

MINUTES OF EARLY LEARNING COORDINATING COUNCIL

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Conference Room

Landon State Office Building, Room 152

900 SW Jackson, Topeka, Kansas

Friday, December 14, 2007

9:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Present:

Mary Baskett, Kansas Head Start Association

Doug Bowman, Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Svcs

Jackie Counts, KU Institute for Educational Research & Public Service

Rebecca Gillam, KU Institute for Educational Research & Public Service

Alice Womack, SRS

Carolyn Weinhold, SRS

Tiffany Smith-Birk, SRS

Gayle Stuber, KSDE

Cindy D'Ercole, Kansas Action for Children

Jennifer Crow, Kansas Coalition on School Readiness

Lisa Klein, Kansas Health Institute

Jim Redmon, KS Children's Cabinet & Trust Fund

Dyogga Adegboire, KS Children's Cabinet & Trust Fund

Farewell to Alice Womack

The ELCC wished farewells to Alice Womack as she retires from the State of Kansas and SRS. Jim Redmon remarked how much Alice's expertise and valuable contributions to ELCC and the State of Kansas/SRS are appreciated and that she will be missed.

Everyone concurred.

Professional Development

As part of Goal 3 of the KECCS plan, the KU Institute team is conducting an environmental scan on professional development. Rebecca Gillam has been collecting input from KECCS stakeholders about the information that should be included in the scan. The stakeholders' input is needed to set the parameters for the infrastructure and determine who receives the information. Sally Kahle's ECH Professional Development group is also helping gather information. Lisa Klein commented on how the federal government is more likely to award federal professional development grants to those states that established professional development projects, includes core competencies statewide within an state early childhood plan. Kansas is in a good position for the grant. The group talked about categories to include in the environmental scan such as career development, credentials, individual agency mandates, recruitment, and retention of teachers, child care providers and child care licensing. Information will be presented at a future ELCC meeting.

Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) Report

Lisa Klein talked about the IWPR's Washington, DC report. She will send a copy to all ELCC members next week.

Early Education Expanding Opportunities Project

Gayle Stuber talked about the Kansas Expanding Opportunities Inclusion Initiative. Its purpose is to "make inclusion a reality for all children and their families in order to assure that children of all abilities have access to and are included in every aspect of community life. Families will receive the supports needed to participate fully in community life." The initiative will develop marketing and public awareness activities, development and enhance policies and procedures to support inclusion, collaborate and coordinate statewide personnel development, and foster collaboration and coordinate early childhood initiatives and special statewide activities among agencies and organizations to maximize impact and resources. Gayle distributed a handout to the ELCC about the initiative.

Early Childhood Plan Revisions

Jackie and Rebecca requested the group's input on revisions by the next meeting. Some of the outcomes are not measurable and may need to be revised.

Kansas Coalition for School Readiness

Jennifer Crow updated the ELCC on Kansas Coalition for School Readiness activities. They include:

- *Fight Crime, an organization of top law enforcement representatives, releasing its report on early childhood and crime prevention.
- *The Coalition received \$100,000 funding from the Hall Family Foundation for early childhood projects in the Kansas City metropolitan area.
- *A summer conference, sponsored by National Governor's Association, National Council of State Legislators, and Dr. Jack P. Shonkoff, for teams of eight which include governors, policy makers and other early childhood professionals will be held to promote early childhood policy. An RFP for an early childhood was released and is due on February 8, 2008.

Early Childhood Governance Issue

Jim Redmon recommended that the early childhood governance issue be reviewed by a subcommittee of the ELCC, and include other state agency representatives. The subcommittee will be charged with bringing back broader alternative governance recommendations to the full ELCC. Jennifer Crow commented that legislative testimony on the ECH governance issue should be coordinated and presented as one voice.

Children's Cabinet CIF Program Recommendations for FY 2009

Jim Redmon discussed the Children Cabinet-Board's recent Children's Initiative Fund project recommendations. There was a recommendation to cut \$1 million dollars in funding for Early Childhood Mental Health. Jim announced the Children's Cabinet will be sending letters to the Cabinet Secretaries on the Cabinet-Board's recommendations for FY 2009.

KECCS Stakeholders May 2008 Meeting

The ELCC tentatively scheduled the next KECCS Stakeholders' meeting for Wednesday, May 28, 2008 at Salina. More details will be announced to the stakeholders soon.

Next Meeting of ELCC

The ELCC scheduled its next meeting for Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund offices.

Adjournment

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.