

ELC Executive Committee Meeting

June 2, 2014

1:00pm-3:00pm

ISBE Video Conference Rooms:

Chicago: JRTC, 100 W. Randolph, 14th Floor

Springfield: North 1st Street, Springfield, IL, 62777

Conference Line: 888-494-4032 Access Code: 7198518485

Minutes

Participants

Chicago: Reyna Hernandez, George Davis, Phyllis Glink, Karen Berman, Maria Whelan, Harriet Meyer, Theresa Hawley, Julie Smith, Diana Rauner, Janet Maruna, Teri Talan, Elliot Regenstein, Michelle Saddler, Dan Harris, Beth Mascitti-Miller, Teresa Kelly,

Springfield: Cindy Zumwalt, Linda Saterfield

Phone: Gaylord Gieseke, Kathy Villano, Jeanna Capito, Kay Willmoth

I. Welcome and Introductions

a. Welcome

Co-Chair Harriet Meyer thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and welcomed everyone. She noted specially that the group had representatives from Cicero Innovation Zone, who would be presenting and discussing near the beginning of the meeting (unlike what the agenda had originally said). Meyer began with introductions and attendance.

b. Minutes

Teri Talan moved that minutes from the previous meeting of the ELC Executive Committee be approved. Maria Whelan seconded. Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

II. Innovation Zone Presentation and Discussion

a. Overview

Co-chair Meyer reminded the group that they would be asking an Innovation Zone to come to each meeting and discuss their experience, after which a conversation would be had regarding the discussion. On this particular meeting, Cicero was welcomed to present their information. Meyer reminded the group that Cicero's logic model was

included in their packet, and introduced Leah and Tom from Cicero, who provided an overview of their zone and the procedures they had taken.

III. General Assembly Action

a. State Budget

Deputy Chief of Staff Julie Smith provided an overview of the session that had just ended and the way in which this session would affect the coming year. Smith commented that this was an extremely bizarre and challenging session, and that the budget that passed would be challenging for many education programs. She noted that there were still many unknowns, but we do know that the Early Childhood Block Grant was held flat, as well as the rest of K-12 education. Smith noted that the effect of uncertainty of timely payments on school districts was unknown; she noted that while many of the programs at DHS were held flat, child care was facing a cut that could be as high as \$130 million in FY15. Smith noted that Early Intervention did not receive the increase needed to keep pace with the supplemental appropriation they received this year, and that we are facing an incredibly challenging time. Smith noted that the Governor's office would continue to push the General Assembly to pass more revenue.

b. Discussion

Michelle Saddler, Secretary of DHS, noted that DHS is still looking at cuts through internal discussion. She noted that some difficult decisions had to be made, but that they would look at the budget in detail and that they would give information as it became available. Smith noted that the most significant challenge would be in corrections, and that this was certainly not the end of this issue.

IV. Data Legislation

Smith explained that in addition to the hurdles set up through the state budget, there were some issues or hurdles in regards to our education data systems. There were bills introduced that would have made having a state longitudinal data system difficult if not impossible, which has a major impact on the early childhood data system work. The bill in the Senate was sponsored by Sen. Delgado, and got out of the senate; Smith noted that the plan would be to work on those issues throughout the summer. Dan Harris noted that one form would have pulled the plug completely on Longitudinal Data Systems. Elliot Regenstein noted that there are several national models that are successful. ISBE and Higher Education leadership are having a discussion with Delgado, which will be part of a working group. Smith explained that the issues center around security and privacy concerns. Reyna Hernandez noted that there was a lot of confusion nationally and from ISLE. Theresa Hawley noted that the council was moving to keep going forward with investments.

V. Federal Initiative Update

a. Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships

Co-Chair Meyer noted that despite the doom and gloom at the state level, there was good news on the federal front. Meyer explained that the state has been given a long time to think about a strategy for the Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships, as the application was not released yet. Meyer noted that Karen Yarbrough is on board with the help of philanthropic partners. She was organizing a TA statewide, which would be deployed once the FOA were to be released.

b. Preschool Expansion Grants

Meyer also noted that an executive summary had been received on the Preschool Expansion Grant, a competitive grant opportunity under which Illinois would be eligible to win up to \$20 million per year for up to four years for four year old PreK for children below 200% of the FPL. Smith and Hawley had set up an Ad Hoc group to think through the process of the grant, which would have a quick turnaround time. Hawley walked the group through a general idea of what had been discussed so far. She noted that there were very good models coming for this, which would be a good start for even Birth-3 continuum. Karen Berman inquired about how to add in quality support through mental health and inclusion, which could easily be included. Hawley noted that we should look in clusters. Regenstein talked about the importance of including community partners, which would be named with a MOU. Hawley noted that partners would be nailed down in Early July. It would not be a whole lot of money but a pilot about expansion.

VI. ExceleRate Family Child Care Standards

Deputy Chief of Staff Smith noted that the OECD has been working hard to create a robust set of ExceleRate standards for Family Child Care Providers. She noted that Kate, Gail, and Theresa have held multiple meetings with stakeholders, including Saturday meetings, to get input on the standards. Smith noted that those standards, which Kate then walked through, would be posted in July for providers.

VII. Regular Business

a. Data, Research, and Evaluation Committee: Research Agenda Proposal

This proposal was discussed, which would be taken to priority and signed off on very soon. Once signed off upon, this would be used as a research point. The action item in discussion, according to Smith, was a research agenda which needed to be approved by Executive and Full Council. No questions were discussed, so Smith moved to approve the agenda which was approved unanimously.

b. OECD Update

Co-chair Hawley provided an update on the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development. The office released three requests for proposals over the last few months and were currently reviewing applications for supports for Awards of Excellence, Preschool Instructional Excellence, and QRIS Validation and Outcomes Study. Hawley hoped to have those ready to go in early Fall, and the ExceleRate website would include program information on July 1st. This was moving forward, but needed a lot of work to meet the performance targets this year.

VIII. Adjournment

Harriet Meyer thanked all for participating and reminded everyone of the upcoming ELC meeting at Roosevelt University on June 23rd. She also noted that the KIDS committee would be meeting in this room following adjournment.