Business” webinar about insights on the budget from top experts including Sen Anthony Portantino and more on February 14, 2024
- Helen Davis announced the UCLAxCareerBridge for teachers to Earn an Early Childhood Education-Associate Teacher Certificate for free
- Jen Baca Beltran highlighted:
 - SEIU Local 99 is offering a free healthcare enrollment event for family child care providers in San Pedro.
 - All members, alternates, and guests to express concern about the state's restriction on public feedback as the state cancelled two alternate mythology advisory committee meetings which eliminated public comment opportunities.
- Alicia Rivas announced that the Los Angeles County Office of Education Head Start inaugural ECEvolution: Shaping the Future of Early Education, will be held March 14-16, 2024, at the Beehive in South Los Angeles.
- Debra Colman highlighted:
 - The Policy Roundtable meeting on February 14, 2024 and noted attendees will have input on the Infant Toddler Blueprint.
 - OAECE was awarded an annual allocation of 3 million dollars from Measure J to work in partnership with the Justice Cares and Opportunity Department. OAECE is hiring two new staff positions for campaign awareness.
- Andrea Fernandez announced a virtual training by ECE Voices on writing campaigns, aimed at family child care homes, providers, and ECE stakeholders. This free event, supported by the ECE Voices Foundation, is scheduled for February 20th at 5PM.

8. Call to Adjourn

Wilkin adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

Attendance

Public Agency

1. Alicia Rivas
2. Ana Lopez
3. Nellie Rios-Para
4. Gus Bribiesca, alternate for Nora Garcia-Rosales
5. Rachel Klein
6. Heesu Kim, alternate for Rachel Klein
7. Ranae Amezcua
8. Vanessa San Martin

Early Educator

1. Andrea Fernandez
2. Brittie Crawford
3. Justine Flores
4. Lisa Wilkin
5. Ancelma Sanchez, alternate for Lisa Wilkin
6. Norma Amezcua
7. Rocio Bach

Parent/Caregiver

1. Seoyeon Choi, alternate for Anne Backstock-Bernstein
2. Crystal Jones
3. Sasha Duarte

Discretionary

1. Helen M. Davis
2. Humberto Manuel Estratalán
3. Ivy Chang
4. Jen Baca Beltran
5. Jessica Guerra

6. Kimberly Dobson Garcia, alternate for Kelly O'Connell
7. La Tanga Hardy
8. Sarah Soriano

Community Organization

1. Edilma Serna
2. Monica Hernandez, alternate for Edilma Serna
3. Ilyssa Foxx
4. Fiona Stewart, alternate for Ilyssa Foxx
5. Kathy Schreiner
6. Kelly Reynolds, alternate for Luis Molina
7. Manuel Fierro
8. Stacy Lee
9. Vivian Garcia

Guests

1. Amy Battle
2. Justin Blakely
3. Michelle Dang
4. Nicole Jain
5. Elsa Leal
6. Alejandra Portillo
7. Jessica Reynaga
8. Stefanie Ritoper
9. Chris Sears
10. Julie Taren
11. Crystal Thompson

Staff Attendance

10. Debra Colman, *Director*
11. Leanne Drogin, *Deputy Director*
12. Charli Lewis, *Management Analyst*
13. Zenaida Meza, *Staff Analyst*
14. Meliza Hernandez, *Staff Analyst*