

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting

October 1, 2013 . 9:00 to 3:00 . Pellegrino's Event Center

M i n u t e s

ELAC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bianca Bailey – Parent

Luba Bezborodnikova – Associate Superintendent for Early Learning, Puget Sound ESD

John Bancroft *on behalf of* Leslie Dozono – Early Learning Policy Director, Children's Alliance

Bob Butts – Assistant Superintendent for Early Learning, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Representative Jessyn Farrell – Washington State House of Representatives

Kathy Goebel – Policy Associate, State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

Dee Hirsch – Program and Admissions Director, Discovery Montessori School

Dr. Bette Hyde – Director, Department of Early Learning

Jennifer Jennings-Shaffer – Project Manager, HSSCO, Department of Early Learning

Cynthia Juarez – Early Learning Director, ESD 105

Nelly Mbajah – Early Childhood Development Program Manager, Department of Social & Health Services

Jennifer Ross – Parent

Gene Sharratt – Executive Director, Washington Student Achievement Council

Karen Walker - ESIT Program Administrator, Department of Early Learning

Lisa Webb – Family Child Care Provider

ELAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Annette Cleveland – Washington State Senate

RaShelle Davis – Early Learning Policy Advisory, Governor's Executive Policy Office

Representative Larry Haler – Washington State House of Representatives

Maxine Hayes, MD, MPH – State Health Officer, Department of Health

Lois Martin – Director, Community Day Center for Children, Inc.

Cory Sbarbaro – Interim Chief Executive Officer & President, Thrive by Five Washington

Jeromy Sullivan – Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe Chairman

VACANT – Washington State Senate

REGIONAL ADVISORS (RA) IN ATTENDANCE

Susan Barbeau – First 5 FUNdamentals of Pierce County

Samantha Bowen – Southeast

Enrica Hampton – SOAR, King County

Rhodes Lockwood – Olympic-Kitsap Peninsulas

Wilanne Ollila-Perry – Northwest

Nancy Spurgeon – North Central

Sandra Szambelan – Inland Northwest Early Learning Alliance, Northeast

Dan Teuteberg – Visions for Early Learning, West Central

Jodi Wall – Southwest Washington Early Learning (SWEL)

REGIONAL ADVISORS ABSENT

Karri Livingston – Investing in Children: Coalition Central

Opening Remarks from the Department of Early Learning (“DEL”) Director

- DEL Director Bette Hyde welcomed everyone and shared exciting news happening in DEL.
- She encouraged everyone to provide feedback on Governor Jay Inslee’s Results Washington plan for building a prosperous economy, healthy families and world class education system at www.results.wa.gov.
- Bette shared a [slide](#) on the progression of thinking about parents in early childhood development from a recent meeting on a new paper by Joan Lombardi.
- Amy Blondin, DEL Government and Community Relations Manager, provided a brief update on DEL’s agency request legislation. DEL submitted a bill to add 10 seats to ELAC and designate an existing seat for the Early Learning Action Alliance. It also removes and changes outdated language. DEL is also requesting a bill with OSPI to allow background checks from DEL to fulfill requirements for both agencies. A childhood obesity prevention bill may be developed that lays out the issue and potential solutions. OSPI and DEL are also working to clarify roles and the system for administering IDEA Part C funding.

Council Q&A on the State & Partner Agency Updates

- State and Partner Agencies took comments and questions on updates submitted to ELAC members prior to the meeting.
 - [ELAC State & Partner Agency Updates](#)
 - [DEL 2013-2015 Biennium Budget Update](#)
 - [DSHS Organization Chart](#)

Discussion: **Linda Shea**, DEL’s Chief Financial Officer announced that DEL does not anticipate any financial impacts to child care subsidies or early learning services at this time as a result of a the federal government shutdown. **Kathy Goebel** asked if Race-to-the-Top (RTTT) and Head Start dollars are ok, and **Linda** confirmed that yes, RTTT shouldn’t be affected. Head Start sites are affected depending on their funding period. There was discussion on how school districts will expand full-day Kindergarten without classroom space. **John Bancroft** mentioned that when schools use rooms for preschool programs, the state considers the space vacant. If they submit a request for construction / room addition, the school would need to fill with a K-12 program. **Rhodes Lockwood** suggested that Birth to 3 should be considered 12 month programs to prevent fade out. Only special pre-K extends through summer, and that’s only on a case-by-case basis. **Bianca Bailey** asked when there will be a decision on the Family Engagement grant. No one had the timeline, but DEL’s Strengthening Families Washington (SFWA) team and OSPI are working closely to look at models that build on existing work and mobilize to bring more parents to the table.

Status Update: SB 5595 Legislative Task Force and HB 1723 Workgroup

- Amy Blondin provided an update on the progress of the legislative task force created by SB 5595 on child care reform and the workgroup created by HB 1723 on state early learning programs. The 5595 task force is looking at a tiered subsidy reimbursement model, how to make the Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP) a mixed delivery system, integrating childcare and preschool, market rate reimbursements for providers, and a copayment scale. They have a

report due in December, and will also be looking at new revenue. The 1723 technical work group is reviewing early learning funding stream cost model. They also have a report due in December.

Discussion: **John** added that the 5595 task force is asking what poses the greatest challenges with in child care subsidy eligibility and enrollment, programming (length of day/age groups), and funding (copays, rates, etc.).

Senate Bill 5904 Report

- Nicole Rose, DEL PreK-3/ECEAP Administrator, presented and facilitated a discussion on the [ECEAP expansion plan development](#).
 - [ECEAP Highlights](#)
 - [ECEAP Expansion Fast Facts](#)

Discussion: Members and Regional Advisors discussed the challenges for smaller communities that don't have the population to fulfill the 240 slot minimum to apply as an ECEAP contractor, but still have a high need for services. They also asked about cost allocation models, and **Luba Bezborodnikova** offered the PSESD is currently reviewing models. The topic will also be added to the upcoming ECEAP directors meeting. **Nancy Spurgeon** raised the specific challenges for remote communities where travel costs are much higher. **Nicole** mentioned that DEL is working on getting ECEAP staff out in regions outside of Olympia to support contractors in the field. **Bette** added that DEL's licensing staff is moving to the ESD offices. There was also a request for the [ECEAP Outcomes report](#).

ELAC Co-Chair Election

- Members elected Bianca Bailey serve a two-year term as the private co-chair and Kathy Goebel fill the public co-chair seat for the remainder of Maxine Hayes' term, which expires in June 2014.

LUNCH and Frontiers of Innovation (FOI) Presentation

- Juliet Morrison, DEL Assistant Director of Quality Practice and Professional Growth Division provided a brief presentation on the FOI Executive Function Learning Communities that DEL is supporting in 6 areas of Washington State.
 - [Frontiers of Innovation presentation](#)

ELAC Work Plan

- Kelli Bohanon, DEL Assistant Director of Partnerships and Collaboration facilitated a discussion on the [2013 ELAC Work Plan](#).

Discussion: **Kathy** suggested a new format for implementing the work plan, so that the initial meeting is a study session on the topic, then the next meeting members take action with a vote or recommendation. There were also recommendations to connect the plan directly to Results Washington and list the specific connections to the Early Learning Plan priorities. Other suggestions for the work plan included having a system in place for getting feedback/issues/concerns from communities through the RA's and aligning the development of the work plan with the Washington Early Learning Partnership (WELP) priorities. DEL will convene an ad hoc committee to develop the 2014 ELAC work plan. **Dan Teuteberg** volunteered to participate. An e-mail with an update on the WELP priorities for 2014 will be sent.

Community Momentum Grant (CMG) Strategy

- Lauren Hipp, Thrive Acting Director of Policy & Community Partnership and Evette Jasper, DEL State/Local Coordination Program Specialist provided an overview on how the CMG supports the Early Learning Regional Coalitions (ELRCs) and what actions the state and local coordination project recommends taking to strengthen community representation on ELAC. Hannah Lidman, HDL Consulting facilitated small group discussions on potential opportunities for connection and coordination between ELAC and the ELRCs.
 - [Community Momentum Grant presentation](#)

Discussion: **Luba** asked if it's possible to see all of the elements of the CMG request for proposal (RFP). **Lauren** confirmed that the [CMG RFP](#) will be posted as a public document once it is released. There was discussion on the budget and the addition of the Regional Advisor role.

- [Notes](#) from the small group discussions.

De-Brief/Meeting Follow Up Discussion

- DEL asked Regional Advisors and ELAC members to bring the following questions to their regions, constituencies and/or statewide networks:
 - 1) Does your region/constituency/networks support of DEL's proposed agency request legislation related to ELAC membership changes?
 - 2) What are your region's/constituency's/network's top 3-5 issues or area of focus at this time related to key [Early Learning Plan](#) strategies?
 - 3) What would your region/constituency/network like to recommend to the WELP (DEL, OSPI and Thrive) related to the development of our 2014 Priority Strategies from the Early Learning Plan?

Closing Remarks & Adjourn

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for **Dec. 9, 2013** from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Lacey Community Center.