



**The Santa Cruz County Child Care Planning Council**  
**El Consejo de Planeación de Cuidado Infantil del Condado de Santa Cruz**  
**[www.childcareplanning.org](http://www.childcareplanning.org)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 11, 2007, 2:30-4:30 P.M.**  
**County Office of Education, Board Room**  
809-H Bay Ave, Capitola CA

**Members Present:** Naomi Brauner, Sandy Davie, Larry Drury, Irene Freiberg, Wilma Gold, Elaine Henning, Jim Hopper, Linda Kishlansky, Marilyn Moore, Michele Mosher, Ellen Murtha, Ellen Ortiz, Diane Oyler, Jody Pemberton, Wesley Van Camp, Claudia Vestal and Ann Wise.

**Excused Absences:** Maria Castro, Elizabeth Chavez, Julie Edwards, Jean Gardner, Barbara Griffin, Kathy Mello, Tricia Pastor and Nicole Young.

**Unexcused Absences:** Katie LeBaron

**Guests Present:** Superintendent Michael Watkins, Marcia Meyer, Rob Mullen, Alycia Young, Barbara Best, Vicki Boriack and Kathy Lathrop,

**Staff Present:** Hiranya Brewer and Sita Moon.

**I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Meeting called to order at 2:35 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None

**III. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Quorum established.

**IV. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

***Motion to approve:*** Ann Wise.

***Seconded:*** Larry Drury

Minutes approved unanimously

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Newly elected County Superintendent of Schools Michael Watkins introduced himself to the Council. He talked about the importance of preschool in our county and the need to close the achievement gap for students.

**VI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

None

**VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The committee is currently focusing on membership and completion of the county Master Plan for child care and school age services. The committee intends to have a finalized draft ready in March. Efforts are underway to recruit new members to the Council. There are currently four openings. There are several interested applicants at this time.

The next member social gathering will take place at Michael's on Main Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00PM. All members are cordially invited to attend.

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**VIII. STAFF REPORT**

- Hiranya has posted to the website the Governor's proposed budget as well as various summaries and responses developed by child development advocacy groups such as the Child Care Law Center, the California Resource and Referral Network and the California Budget Project. The Policy Committee will bring more information on this topic to the group at the next meeting.
- The Preschool Expansion Planning Team, which includes the County Superintendent of Schools as well as nine other agencies from across the County representing various aspects of the Child Development field, has been meetings to discuss how to move forward with preschool expansion planning Santa Cruz County. The group is researching potential funding sources to establish a P-16 Council (consisting of representatives from the Early Care and Education field, the K-12 field and the higher education field). More information to follow.
- The Needs Assessment was distributed in December. The Santa Cruz Sentinel published an article on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> based on the Needs Assessment, which was featured on their Internet Home Page.
- The AB212 staff retention and professional development program has awarded stipends to 87 participants who completed the three part training series. Checks were mailed out in December.

**IX. COMMITTEE ORAL REPORTS**

**a) AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS CONSORTIUM**

- This committee is putting together an on-line survey of after-school programs to ask questions about the type of services they provide as well as their needs for assistance and interest in participating in the Consortium.
- The Afterschool Safety and Education Services (ASES, aka Prop 49) Awards were recently announced and are posted to CDE's website. Several schools in our county received awards. You can view these site by clicking on a link from the CCPC's website home page.

**b) ECE CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Michele Mosher thanked Hiranya and the Planning Council for the assistance provided to the CAEYC Conference committee and for taking on the task of coordinating the Conference through the COE and the Council. The planning is proceeding well, with many suggestions being implemented this year to improve the conference. Businesses and organizations will be encouraged to contribute which will help to keep the cost to participants low.

**c) POLICY AND LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE/LEG. UPDATE**

- Naomi Brauner gave an update on the committee's work with the Santa Cruz City General Plan Advisory Committee. The Policy Committee has submitted recommendations on child care policies to the GPAC and next will participate in discussions on where to place these policies within the General Plan. The Policy Committee believes

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**POLICY COMMITTEE CONTINUED**

that child care policies should appear throughout the plan and not just be stuck in one element alone.

- The Policy Committee continues to pursue the opportunity to work with the Scotts Valley City Council to bring their Family Child Care ordinances into compliance with state law.
- The Policy Committee has been reviewing draft regulations regarding Planning Council operations in which the State has designated a uniform method for setting priority zip codes for new CDE funding. The Policy Committee plans to review the regulations and give input to the State on best practices for assessing need for new child development funds.
- Jim Hopper gave a quick update of pertinent bills that are now going into effect that will affect Community Care Licensing and child care providers. He also described recent efforts and controversy around the proposed Quality Rating Scale system for rating child care programs.

**d) SUBSIDIZED PROGRAMS CONSORTIUM**

The Consortium has decided to begin meeting every other month and so will meet next in February. The RFA for Preschool Expansion (AB172) funding has been released and applications are due on January 19<sup>th</sup>. PVUSD and Head Start will both be submitting applications. Kathy Lathrop of PVUSD described her efforts and optimism about the application process, the type of support this funding will provide and the dire need in the Pajaro Valley community for this educational support for students. Jody Pemberton of Head Start described Head Start's plan bring in new State Preschool Funds which would then allow them to expand Early Start, a program for infants and toddlers. Both program representatives expressed interest in collaborating with one another in the implementation phase of this program.

**e) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Workforce Development committee is working on the final draft of the Professional Development Planning Tool Kit. Janis Keyser will be using the instrument as a pilot with the ELF initiative Coaches and SEEDS course participants. CDRC and the Workforce Development Committee have invited Marcy Whitebook to provide a community workshop on Professional Development pathways for Early Childhood Educators. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 at the COE.

**X. SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Consultant Marcia Meyer and Ellen Murtha of ChildCare Ventures presented on current efforts to develop and expand Economies of Scale projects both locally and statewide. Community Ventures is working to establish a Business Alliance to work together to offset some of the costs of providing the service of child care and to find strength in numbers. Potential benefits of membership include: bulk purchasing of organic produce, workshops, help with collection of delinquent parent fees and insurance.

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**SPECIAL PRESENTATION CONTINUED**

Marcia Meyer described her participation in an exciting project to design a Trade Organization for Child Care providers. For more information, visit the [resources page](#) of the Child Care Planning Council's webiste.

**XI. CHILDREN'S NETWORK REPORT**

Hiranya Brewer reported on the most recent meeting of the Children's Network. Michael Watkins attended this meeting and expressed his support for preschool programs. Elizabeth Schilling, co-director of the Live Oak Family Resource Center presented on her agencies recent efforts and projects as well as the community's needs and their plans to build a new Family Resource Center. The Children's Network's 2006-07 Annual Report can be accessed from the Planning Council website [homepage](#) under "Recently Published Child Care Reports".

**XII. PATH TO INCLUSION COLLABORATIVE**

- Chair Linda Kishlansky reported on the recent efforts of the Path to Inclusion Collaborative. The Collaborative will plan a community gathering to help people become informed about the activities of the Collaborative and available resources. Dr. Salem Magarian may give a presentation on the importance of the Medical Home and how important assessment and diagnosis is for the healthy development of children. More information to follow.
- Diane Oyler reported on SB640 funded activities. Linda Brault will visit Santa Cruz COE for a 2 day training event on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Call CDRC for more information and to register: 479-5282.

**XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Hiranya shared Children Now's recently published Report Card on Education, which she will post to the CCPC web site. Many current reports on child development issues can be viewed on the CCPC websites' homepage.
- Growing Up in Santa Cruz is focusing on child care and preschool this month and will list providers in their directory for free if they place an ad.
- Miche Mosher announced an upcoming training on licensing updates offered by Esther Alcalá, from Community Care Licensing. For more information and to register call CDRC at 479-5282.
- Linda Kishlansky announced two upcoming workshops: one being offered by SPIN on the IEP process (call SPIN at 423-7713 for more information and to register) and one being offered by North County SELPA on Addressing Challenging Behavior at Home (call 479-5203) for more information and to register.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, February 8, 2:30-4:30 @ The County Office of Education Board Room**