



Advisory Committee  
May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

Meeting Minutes

**WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING**

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Brian Durham and Ginger Ostro started the meeting by welcoming everyone on behalf of the co-chairs and advised that the meeting is being recorded and materials will be available on the Consortium website ([www.ecace.org](http://www.ecace.org)) pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

Ginger Ostro proposed to adopt rules that allow the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee to continue to meet virtually. Ashley Harms made a motion to approve, and Kate Conner seconded. A unanimous vote from those present followed. A second motion to adopt rules around public comment was proposed. Alicia Geddis made a motion to approve, and Joi Patterson seconded. A unanimous yes vote from those present followed.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE MOTION 1**

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The **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** adopts procedural rules in compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/7) to allow members of the **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** to meet by other means than in-person meetings.

It shall be the policy of the **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** that members of this Body are allowed to meet virtually and/or telephonically, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/7(d)(D)(ii). **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** is an advisory body that does not have the authority to make binding recommendations or determinations or to take any other substantive action.

It shall be the procedure of **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** to continue to abide by the notice, posting, recording, and all other provisions of the Open Meetings Act for members of the public and other stakeholders to fully participate in the proceedings of **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee**.

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Brian Durham, Yes              | 21. Kimberly Mann, Absent        |
| 2. Jason Helfer, Yes              | 22. Leslie Mckinily, Yes         |
| 3. Jamilah Jor'dan, Yes           | 23. Lauri Morrison-Frichtl, Abs. |
| 4. Michelle Wood, Yes             | 24. Stephanie Neuman, Yes        |
| 5. Cristina Pacione-Zayas, Absent | 25. Susan Orozco, Yes            |
| 6. Dale Fowler, Absent            | 26. Evelyn Osorio, Yes           |
| 7. Maurice A. West, II, Absent    | 27. Meridith Palmer, Yes         |
| 8. Michael Marron, Absent         | 28. Joi Patterson, Yes           |
| 9. Jill Andrews, Yes              | 29. Avis Proctor, Absent         |
| 10. Carolyn Beal, Yes             | 30. Jim Reed, Yes                |
| 11. Jennifer Buchter, Yes         | 31. Martina Rocha, Abs./Vote     |

## APPROVED 3.14.24

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| 12. Kate Connor, Yes                              | 32. Stephanie Schmit-Bechteler, Absent |
| 13. Lisa Downey, Yes                              | 33. Joni Scritchlow, Yes               |
| 14. Laurie Elish-Piper, Absent at time of vote    | 34. Mike Shackelford, Absent           |
| 15. Emnet Gebrehiwet Ward, Absent at time of vote | 35. Tom Phillion, Absent               |
| 16. Alicia Geddis, Yes                            | 36. Ken Trzaska, Absent                |
| 17. Francis Godwyll, Yes                          | 37. Rebecca Vonderlack-Navarro, Yes    |
| 18. Rochelle Golliday, Absent                     | 38. Gina Ostro, Yes                    |
| 19. Ashley Harms, Yes                             |  |
| 20. Michael Kim, Absent                           |  |

## REVIEW AND APPROVE MOTION 2

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This motion is to adopt a rule for public comment before the **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee**

Members of the public are offered the opportunity to address the **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** virtually at each properly noticed public meeting pursuant to the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120). The public's ability to comment at public meetings is only constrained by procedural rules put in place by each subject public body.

As such, the **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** requires that members of the public request an opportunity to provide public comment at a time and manner specified at the beginning of each meeting. Public comment may be made virtually and/or telephonically. The Chair or designee will recognize public commenters in the order in which they registered their interest in providing comment. While the **Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Advisory Committee** welcomes public comment, the Chair is permitted to limit the time comment may be made by an individual to no less than three minutes to permit as many comments as possible while also maintaining decorum of each public meeting.

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|---|---|
| 1. Brian Durham, Yes                              | 21. Kimberly Mann, Absent               |
| 2. Jason Helfer, Yes                              | 22. Leslie Mckinily, Yes                |
| 3. Jamilah Jor'dan, Yes                           | 23. Lauri Morrison-Frichtl, Absent      |
| 4. Michelle Wood, Yes                             | 24. Stephanie Neuman, Yes               |
| 5. Cristina Pacione-Zayas, Absent                 | 25. Susan Orozco, Yes                   |
| 6. Dale Fowler, Absent                            | 26. Evelyn Osorio, Yes                  |
| 7. Maurice A. West, II, Absent                    | 27. Meredith Palmer, Yes                |
| 8. Michael Marron, Absent                         | 28. Joi Patterson, Yes                  |
| 9. Jill Andrews, Yes                              | 29. Avis Proctor, Absent                |
| 10. Carolyn Beal, Yes                             | 30. Jim Reed, Yes                       |
| 11. Jennifer Buchter, Yes                         | 31. Martina Rocha, Absent for vote      |
| 12. Kate Connor, Yes                              | 32. Stephanie Schmitz-Bechteler, Absent |
| 13. Lisa Downey, Yes                              | 33. Joni Scritchlow, Yes                |
| 14. Laurie Elish-Piper, Absent at time of vote    | 34. Mike Shackelford, Absent            |
| 15. Emnet Gebrehiwet Ward, Absent at time of vote | 35. Tom Phillion, Absent                |
| 16. Alicia Geddis, Yes                            | 36. Ken Trzaska, Absent                 |
| 17. Francis Godwyll, Yes                          | 37. Rebecca Vonderlack-Navarro, Yes     |
| 18. Rochelle Golliday, Absent                     | 38. Gina Ostro, Yes                     |

## APPROVED 3.14.24

19. Ashley Harms, Yes
20. Michael Kim, Absent

Ginger Ostro explained the public comment process and reviewed the Ground Rules and Guiding Principles established by the committee. Brian Durham calls for approval to accept the February meeting minutes. Joy Patterson made a motion to approve the minutes and Joni Scritchlow seconded. the motion. A unanimous yes vote from those present followed. Durham reviewed the remaining portion of the agenda.

### WORKFORCE PRESENTATION

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Carisa Hurley-Davis introduces members from Danville School District. Dr. Alicia Geddis, Chris Rice, and Kelly Truex share how consortium efforts have been impactful in a school setting. Highlights included Danville SD 118 grow your own program, partnerships established with the local community college, grant funds to support their various programs (MIECHV/Prevention Initiative), Preschool for All, and Pre-School for All Expansion Programs. Members shared the success and challenges they are encountering as they continue to try to expand their programs.

### REPORTING

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Christi Chadwick shares Afton’s findings needs assessment results and recommendations gathered from focus groups, surveys, and 1:1 interviews across the 61 institutions to better understand their experiences with ECACE. Chadwick shares the major themes that emerged from the needs assessment: institutions appreciate the collaboration ECACE has created, they still need support on assorted topics from ICCB and IBHE, and state agencies have provided much support, though some institutions are experiences challenged with fully benefitting from ECACE. Institutions have been able to make meaningful changes but have experienced implementation challenges. Institutions are requesting a variety of technical assistance support from ICCB and IBHE on topics such as but not limited to reporting, funding and grant information, and scholarships.

Jamila Jor’dan shares information on the Consortium reporting as required by legislation. Marcus Brown shares the parameters of the report including enrollment, retention, and persistence. The first report will detail the work from July 2021 – December 2022 including outreach events and participation, outreach, and technical assistance: navigators, academic and holistic supports, and programmatic changes in access and modality.

Nathan Wilson provides an update on data connectivity as it relates to data reporting and status sharing that data back to stakeholders. Through all the agency’s data collection systems, the report will provide ECE enrollment numbers for fall and spring semesters, retention rates, persistence in relevant: associate, baccalaureate, and credential programs, demographic information: race, ethnicity, and federal Pell Grant status disaggregation, completion numbers and rates, employer type, and years worked. Wilson shares the data with advisory members.

Jamila Jor’dan facilitates a question-and-answer session with members of the advisory committee to provide feedback on the reporting.

1. As you hear the reporting framework, what are some of your initial reactions to the data that is being collected and reported? What sticks out to you?

Kate Conner expresses interest in the disaggregated data presented here regarding the state's workforce data. Are we serving the incumbent workforce in a mirrored way to those working in the field?

Ashley Harms applauds the work, bringing attention to the early childhood field by re-sparking student interest and engagement.

Emnet Ward is curious about those who are finishing school, is there data to show where they are being employed?

2. (In the Chat) What things did you hear that you think will be valuable to us continuing to report?

Ashley Harms: all the information was useful and beneficial.

Laurie Elish-Piper: How do we plan to track graduate wages and retention in the field?

Avis Proctor: disaggregated enrollment, retention, persistence, and post-completion success data.

3. Are there other things that you would be curious to hear back about, even if they are not included in the formal report? Is there information that you feel is missing?

Emnet Ward: How many people are transferring from other professions into the early childhood field?

4. What other questions or thoughts do you have about reporting?

Jill Andrews, how are we tracking that early childhood centers are engaging in this work?

## EXPANSION OF SCHOLARSHIP AND IMPLICATIONS

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Marcus Brown shares information about the expansion of scholarships. Scholarships will now be open to freshman and sophomores at a 4-year institution, post-baccalaureate work, Professional Educator License (PEL), additional endorsements or letters of approval, master's degree for those seeking Early Childhood licensure, 2 courses for 'teacher qualified' in a licensed center AA student pursuing early childhood at a 2-year institution.

Christi Chadwick shares information on a recently released request for proposal (RFP) that was posted for four-year institutions to expand the pipelines to increase the number of diverse early childhood faculty in Illinois. The following four-year institutions were awarded grant funds: the University of Illinois Chicago, Illinois State University, National Lewis University, and Lewis University.

## STATE PRESENTATIONS

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Marcus Brown shares how state agencies are working to lift up the work of the consortium by creating and sharing presentations across the state.

## REVIEW AND APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

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1. Alicia Geddis, Yes

2. Ashley Harms, Yes

3. Avis Proctor, Absent

4. Brian Durham, Yes

5. Carmen Ayala,
6. Carolyn Beal, Yes
7. Cristina Pacione-Zayas, Absent
8. Dale Fowler, Absent
9. Emnet Ward, Yes
10. Evelyn Osorio, Yes
11. Francis Godwyll, Yes
12. Ginger Ostro, Yes
13. Jamilah Jor'dan, Yes
14. Jennifer Buchter, Yes
15. Jill Andrews, Yes
16. Jim Reed, No response
17. Joi Patterson, Yes
18. Joni Scritchlow, Yes
19. Karen Yarbrough,
20. Kate Connor, Yes
21. Ken Trzaska, Absent
22. Kimberly Mann, Yes
23. Lauri Morrison-Frichtl, Absent
24. Laurie Elish-Piper, Absent
25. Leslie Mckinily, Yes
26. Lisa Downey, Yes
27. Martina Rocha, Yes
28. Maurice West II, Absent
29. Meredith Palmer, Yes
30. Michael Kim, Yes
31. Michael Marron, Absent
32. Mike Shackelford, Absent
33. Rebecca Vonderlack-Navarro, Yes
34. Rochelle Golliday, Yes
35. Stephanie Neuman, No response
36. Stephanie Schmitz-Bechteler, Absent
37. Susan Orozco, Yes

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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There was no public comment.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

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Ginger Ostro and Brian Durham close the meeting and share the next meeting date is August 22 1-3.