

Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Meeting Minutes April 10, 2024

Welcome and Introductions

1. Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners, Alternates, and Guests

Chair Alejandra Albarran Moses opened the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission (Policy Roundtable) meeting at 10:04 a.m. by welcoming members and guests.

2. Comments by the Chair

Chair Albarran Moses attended the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) Early Care and Education (ECE) Press Conference held on Monday, April 2, 2024, which showcased Los Angeles County's investments in ECE. Speakers at the event included Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Department of Public Health Director Dr. Barbara Ferrer, and Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Debra Duardo. Chair Albarran Moses highlighted the importance of Los Angeles County leadership uplifting the Policy Roundtable's work in ECE.

General Business

3. Approval of Minutes – March 13, 2024

Chair Albarran Moses presented the minutes for the March 13, 2024 Policy Roundtable meeting and asked for a motion to approve the March 13, 2024 minutes. Commissioner Lisa Wilkin made the motion to approve the March 13, 2024 minutes; Commissioner Amber Rivas seconded the motion. Chair Albarran Moses opened the floor for discussion. The motion to approve the March 13, 2024 minutes passed with two abstentions: Commissioners Luis Bautista and Nora Garcia-Rosales.

Our Unified Strategic Plan in Motion

4. ECE In Transformation: Universal PreKindergarten and Infant Toddler Child Care Blueprint Update

Debra Colman, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) Director, provided an update about: 1) Universal PreKindergarten (UPK) Los Angeles implementation, and 2) the Los Angeles County Early Care and Education Infant Toddler Blueprint (Blueprint). Some of Colman's highlights are listed below:

- UPK: On June 5 2024, OAECE, in partnership with the Child Care Planning Committee, Los Angeles County Office of Education, and the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, will host the UPK Leadership Bridge Building Breakfast. The UPK Leadership Bridge Building Breakfast aims to build and/or strengthen relationships between school districts and community-based ECE programs. Colman added that the primary invitees to the breakfast are School District Superintendents and leadership from Resource and Referral (R&Rs) agencies.
- Blueprint: Colman highlighted upcoming events to promote the Blueprint which include: creating a graphically designed user-friendly version of the Blueprint for public distribution; presenting information about the Blueprint at the 2024 California Association for the Education of Young Children (CAAEYC) Annual Conference and to Los Angeles County Supervisors' Deputies at their Cluster meeting; and elevating recommendations to the Board of Supervisors during the Commission's ECE Delegations team meetings. Colman's PowerPoint presentation provides more detail.

Colman opened the floor for discussion and some of the points raised included: the importance of ensuring Superintendents unable to attend the UPK Bridge Building Breakfast are informed about the resources within the UPK system, such as R&R agencies; the creation of a directory that includes contact information for all R&R leadership, Superintendents of Los Angeles County school districts, and the leaders responsible for UPK; and requests for the user-friendly Blueprint to provide to electeds.

5. Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc Update

Commissioner Jacquelyn McCroskey, a member of the Service Coordination Strategy Ad Hoc (Ad Hoc), provided an update on the first Ad Hoc meeting that was held on April 9, 2024. Commissioner McCroskey reviewed responsibilities outlined in the Commission's Ordinance and Bylaws that are relevant to the Ad Hoc's objectives. Commissioner McCroskey discussed that the Ad Hoc will disseminate a survey to the Commission to gather information from each Commissioner's department or agency on programs related to ECE. The survey findings will help inform the framework for developing a Service Coordination Strategy.

Public Policy

6. State Budget and Legislative Policy

Andrea Fernandez Mendoza, Joint Committee on Legislation Co-Chair, reviewed the purpose, the composition of members, and member roles of the Joint Committee on Legislation. Mendoza reviewed the updates regarding the Governor's Proposed Budget for 2024-25 related to ECE and highlighted the ECE Coalition Letter 2024 that was in response to the Governor's Proposed Budget. Mendoza also reviewed high interest and repurposed bills discussed at the March 2024 Joint Committee on Legislation meeting. More information is included in the PowerPoint.

Sarah Soriano, Young Horizons Executive Director, provided background on Reyes AB 1930: Teacher Credentialing. Current law mandates that a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit can be renewed only once and cannot be held for more than ten years. Reyes AB 1930 proposes allowing the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) to authorize holders of a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit to renew their permit without limitations as long as holders complete professional growth activities outlined by the CTC. Soriano shared that Reyes AB 1930 addresses equity issues and helps address staffing shortages. More information is included in the PowerPoint. Vice Chair Justin Blakely opened the floor for discussion and the following reflects some of the issues raised:

- The importance of equity issues highlighted in the presentation
- It is important to promote attaining a full teacher's permit; however, the barriers to pursue a teacher's permit need to be addressed. Pursuing higher education requirements for higher-level certifications can be expensive for providers and while some resources are available for these classes there are not enough.
- Various types of data would be helpful to understand the full picture the Child Development Associate Teacher workforce, the supports available and/or utilized, and the rate in which Associate Teachers obtain a full teacher's permit.
- CTC is in the process of reviewing the Child Development Permit Matrix to make changes which may affect ECE program operations. The Policy Roundtable should stay informed of these changes and weigh-in on changes if needed.

Vice Chair Blakely then introduced Mendoza to review the Joint Committee on Legislation's discussion regarding policy issue priorities. At its March 20, 2024 meeting, the Joint Committee on Legislation, approved the following policy issues to recommend to the Commission to consider including in a Pursuit of Position:

1. Develop and implement the Alternative Reimbursement Rate Methodology to be based on true cost of care and include in the State's July 1, 2024 submission of the CDSS Child Care Development Fund Plan 2024-2027.
2. Support AB 1930 - Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction.
3. Award and distribute the ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 - with a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27.

7. Approval of Pursuit of Position

Vice Chair Blakely presented the Pursuit of Position and asked for a motion to approve the Pursuit of Position. Commissioner Gloria Davis made the motion to approve the Pursuit of Position; Commissioner Jennifer Cowan seconded the motion. Vice Chair Blakely opened the floor for discussion. The discussion focused on the need to clarify the meaning of "implementation" in the first policy issue statement. Commissioner Robert Gilchick proposed an Amendment to the motion to change the first policy issue statement to: "Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission." Commissioner Lisa Wilkin seconded the amendment. The amendment passed unanimously. The motion to approve the following amended Pursuit of Position passed with one abstention: Commissioner Jaime Kalenik:

1. Include in the state's Child Care Development Fund Plan Federal FY 2025-27 an alternative rate methodology based on the true cost of care by the July 1, 2024 submission.
2. Support AB 1930 - Require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to remove the Child Development Associate Teacher Permit renewal restriction.
3. Award and distribute the ECE spaces appropriated in the 2023-24 budget by June 30, 2024 - with a sustainable and equitable plan to reach the 200,000 spaces commitment by 2026-27.

Vice Chair Blakely shared that the Pursuit of Position will be submitted to the Department of Public Health County Counsel for review and then submitted to Chief Executive Office Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Division for approval. Vice Chair Blakely noted that with the Commission's approval of the Pursuit of the Position, Board of Supervisors (BOS) ECE Delegation Teams will begin to meet with their respective BOS Offices during April 2024 and May 2024.

8. Creation of Ad Hoc

The Commission did not identify the need to establish a new Ad Hoc.

Wrap Up

9. Announcements and Public Comment

Chair Albarran Moses opened the floor for announcements and public comment.

- Commissioner Gloria Davis announced a meet and greet with Michelle Kang, CEO of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, who will be visiting the Girls Club of Los Angeles. Commissioner Davis invites Policy Roundtable Commissioners to join the meet and greet on Thursday, April 18, 2024 from 2-4 p.m.
- Commissioner Mercedes Santoro announced that space is available in the Department of Parks and Recreation free full-day summer Environment, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math (ESTEAM) camp programs for youth ages 6-11.
- Nicole Jain acknowledged successes from the Department of Economic Opportunity ECE Press Conference and highlighted the need for continued collaboration among stakeholders.
- Jen Baca Beltran reported that Child Care Providers UNITED (CCPU) received over 6000 requests for free computers that are available to eligible home-based child care providers. She invited attendees to join the CCPU for its advocacy day in Sacramento on April 25, 2024.
- Andrea Fernandez Mendoza announced that on April 22, 2024, EveryChild California ECE Voices is holding the Region II Meet and Greet with district representatives and local community leaders. She added ECE Voices will sponsor teachers to travel to Sacramento for advocacy efforts.
- Commissioner Lisa Wilkin announced that the Assembly Subcommittee on Human Services is meeting on April 24-25, 2024 and the need to communicate the true cost of care to legislators.

- Chair Albarran Moses announced the City of Long Beach's Celebration of the Young Child will be held on April 27, 2024 which is a free resource fair for children up to eight years old and their families. More than 60 vendors will be at the event.
- Vice Chair Blakely announced that Children's Day will be May 8, 2024 and that this is an important advocacy day in Sacramento.

10. Meeting in Review and Call to Adjourn

Chair Albarran Moses adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Attendance

Commissioners Attendance

1. Jessica Perea, *First Supervisorial District*
2. Justin Blakely, *Second Supervisorial District*
3. Gloria Davis, *Second Supervisorial District*
4. Jennifer Cowan, *Third Supervisorial District*
5. Amber Rivas, *Third Supervisorial District*
6. Alejandra Albarran Moses, *Fourth Supervisorial District*
7. Jeannette Aguirre Carrillo, *Department of Probation*
8. Mercedes Santoro, *Department of Parks and Recreation*
9. Robert Gilchick, *Department of Public Health*
10. Lisa Wilkin, *Child Care Planning Committee*
11. Paul Pulver, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
12. Luis Bautista, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*
13. Jacquelyn McCroskey, *Commission for Children and Families*
14. Dean Tagawa, *Los Angeles Unified School District*
15. Fran Chasen, *S. CA Chapter – CA Association for the Education of Young Children*

Alternate Commissioners Attendance

1. Steve Sturm, *Department of Children and Family Services*
2. Rebeca Hurtado, *Department of Mental Health*
3. Nora Garcia-Rosales, *Department of Public Social Services*
4. Debi Anderson, *Los Angeles County Office of Education*
5. Jaime Kalenik, *First 5 LA*

Guests Attendance

1. Rachel Bocarsly, *City of Los Angeles*
2. Jen Baca Beltran, *SEIU Local 99*
3. Marvin Espinosa, *Girls Club LA*
4. Andrea Fernandez Mendoza, *California Children's Academy*
5. Jessica Guerra, *Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles*
6. Monica Hernandez, *PITC WestEd*
7. Zephania Hartojo, *City of Los Angeles*
8. Nicole Jain, *Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity*
9. Heesu Kim, *City of Los Angeles*
10. Esther Nhyugen, *First 5 Los Angeles*
11. Kelly Reynolds, *Early Edge CA*
12. Shay Scott, *Discount School Supplies*



13. Sarah Soriano, *Young Horizons*
14. Edilma Serna, *WestEd PITC*
15. Jackeline Vasquez, *Frog Street*

Staff Attendance

1. Debra Colman, *Director*
2. Leanne Drogin, *Deputy Director*
3. Betsy Jacoby, *Staff Analyst*
4. Charli Lewis, *Management Analyst*