



The Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council
El Consejo de Planeación de Cuidado Infantil del Condado de Santa Cruz
www.childcareplanning.org

REATREAT MINUTES

Friday, June 26, 2009, 8:30 - 3:00 pm

**Location: Cabrillo College, Horticulture Building
6500 Soquel Dr. Soquel, CA 95003**

Members Present: Vicki Boriack, Maria Castro, Larry Drury, Irene Freiberg, Christine Furlanic, Linda Kishlansky, Ellen Murtha, Michele Mosher, Sita Moon, Rob Mullen, Ellen Murtha, Ann Wise, Nicole Young.

Excused Absences: Naomi Brauner, Elizabeth Chavez, Sandy Davie, Wilma Gold, Jean Gallagher-Heil, Elaine Henning, Erika Ismerio, Ellen Ortiz, Tricia Pastor-Cross, Jerri Winner

Guest: Michael Watkins, Marilyn Moore, Lynn Lauridsen

Staff Present: Diane Oyler, Carol Mulford

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – Ellen M. & Michael W.

- Meeting was called to order by Ellen Murtha at 9:00 a.m.
- Ellen introduced herself and mentioned the events of the past preschool planning process.
- Ellen asked each member to recollect a preschool planning experience they would like to share.
- Ellen and Larry D. thanked Carole and Diane for their support and leadership through the planning process.
- Tokens of appreciation were given to each of them.
- Michael thanked all the preschool planning members for their persistence and expertise throughout the year.
- He shared his commitment to pursuing future funding in the coming year.
- Michael mentioned his participation in the State Superintendent Committee where discussions about the value of preschool are on going.

II. ASAP PLAN CELEBRATION - Carole

- Carole gave an overview of the past year she thanked the Council members for sticking through the year and showed a draft of the ASAP report.
- Carole and Diane gave each work group Chair a token of their appreciation – pins that represent each work group's motivation.
- Carole gave a special thank you to Nicole Young for pulling the report together.

III. TRANSITION FROM ASAP TO CCPC RETREAT – Diane

- Diane introduced Nancy Sergistad, SCCOE Project Director, Education Service Division, and shared her past experiences interfacing with the early care and education field.
- Nancy shared her commitment and understanding of the importance of early care and education and the important role it plays in the lives of children and families.



IV. CCPC ACCOMPLISHMENTS – Ellen & Diane

- Diane shared the accomplishments achieved by the Council in the past year:
 - Preschool planning grant from Packard Foundation was the major work of Planning Council. Communication systems and meeting times for various levels of community involvement was created for maximum community participation.
 - Hosted the Early Childhood Education Conference in October 2008, which was attended by 280 early care and education professionals.
 - Coordination of AB212 project where 82 early care and education professionals received monetary educational awards totaling \$38,900 dollars.
 - Developed a new CCPC brochure and implemented distribution plan.
 - Completed Santa Cruz County Master Plan for Early Care and Education and School Age Extended Learning 2008-2013.
 - Developed and distributed the first CCPC annual report.
- The Council members were thanked for their support and collaborative spirit throughout the past year.

V. CCPC SURVEY RESULTS – Nicole

- Nicole shared the annual survey summary and highlighted key themes. 20 out of 24 CCPC members and staff completed the survey (83% response rate).
- Responses about the CCPC's effectiveness and members' satisfaction seem to reflect the impact of focusing on preschool planning in the past year.
 - Key Themes:**
 - Refocus on priorities and core responsibilities.
 - Build on work we've completed (ASAP, Master Plan, past committee work).
 - Follow through on goals, priorities and processes we've agreed upon.
 - Use monthly meetings to discuss current/critical issues impacting early childhood education and school-age extended learning and determine what action(s) to take.
- Council members thanked Nicole for her efforts and time on the project.

VI. SMALL FOCUS GROUP WORK – Nancy

- Nancy asked members to break out into four small groups to discuss the challenges and strengths of the Council and/or the current environment.



VII. SMALL GROUP REPORT OUT – Nancy

- Nancy reported on the leading topics made evident by the small groups:
 - Standing Committees, Subsidized Programs Consortium, ECE Conference Committee, and Executive Committee.
 - Advocacy with a focus on emerging issues facing the early care and education community.
- Nancy reported out the results of the small group work according to challenges and strengths;

Challenges List:

- Advocacy, communication, leadership training was recommended for Council members
- Recruiting new members - there are currently three community members interested in sitting on the Council.
- Develop advocacy “tool kits” for immediate presentations for various types of agencies, elected officials etc.
- Develop a speakers bureau
- Council needs to stay focused, and not spread it self to thin.
- Nancy, suggested using a SCCOE Breeze program to assist the Council
- Focus on issues addressing infant/toddler, preschool, and school age children
- Keep an eye on the reduction in funding to child care programs
- Address the lack of diversity on Council; ethnic, geographic representation, variety of professional expertise.
- Need to bring in non ECE community members to assist with projects
- Advocacy work needed; BOS, HCA, addressing local child care issues

Strengths List:

- Completion of the All Succeed with Access to Preschool Plan.
- Completion of the Master Plan
- Support existing committees: ECE Conference and Subsidized Programs Consortium, and Executive Committee.
- Completion of the 2009 Priorities Report
- Coordination of AB212 project
- Continue focusing on children with special needs
- Ability to networking and collaboration well
- Council members are experienced and committed
- The Council has the support of Michael Watkins, SCCOE, ECE community, and First 5 Santa Cruz County.
- Close connection to Cabrillo College
- Use committees to attract diverse community members



- VIII. DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTION BALLOTS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND VISION AWARD SELECTION – Diane & Rob
- Diane explained two candidates listed on the ballot for the Chair (Nicole Young and Naomi Brauner) and two candidates listed for Co-Vice Chairs (Ellen Ortiz and Larry Drury).
 - Rob Mullen gave a brief description of Early Educator of the Year Award process and candidates. Members were asked to vote during lunch.
 - Miche and Rob gave a brief description of the Vision Award process and candidates. Members will vote during lunch.
 - Members voted to elect Nicole Young and Naomi Brauner as Co-Chairs, and Ellen Ortiz and Larry Drury as Co - Vice Chairs of the Council for 2009-2010.
 - Members will vote for Vision Award recipient at the August meeting.
 - The Early Education recipient will be contacted by Rob and will receive an award at the October 2010 ECE Conference.
- IX. IDENTIFY SUB-COMMITTEE GROUP WORK – Nancy
- Together the group identified issues facing the early care and education community. Would be good to include a summarized list of those issues that were identified.
 - How we would identify additional committee work to be staffed and supported by Council members.
 - It was agreed that advocacy would play a large role this year in preparation for the coming year.
 - It was suggested to develop a speaker bureau to advocate for ECE issues.
 - Idea to incorporate a focus on advocacy into each subcommittee (vs having a separate Policy & Advocacy subcommittee) and organize subcommittees according to ages of children (e.g. infant/toddler, preschool, and school age) was discussed.
- X. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND VISION AWARD CANDIDATES – Diane
- Co-Chairs: Naomi Brauner and Nicole Young
 - Co-Vice Chairs: Ellen Ortiz and Larry Drury.
 - Early Educator of the Year: Amy Rather, Community Bridges
 - Vision Award:TBD at next CCPC meeting
- XI. POWER OF TEAMS – Nancy
- Nancy shared two useful documents on team building with members of the Council.



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XII. SUB COMMITTEE GROUP WORK – Nancy

- Nancy and members agreed to revisit early care and education community priorities discussion and identification of CCPC committees.
- Members discussed the immediate need for the Council to be prepared to advocate for child care in many arenas: business, Superintendents, Principals, Farm Bureaus, elected officials etc.
- Additional suggestions were:
 - Using the Master Plan Principles as a guide.
 - Continue to focus on the ASAP plan and/or integrate it into Council's work
 - Develop an advocacy "tool kit"
 - Broaden the advocacy work, don't limit the Councils work
- After much discussion the members agreed not to make final committee selections, but rather, continue this discussion at the first full Council meeting in August.

XIII. WORK GROUP REPORT OUT ON NEXT STEPS – Nancy

- *Passion and Persistence* video
- Nancy thanked the Council for their participation
- Council members thanked Nancy for her time and work today.

XIV. PLUS/DELTA – Diane

Plus:

- Today's work was grounded in reality
- Members felt the Council will have a focus this coming year
- Enjoyed the size of the group – smaller - made it easy to brainstorm
- Facilitator was great
- Food was great
- Recognition pins were very nice
- The leadership video
- Congratulated the sole survivors of the day!

Delta:

- Missing other Council members and Carole

XV. CLOSING WORDS FROM CCPC CHAIRS AND CO-CHAIRS – Larry

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Ellen Murtha adjourned the meeting at 2:30 pm

Next meeting: Thursday, August 13, 2009, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Location: SCCOE 400 Encinal St. Santa Cruz, CA 95060.