

Consent Agenda Items

*A motion to adopt the Consent Agenda serves as acknowledgement of receipt of the
Committee Reports*

- Committee Reports
 - Child Care and Education Committee
 - Equity Implementation Committee

Early Learning Council Child Care and Education Committee Report: February 25, 2016

Committee Charge: The Child Care and Education Committee (CCEC) is chartered to advise the Early Learning Council (ELC) on the issues, challenges, successes and priorities related to affordable, quality child care and early education programs in Oregon, to provide outreach and act as a liaison between citizens and the ELC through community forums and surveys to engage parents, early care and education providers and union representatives and to prioritize outcome based policies for child care and early education issues related to quality, affordability and system coordination.

Report:

The CCEC serves as the Early Learning Council's rule advisory committee for all rules related to early learning and development programs in Oregon under its authority. The CCEC has developed two workgroups to overview rules that govern programs funded by the Early Learning Division: Child Care workgroup with the current focus on rules for regulated subsidy providers; and the Preschool Promise workgroup with a current focus on rules for the Preschool Promise program. The Preschool Promise workgroup met in February to further recommendations related to waivers. The Child Care workgroup met in February to begin their work for recommendations related to regulated subsidy providers.

Key Issues Discussed & Uncovered:

Preschool Promise Workgroup: HB 3380 allows for Preschool Promise providers to receive a waiver(s) for some of the requirements outlined in the bill. The bill states that a waiver may be granted if a program is "maintaining progress toward quality; is anticipated for the first years of the preschool program only; and is granted for only one year at a time." To establish a foundation for what conditions or expectations should be in place for each of the standards, the Committee may consider the following policy questions:

- What must a provider demonstrate 'upfront' to qualify for a waiver?
- What is the "threshold" for a provider to be granted a waiver?
- Under what circumstances would a waiver be provided?

The workgroup reviewed several policy areas that and will complete their recommendations at their March meeting.



Child Care Workgroup: Since the Early Learning council will be adopting administrative rules for regulated subsidy providers, in the domains of Health and Safety, Child to Provider Ratios, and Compliance, the workgroup began by considering the following policy questions:

- What is necessary within the domains of Health and Safety, Child to staff Ratios, and Compliance to achieve the desired outcomes and principles?
- Are the existing administrative rules for other child care settings, in those domains achieving the outcomes and meeting the principles?
- What changes are necessary?

The workgroup will review the federal requirements relevant to regulated subsidy providers and will compare key policy issues with other licensed child care rules. This review will guide recommendations developed for the regulated subsidy provider, and may inform recommendations for the other types of licensed child care rules. Additionally, given that DHS has rule making authority for several categories of the regulated subsidy provider, the Program Manager Child Care/Refugee, Office of Self Sufficiency Programs of DHS has joined the workgroup and staff are working closely to align recommendations. The workgroup has prioritized getting feedback from both parents and providers who will be impacted by the rules and spent time at the February meeting strategizing how to reach them.

Upcoming Key Decisions:

The Preschool Promise workgroup will finalize recommendations for the ELC at their March meeting. The Child Care workgroup will meet in person in March to begin developing recommendations for the regulated subsidy provider. The Child Care workgroup will also design an input strategy process at their March meeting to ensure parents and providers are engaged to offer meaningful input.

Staffed by: Kim Parker, Director of Business Operations and Heidi McGowan, Consultant.



Early Learning Council Equity Implementation Committee Report: February 25, 2016

Committee Charge:

The Equity Implementation Committee is chartered to educate the Early Learning Council (ELC) on the issues, challenges, successes and priorities related to implementing the [equity recommendations](#) adopted by the Council on March 18, 2015. They are chartered to create an evidence-based, data driven plan relating to aligning early learning policy and practice with the equity lens, with a focus on culturally responsive practice, operating systems and data/resource allocation. The committee will assist the ELC in understanding equity issues from a data standpoint to help the ELC:

1. Actualize this information in setting policy for the early learning system.
2. Celebrate diversity.

Committee Membership: Lennie Bjornsen; Nicole Briggs; Cade Burnette; Carmen Ellis; Sadie Feibel Holmes; Joyce Harris; Rashelle Hibbard; Richard Hines Norwood; Charles McGee; Erin Moore; Francisca Perez; Eva Rippeteau; Lynne Saxton

Report:

The Equity Implementation Committee met on Tuesday February 2nd in Portland. Though no quorum was present, the Committee discussed equity breakthrough plans, including identifying team leads and sharing the work Division-wide.

Key Issues Discussed & Uncovered:

- Review of the updated ELC Strategic Plan
- Clarification around how the equity work plays out in the field
- Translation changes within the Early Learning Division

Upcoming Key Decisions:

Identifying new people to serve on the Committee

Staffed by:

Lillian Green, Equity Director, ELC

Karol Collymore, Public Affairs Director, ELD

