



**Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council
Minutes February 9, 2022 – 9:00am-11:00am
Virtual Zoom Meeting**

Attendance: Members Present: Jacqui Banta, Jennifer Bergquist, Donna B. Fisher, Flo Furuike, Michelle Graham, Supervisor Gregg Hart, Holly Harvan, Beth Hassenplug, Annette Muse, Lorraine Neenan, Robin Palmerston, Nancy Saengjaeng, Tressa Saviers, Raquel Valdez, Serineh Vartani, Sharol Viker, Susan Walsh, Janelle Willis, Ralph Ybarra

Members Excused: Shelley Grand, Eileen Monahan, Daisy Ochoa,

Members Absent: Artesia Carlon

Alternates Present: Bridget Baublits, Maggie Flores, Jennifer Macdonald, Marina Nolte

Guests Present: Tal Ben Ami (WestEd), Katie Mervin (SBCEO), Taundra Pitchford (Cathedral Oaks Children's Center), Chris Sears (Lakeshore Learning), Melynda Velasquez (SBCEO)

Staff Present: Christian Patterson, Shelley Trost

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Vice Chair, Jacqui Banta, called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Introductions.

II. Public Comment Period

Children's Resource & Referral will be holding a PPE distribution date on Saturday, February 19th in both north and south counties. An email will be sent out with details.

III. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2022

A Motion was made to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2022, by Supervisor Gregg Hart. Jacqui Banta seconded the motion. **MSC.**

Approval of Minutes of January 7, 2022 (Special Brown Act Vote Meeting)

A Motion was made to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 7, 2022, by Lorraine Neenan. Donna B. Fisher seconded the motion. **MSC.**

IV. Child Care Planning Council Grant Updates

a. Local Planning Council Grant

We are beginning to work on Teacher Appreciation Journals to be distributed in May. We are working on accumulating a total teacher count for all sites and FCCs. We would like to send out educational materials to sites this year. To be discussed with Steering.

b. Santa Barbara Foundation's ECE Leadership Grant

Our next leadership training will be held in person with instructor Patty Pisterosi from Merced College on April 2nd. The topic is Finding your Purpose – Leading with Strengths. We will distribute the Strengthsfinder 2.0 book from Gallup to all who attend.

c. Workforce Pathways Grant

We have finalized review of the applications for Workforce Pathways stipend program. Of the 175 that applied, eight had not been working for the required six months or more at the time of application and were denied. We have 10 incomplete packets and have reached out twice before sending a denial letter. A few have responded and are working on missing documents.

Supplemental First 5 SB Dual Language Learner Grant

Nothing new to report currently. Stipends will be paid in June along with the other stipends.



V. **Brown Act (AB361) Review and discuss Brown Act Virtual Meeting Requirements**

- On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a statewide emergency arising from COVID-19 pursuant to Government Code section 8625
- On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB361 which amends the Brown Act to allow for governing boards to continue holding virtual meetings should there be:
 - A. A State of Emergency
 - B. Imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees
- Special vote/meetings must be held every 30 days or less prior to the next calendared meeting to reconsider whether the State of Emergency continues to directly impact the safety of members to meet in person
- A vote will be taken to reach a decision about whether to continue meeting virtually. Voting is for members only.

Vote for March 9th Meeting (remote or in-person)

A special meeting is not necessary between February 9 and March 9, 2022, as we are under the 30-day requirement, according to AB361.

A Motion was made to remain remote by Lorraine Neenan. Janelle Willis seconded the motion.

MSC.

VI. **Committee Updates**

Needs Assessment/Strategic Plan Ad Hoc – Jennifer Bergquist/Lorraine Neenan

Lorraine gave the update that she and Jennifer will meet this month and set a date for the next strategic plan meeting.

COAT- Communications, Outreach, Advocacy Team – Robin Palmerston

Robin discussed the COVID testing kits. We will make it known publicly the agencies that made the contributions. The team is working with Allan Hancock College on the intern program.

Facilities – Beth Hassenplug

Facilities met with the normal goals of assessing, reviewing policies and working more with real estate developers. We are looking at the needs in our county. We are watching development projects. CRR is hopeful to open an inclusive childcare center. ARPA funds are being released through DSS and an upcoming *How to Apply* webinar is on the calendar for February 15th.

<https://mailchi.mp/dss/child-care-bulletin-21-6168461?e=02e8308f04>. CRR will be applying for the facilities grant. The new site is dependent upon funding.

ICCAT - Inclusive Child Care Action Team – Jacqui Banta

We have not met this month, but Holly Harvan has been working on CSEFEL and Inclusive Practices trainings. There is open enrollment for alternative payment programs, and we are having discussions about children seeking care for inclusive support. Holly has made herself available to work with families in this capacity.

WALDO – Christian Patterson

WALDO met to discuss requirements and leniency with the Workforce Pathways stipend program.

We have also discussed AHC ECS 149 partnership and internships as well as upcoming 2022-23 professional development leadership opportunities. WALDO is meeting again today after CCPC.



VII. Coordinators Report

- We have our upcoming leadership training on April 2nd from 8:30am-4:30pm with instructor Patty Pistoresi from Merced College. The subject this year is Finding Your Purpose-Leading with Strengths. This will be an in-person training held at Hotel Corque in Solvang.
- Cooperative Work Experience ECS149- Allan Hancock Partnership
This is a placement program for students completing the ECS149 class. ECS 105 & 106 can observe during their first semester and participate in the second semester. AHC would like to partner with any sites that are interested in this program. If you are interested, contact CCPC.
- Antigen Test Kit Distribution- February 19th
Thank you to the Local Planning Council, Santa Barbara County Education Office, First 5 Santa Barbara, Children's Resource & Referral and Santa Barbara County Public Health for securing over 12,000 kits/24,000 tests to distribute to childcare centers in the community. We received more tests than some of the surrounding counties. Christian was recognized for doing a great job supporting this project. If you would like tests for your sites, please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/261403794787>
- Job Fair- May 14th
Children's Resource & Referral and Allan Hancock College will be hosting an ECE Career Fair in early May. More information to follow as it become available.
Note: CommUnify and Isla Vista Youth Projects are interested in knowing more. CRR created a FB group for ECE job seekers.
To post job announcements, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/936451937244329>

VIII. Public Policy Review

AB22 – Transitional Kindergarten Enrollment Funding & Workshops

AB92 – Amends existing laws for family fees and fee waivers. Reduction prohibited to be absorbed by sites.

AB321 – Priority given to childcare services with exceptional needs children or children whose primary language is not English.

AB558 – CDE to develop federal breakfast program to non-school aged children.

IX. Apprenticeship Connection – Presented by Katie Mervin

We are currently applying for an Apprenticeship Grant which is due this month. If approved, we will need an advisory body for this grant. We would like to build a program that works for our community connecting employers to apprentices and improve the quality of the work field. It would also support employers by connecting centers & FCCs with quality employees. It would help employees get out into the field and start their careers in ECE. We are going to invite people to let them know what the program is looking for with this grant and how we can help build the workforce. Discussion. Timeline to follow once we receive word that we will receive the grant.

X. UPK/UTK – PowerPoint in official records.

This was taken from the Curriculum Council LEAs presentation of January 28th. The P-3 connection is in the forefront of discussions. UPK is a part of that Universal Pre-Kindergarten for all, as well as Transitional Kindergarten. All play a part in how we are supporting children from preschool to third grade. The launch is targeted for 2025-26 school year. The program will need to be offered to all



four-year-old children and will remain the parent's choice where to place their children. If children turn five prior to Feb 2nd, they can be offered TK. Schools that accept children under five years old will not receive funding until that child turns five. Plans discussed. All LEAs have received funding and can use that support for a variety of different ways over the five years. We have submitted an intent to apply for a new Teacher Development Grant. We have a planning meeting being held on March 16th. We want to collaborate with others. The first step is to connect LEAs with ECE.

There is a UPK Community of Practice meeting being held on March 29th 10-11:30. Discussion. What should be addressed in the beginning stages?

Based on the allocations posted on CDE, basic aid districts are receiving some planning grant funds. <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r2/upkpi2122result.asp>

Discussion for private funding. Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) funding is coming down soon. Sites are required to support a nine-hour day.

Two additional upcoming meetings are being scheduled; one for childcare centers and one for family childcare sites. More information coming.

No updates on transportation requirements yet. We are reviewing if transportation can be paid by the ELO. Low-income communities will be the priority.

First 5 Early Learning Planning Grants were discussed.

Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) Grant covers TK through sixth grade. Requirements include no less than 9-hour days, no less than 30 days of expanded learning 10:1 ratio or 20:1 ratio for upper grades. Licensing discussed. CSPP with TK will be permissible. TK must be credentialed. CSPP only holds a BA. Janelle to share what would be allowed in the partnership options. Discussion.

XI. Other Business/Announcements

Sharol Viker First 5SB – Discussed Innovation & Capacity Building grants due on February 15th. Applications can be found on their website. <http://first5santabarbaracounty.org/our-funding/>

Holly Harvan was recognized at the state level for all the work done in Inclusive Practices with the IEEEP grant. Holly and team, along with SELPA, are working with SIRAS. There is a lot of work happening. Training is coming out that will address this. We may be asked to act as a model.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair, Jacqui Banta, at 10:26am.