

Early Childhood Council of Kern

December 2, 2009 Meeting

City Centre, Kern County Superintendent of Schools Building
1300 17th Street, Bakersfield

General Council 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Subcommittee Meetings

Community Partnerships: No December meeting

Executive Committee: December 11, 2009 8:00 a.m. University Square

Programs: December 17, 2009 8:00 a.m. University Square

Agenda

- 5:30 – 5:35** 1. Call to Order
- Introductions
- 5:35 – 5:40** 2. Approval of Consent Items
- All items listed with an asterisk are considered to be routine and non-controversial. Consent items will be considered first and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Council or guest wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Council concerning the item before action is taken.
- December 2, 2009 Agenda *
 - November 4, 2009 Minutes *
 - November 2009 Financial Reports *
 - Foundation Account
 - Project Account
 - Early Care & Education Retention Project Account
- 5:40 – 5:45** 3. General Public Comment
- 5:45 – 5:50** 4. Executive Committee Report
- 5:50 – 6:00** 5. Community/Agency Reports
- Kern Association for the Education of Young Children
 - Eastern Sierra Association for the Education of Young Children
 - Kern County Network for Children
 - First 5 Kern
 - Other

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| 6:00 – 6:10 | 6. Legislative Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRIS reports |
| 6:10 - 6:30 | 7. Special Presentation: Viewing of annual report presentation to Kern County Board of Supervisors |
| 6:30 – 6:50 | 8. Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Executive Committee election process |
| 6:50– 7:05 | 9. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Policy Platform review ad hoc committee – call for committee • Discuss winter meeting schedule |
| 7:05 – 7:15 | 10. Member Highlight |
| 7:15 – 7:25 | 11. Committee and Other Reports |
| 7:25 – 7:30 | 12. Other Business/Announcements |
| 7:30 | 13. Approval for Adjournment |

Next Meeting – Please note location change

**January 6, 2010
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. KCSOS City Centre
13000 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301**

The Early Childhood Council of Kern follows the meeting guidelines of the Brown Act. This is an open agenda. For additions contact Council staff Tammy Burns at (661) 636-4444 or taburns@kern.org

All agenda item supporting documentation is available for public review in the office of the Early Childhood Council of Kern, 2000 K Street, 3rd Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, following the posting of the agenda.

Early Childhood Council of Kern

General Council Meeting

November 4, 2009

Minutes

Members Present: Jerri Alvarado, Vienna Gonzales-Battistoni, Armida Bermudez, Lisa Brum, Candy Coats, Irene Cook, Lisa Duncan-Purcell, Linda Eberhart, Heather Garcia, Marilyn Golleher, Christie Howell, Cary Larson-McKay, Ginny Layland, Julie Manning,

Wendy Hernandez for Kalina Marquez, John Nilon, Linda Oates, Kathy Phillely, Janet Swank and Tammy Burns.

Members Absent: Barbara Best, Sharon Brown, Jessica Danel, Casey Knaak, Betty Phillips, Diane Russo, Denine Tucker and Elizabeth Williams.

Guests: Stephanie Alvarez, Teressa Balaity, Myetta Beavers, Tara Bone, Rosa Garza, Ana Juarez, Shri Knight-Stelzner, Jasmine Land, Julian Land, Katie Lords, Linda Maxwell-Mack, Esmeralda Millan, Beatriz Pena, Maria Sanchez and Kristin Taylor

Call to Order: John Nilon called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Introductions: Each of the Council Members introduced themselves as well as the many guests that were present for the meeting.

Approval of Consent Items:

John announced that Denine Tucker is a newly appointed Council Member for Supervisor McQuiston's district as a Child Care Provider from Kern River Valley. Lisa Brum is a Children's Learning Center appointed by Supervisor Rubio. She is the Director of Child Haven Center. John Nilon asked for approval of the consent items and Lisa Duncan-Purcell noted that there was one correction to the October General Council Minutes. A motion was made to accept remaining consent items. Irene Cook made the motion with a second by Lisa Duncan-Purcell. All members were in favor and the motion passed.

Lisa Duncan-Purcell then noted the correction. John Nilon was present at the meeting and was not listed as such in "Members Present." Cary Larson-McKay made a motion to approve the correction and Linda Eberhart made the second. All Members were in favor and the motion passed.

- **Financial Report, October 2009**

- **Foundation Account**

Beginning Balance as of October 1, 2009	\$ 6,686.52
Expenditures	\$ 651.20

Balance as of October 31, 2009	\$6,217.32
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- **Project Account 6045**

Beginning Balance as of October 1, 2009	\$12,825.71
Expenditures	\$ 1,106.71

Balance as of October 31, 2009 (w/in-kind back)	\$11,694.77
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- **Project Account 5055**

Beginning Balance as of October 1, 2009	\$75,055.75
Expenditures	\$ 7,949.72

Balance as of October 31, 2009	\$67,106.03
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- **Early Care & Education Retention Project Account**

Beginning Balance as of October 1, 2009	\$471,986.67
Expenditures	\$ 4,609.60

Balance as of October 31, 2009 (w/in-kind back)	\$467,527.71
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- **LINCC/Constructing Connections Account**

Beginning Balance as of October 1, 2009	\$11,224.19
Expenditures	\$ 3,274.76

Balance as of October 31, 2009	\$ 7,949.43
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(This is the final report for this project as the grant term has ended)

- **General Public Comment:** None at this time

- **Executive Committee Report:** There was no Executive Committee meeting during the month of October, so there is no report at this time.
- **Community/Agency Reports:**
 - **Kern Association for the Education of Young Children:** Irene Cook presented the report. The Association has created a complete list of workshops that are planned for the year. The next workshop will be on November 17th at 6:30 p.m. The presenter will be Dr. Christie Howell, from CSUB. It will be about teambuilding with our parents at the center. There is a new format in the planning stages for the Association Recognition Luncheon. Members want to plan a fundraiser and then hold a dinner to acknowledge agencies and individuals who are the founders of our ECE programs and services in Kern County. Council Members are encouraged to assist with planning the event and to bring forward the names of significant persons in ECE who could be recognized.
 - **Eastern Sierra Association for the Education of Young Children:** Linda Eberhart reported that the recent Child Development Conference was a great success. She said that the conference received much support from ECE people in Bakersfield both as attendees and as presenters. There was also a Greg and Steve Concert in the evening after the conference. Linda told us that about 350 people attended the concert. That was the first time that the duo performed in that area. There is an upcoming Administrator's Luncheon on November 17th.
 - **Kern County Network for Children:** No Report at this time
 - **First 5 Kern:** Kimberly Shipp from First 5 was present and gave an update on the recent activity with their RFP Program. Funding letters went out to 45 applicants for next year. There will be an official Commission Meeting on December 2nd to approve the programs that have been recommended for funding. The new RFP has been a year and a half process.
- **Legislative Update:** Lisa Duncan-Purcell prepared a handout giving Council Members information about 2 new bills and 2 other bills that were vetoed by the Governor. She also provided a list of two year bills for us to follow. Information to research legislation online was included. Lisa specifically mentioned the bill regarding Ancillary Day Care services; regarding venues such as gyms, shopping malls, stores, etc that provide child care for customers while they are in their facility. Persons who provide that care will now have to go through the fingerprint process before that they can work with children at these facilities. There are 5 sub committees within the QRIS system. Council members to report on these committees
 - **Report on the QRIS (Quality Rating Improvement System)**
 - Tammy Burns gave the report. She attended an advisory committee video conference last week in Madera. The group is still in the process of defining issues. They have been meeting for a year. This is in an effort for them to be transparent in the process and with any decisions made.
 - The committee will need to provide a draft report to the legislature by December 2009 and the final report is due in December 2010. The findings of this report will affect all areas of licensed child care in the State of California.
 - **Workforce Development Committee, Christie Howell**
 - The last meeting was on October 28, 2009. The focus is on staff education and training standards. It appears that they are still in the discussion process rather than the decision making process. Several Child Education experts from the CSU system will be presenting information at the next committee meeting.
 - The committee is looking at education requirements for all staff. One of the issues discussed was the qualifications for infant staff verses preschool staff. Do infant providers need the same qualifications as preschool teachers? Also, if there is one lead teacher in the classroom with specific education what qualifications are necessary for the other staff in the classroom? Also, should experience in the field count as education?
 - **Design Committee, Jerri Alvarado**
 - The committee is currently looking at rating scales used in other states and at environmental scales that are currently in use. They are also considering the need for teacher child relationships in preschool centers and if competency in this area should be rated in the system. There is a consideration of a tier system that would put programs at different levels. Entry level 1 would be for Title 22 programs and level 2

would be distinguished by how the program stands in the rating scale. The committee is reviewing and considering several scales such as ITERS, ECERS and CLAS.

- Other items under discussion are: Provider units, AA and BA requirements, a long term option to align with State of CA Preschool Framework and Foundations. They must also consider a complete revamp of the licensing system in the State of CA; as well as who will accomplish that and how will it be paid for?
- **Finance and Incentives Committee, Linda Oates**
- Report presented by Linda Oates. The main discussion for this committee is cost analysis for rating options. That includes costs of the system and potential funding sources. They are gathering information from other state systems to see how they implement their systems. There are no meeting minutes available yet but the next meeting is scheduled for November 16th.

- **Data Committee**
- Reported by Tammy Burns. This committee is also in the process of collecting information from other states. There are 19 other states that have a rating scale in place at this time so in California we are considered behind in this area.

- **Parent involvement and Communication Committee**
- Reported by Tammy Burns. There is still much debate and discussion over the purpose of this committee. No other information available at this time.

- Tammy Burns closed the QRIS report with a few comments. She told us that, as a Council, we may need to submit a statement to this committee to provide local data and to include local planning council's platforms. It is important for us to be involved in this process because the rating system may be imposed on us at a later date. Now is the time for us to include our policy statements and to speak up about our needs in Kern County. There will be a Center Director's luncheon January 8' 2009. The content will include a 30-45 minute video conference with Roberta Peck who will discuss the QRIS. There will then be a chance for local center Directors to discuss about local data and to evaluate local concerns and community needs.

- **Special Presentation: First 5 Kern Strategic Plan Update**
 - Kimberly Shipp (First 5 Kern staff) and Marc Thibault (First 5 Kern consultant) provided an overview of the purpose of First 5 Kern and the strategic plan process that they go through. The original plan was very long but has been streamlined over the past few years. Copies of the First 5 Kern Strategic Plan 2008-2010 and First 5 Kern Strategic Plan 2009-2010 Revised were distributed to Council Members. This plan will be reviewed again in March 2010. The full RFP process is based upon the strategies noted in this plan.

- **Old Business:**
 - **Voluntary, Temporary Transfer of Funds:** Tammy Burns prepared a policy draft and presented it to us last month. It has been determined that about 2.5 Billion dollars in funds have been sent back to the legislature over the last few years statewide. It is very possible that the legislature will take action and cut our funds because of this overage. In Kern County, contractors have under spent by approximately 4.5 million dollars. The Local Planning Council is to get involved to assist contractors so that those who have under spent can self identify and can be matched with providers who have additional children needing services. The draft policy has been updated based on new information provided by the CDE. A contractor's meeting was held on October 27th with information regarding the meeting sent out to all contractors in Kern County. Six contractors attended and we were able to receive input from these folks. We are to implement the mandates and work out our own process in Kern County. The main issue that came out of the meeting is that contractors want to meet on a quarterly basis to receive updated information from the CDE and to discuss issues that come up.

 - **Elevator Speech Update:** Tammy Burns reported on this project. We needed something to be able to present to others regarding the Council in a short period of time. Tammy gave us a copy of the content and we can familiarize ourselves with this information. We will put this on the back of Council business card that we can share with others when we have the chance.

- **Preview Draft Council Brochure:** Tammy Burns gave the report. Based on current LPC practice we have updated the brochure to a Fact Sheet format that is in English and Spanish. It is a concise list of who we are and what we do. It can be easily updated as needed. It is now completed and ready for use.
- **New Business:** No new business at this time.
- **Member Highlight:** Lisa Brum Director of Children's Learning Center shared about herself and how she became acquainted with the Council.
- **Committee and Other Reports:** Written reports for committees were given to Members in their information packets.
 - Tammy also gave an update on the Obesity Summit Project. In April of 2008 the Department of Public Health held a call to action meeting to address the current problem of obesity in children. Tammy and Yolanda Gonzales from Community Action Partnership of Kern are heading the ECE subcommittee for Kern County to address this important issue. They have completed their first informational Newsletter. It is being translated into Spanish and will be available to give out to parents at the centers. They hope to have a Health Fair next year to provide resources and information to parents in Kern County about the obesity problem. In the Newsletter, there is additional information about links to websites so that parents can receive more information.
- **Other Business/Announcements:** An information sheet was given to Members regarding the holiday needs for the Bakersfield Homeless Center so that we can assist with them with their projects to assist residents.
- **Approval for Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn by Ginny Layland with a second by Candy Coats. None opposed.

Next Meeting – Please note location change
December 2, 2009 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
KCSOS City Centre
13000 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Layland, Council Secretary