



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

December 17, 2008

9:30 – 10:30 am

SCCOE 400 Encinal St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Members:

Members Present: Bonnie Farrar-Dunbar (Retired Teacher); Jean Gallager-Heil (Cabrillo College); Angela Irvine (Ceres Policy Research); 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); Michael Watkins (Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools)

Guest: Jim Hopper (Community Care Licensing); Michele Mosher (Mentor Teacher and Director Program)

Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Carole welcomed all to the meeting.
 - At a recent state meeting Roberta Peck, First 5 CA, mentioned that Michael was recognized as a staunch supporter of preschool for all children.
 - Michael shared there is momentum to move preschool forward at the state level.
 - It was shared that SCCOE/CDP hosted the Pre [K] Now board cast last week. The broad cast focus was on the national preschool movement.
 - SCCOE will host the Preschool Collabrium PFA training on January 22, 2009 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
 - Michael mentioned the newly selected federal Secretary of Ed. understands the importance of preschool and the role it plays in children's school success.
 - Michael asked committee members for their impressions of the preschool planning progress?
 - a) Ellen M. shared, the process had turned a corner and is cohesively moving forward.
 - b) Jean Gallagar-Heil shared the workforce committee worked well together as they focused on crafting the provider survey.
 - c) Larry Drury shared there are more people attending and participating on work groups They seem pleased with the process.
 - d) Angela is happy with the progress and accomplishments.
 - e) Bonnie stated, she is very impressed with the commitment and dedication of all the participants.
 - f) Committee members agreed to invite school principles to the next February 12th Advisory meeting. It was suggested that Carole contact Teresa Rouse, who meets with area school Principles once a month.

- g) Michael asked if there had been any thoughts on next steps. Does Packard Foundation have additional dollars for implementation or next steps?

II. Update on Work Groups/Transparent Communication

- Chairs will report out to the large group at the January meeting
- Conducting Monthly chair meetings has improved transparency.
- Jean requested a copy of data, PowerPoint presentation, presented by Angela at the January meeting.
- Diane asked for consensus on the definition of preschool?
- Jean suggested the committee develop a preschool definition.
- The committee suggested how data will be used to derive conclusions from family and provider surveys.
- Jean suggested nine identifiers on testing as a way to look at success rates. There were concerns about social indicators of success rate.

III. Family Survey Discussion

- Ceres Policy Research received 700 responses from parents, and are waiting for 300 more surveys.
- Ceres is on track and will have all data analyzed by February.
- Angela reviewed the data methodology for survey returns.

IV. Review Early Educator Survey

- Final survey details have been worked out with CDRC staff
- All surveys will be translated into Spanish.
- Center surveys are already being conducted.
- Initial calls will be made by Ceres staff to assist centers taking the survey
- Projected completion date will be by the end of January for centers.

V. Review Outreach Strategies for February Preschool Advisory meeting

- It was agreed to schedule an additional meeting to plan Advisory meeting.
- It was suggested to invite newly elected officials
- Jean suggested that when sending the Advisory Council invitation include the Steering Community member names.
- The committee asked Michael to invite all Principals and District Superintendents to the Advisory Council meeting.

VI. Develop Preschool Advisory Council Input Process

- Advisory Council meeting will include an input activity
- It was suggested to ask Advisory members to identify resources they can contribute to the plan such as, additional data,
- Jean suggested the workgroups share the goals, ask for assistance on prioritizing the completed work and give input.

VII. Meeting Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 9:30 – 10:30 am @ SCCOE 400 Encinal St. Santa Cruz, CA 95060
