



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

Preschool Planning Steering Committee Meeting

November 18, 2008

9:30 – 10:30 am

SCCOE 400 Encinal St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Members:

Members Present: Bonnie Farrar-Dunbar, (Retired Teacher), (Cabrillo College), Ellen Murtha, (CCPC Chair/ChildCare Ventures), Carole Mulford, (SCCOE/CDP Program Manager), Diane Oyler, (Child Care Planning Council Coordinator), Susan True, (Executive Director, First 5 Santa Cruz County)

Guest: Larry Drury, (Go Kid's Inc.)

Absent Members: Angela Irvine, (Ceres Policy Research), Jean Gallagher-Heil, Michael Watkins, (SCCOE Superintendent of Schools).

Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Carole welcomed all to the meeting.
- II. **Update on Workgroups/Transparent Communication**
 - Carole discussed that this preschool planning process is going to be a sprint and communication has improved.
 - We have improved communication by conducting monthly Chair Meetings, and including an update report from Chairs between 4:00 - 4:30 pm at CCPC meeting.
 - CCPC web site is promptly updated by Diane and includes minutes and agendas from each work group
 - It was recommended we add new resources and upcoming professional development opportunities to the CCPC website.
- III. **Family Survey Discussion:**
 - Carole reported successes in coordinating with elementary schools to conduct surveys.
 - Angela offered an incentive to kindergarten teachers who returned the surveys. This resulted in a positive response rate.
 - Angela reported half of the quota of surveys had been returned as of today.
 - Angela is focusing on schools PVUSD North Zone and schools in North County.
 - Angela shared that every district was represented and we received a diverse representation of the population in our county.
 - Early Educator Survey – Finance and Facilities; Families and Diverse Delivery Systems; and Articulation Committees developed and edited questions that will be included in this survey. The survey

will be sent to child care centers in the coming weeks. CDRC will assist in surveying family child care providers in December/January.

- Susan suggested using Marci Whitebook survey as a reference in creating the Early Educator Survey.
- Angela commented that the Whitebook survey was too long (300 questions). We will use it as a guide.
- Angela shared that our survey will take 15 – 20 minutes to complete. We can use phone, mail or survey monkey.
- Angela noted the education and salary questions will be the most time consuming to answer, especially for large centers.
- Ellen suggested sending the survey to the Steering Committee. They could assist by sharing the importance of the survey to child care community members.
- Susan suggested the survey follow the teacher qualifications based on the CA Child Development Permit.
- The survey is scheduled to be sent out before Thanksgiving or the first week of December.
- Angela will provide the Council with clear directions for review/input and how to provide comments for the Chairs.
- Diane suggested that this survey be conducted every two years to develop longitudinal workforce information for our county.

IV. Review Timelines

- Carole noted that we were on schedule for meeting our Packard Grant timelines.
- Carole shared her conversation with other county superintendents who were farther along with preschool planning. She discussed asking Packard about extending the timeline. Other counties felt it was appropriate and would be a reasonable request if necessary.
- Susan suggested that we consider if the end result would be better? If not, we shouldn't ask for extending the timeline. If more time would result in a better end product, then we would consider an extension.
- Angela will be presenting the results of the family survey to the Council at the December meeting.

V. Next Steps

- Next month Angela will share family survey information.
- Identify other avenues for community involvement in the preschool planning process.

VI. Items for Next meeting agenda

- Preschool Collabrium and Pre[K]Now National broadcast.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 17, 2008, 9:30 – 10:30 am @ SCCOE
400 Encinal St. Santa Cruz, CA 95060.
