

## Early Learning Council

October 29 - 30, 2019

3:00pm-4:00pm

Chemeketa Center for Business and Industry  
626 High Street NE, Room #115  
Salem, OR 97301

### Meeting Minutes

SUE MILLER  
*Early Learning Council  
Chair*

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019**

PATRICK ALLEN

#### **Welcome & Introduction**

1:00 – 1:30 PM

ANGELA BLACKWELL

**1:02pm:** Sue Miller opened the meeting and welcomed council members. Present: Angie Blackwell, Katy Brooks, Peter Buckley, Anne Kubisch, George Mendoza, Peg Miller, Eva Rippeteau, Sue Miller, Miriam Calderon, facilitators Carey McCann and Harriet Dichter. Discusses the ability of the ELC to make a change in Oregon combined with the legislative intent, as well as how the schedule for the rest of the day will work.

PETER BUCKLEY

KATY BROOKS

COLT GILL

ANNE KUBISCH

**1:06pm:** Members of ELC introduced themselves and answered the question “why were you interested in serving on the Early Learning Council?”

GEORGE MENDOZA

MARGARET MILLER

#### **Vision of Thriving Oregon Children and Families**

1:30 – 2:15 PM

EVA RIPPETEAU

**1:34pm:** Sue Miller introduced Berri Leslie, Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor’s Office who discussed the Governor’s priorities and the importance of the ELC to achieving those priorities.

MARGARET SALAZAR

KALI THORNE LADD

**1:53pm:** Early Learning System Director Miriam Calderon presented the “why” behind the *Raise Up Oregon* strategic plan. Ms. Calderon discussed the data that demonstrates the urgency of implementing *Raise Up Oregon*, provided an introduction to the early learning systems, and highlighted the commitment to equity that runs throughout the plan.

LIESL WENDT

MIRIAM CALDERON  
*Early Learning System  
Director*

#### **Raise Up Oregon Gallery Walk & Cross-Sector Partnerships**

2:15 – 3:15 PM

*Staff*  
Remy Watts,  
Council Administrator &  
Rules Coordinator

**2:15pm:** Council members broke up into groups of two to participate in a gallery walk through Raise Up Oregon priorities and agency work to support its implementation. Representatives from each of the agencies support ROU implementation were available at each station to introduce Council members to plan and answer questions. Agency representatives were:

Joan Blough, Community Systems Director, ELD; Steph Jarem, Policy Analyst, OHA; Cate Wilcox, Maternal and Child Health Manager, OHA; Kara Williams, Director of Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education, ODE; Bill Baney, Deputy Administrator, DHS – Self Sufficiency; Chelsea Bunch, Housing Integrator, OHCS; Gwen Bachtle, Director of Early Learning Programs, ELD.

**Break**

3:15 – 3:30 PM



## Agency Leadership Roundtable

3:30 – 4:45 PM

**3:32pm:** Sue Miller welcomed the agency directors to the meeting. Margaret Salazar, OHCS; Colt Gill, ODE; Pat Allen, OHA; Liesl Wendt, DHS. Council members and agency staff gave their reflection on the gallery walk and the opportunities that the *Raise Up Oregon* plan has created.

Each agency director was asked how the Early Learning Council could support the ROU priorities of their agency. Oregon Housing & Community Services Director Margaret Salazar began the agency director portion of the conversation discussing housing priorities in early childhood in Oregon, including the historic housing funding package that came out of the 2019 Legislative Session. Where Council support is needed: the Council can help tell stakeholders WHY early childhood populations should be priority for housing.

Department of Education Director Colt Gill discussed the early learning legislative package and the impact on early learning programming. He identified a number of areas where ODE and ELD will be collaborating to support ROU implementation.

DHS Deputy Director Liesl Wendt discussed DHS's focus and how it covers different populations. She discussed how important housing and addictions are to DHS work; and how family coaches can be connected to Early Learning Hubs. She also discussed hiring and retention of DHS staff, the need for culturally specific resources, and the work that DHS is doing to use data to determine what is and isn't working for families.

Colt Gill discusses the challenge of recognizing the diversity in Oregon because of the recent and drastic changes. The adult population vs. student vs. early learning population demographics are vastly different, especially compared within the past forty years.

OHA Director Pat Allen discussed OHA priorities: CCO 2.0 implementation; early childhood metrics of OHA; social determinants of health and upstream programming. Discusses the importance of equity to OHA and the disparities that exist throughout populations.

Miriam Calderon shared reflections on the conversation: leveraging Hubs and agencies' regional presences; engaging with other policy boards; and Council influence strategies.

## Reflect and Set-Up Day 2 of the Retreat

4:45 – 5:00 PM

The facilitators solicited feedback from council members on day 1 of the retreat. The meeting was adjourned.

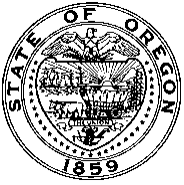
## Wednesday, October 30, 2019

### Welcome, Reflections from Day 1 & Role of the Early Learning Council

8:30 – 9:30 AM

**8:38am:** Present: Katy Brooks, Angie Blackwell, George Mendoza, Kali Thorne Ladd, Peter Buckley, Sue Miller, Miriam Calderon, David Mandell, Remy Watts, Eva Rippeteau (by phone).

The facilitators summarized reflections from Day 1 and discussed feedback from agency directors on Day 1. The facilitators identified the role of the Council as a consistent theme council members wanted to focus on for Day 2. Council members in their reflections also made it clear that they needed



more discussion of their role before they could discuss priorities for the upcoming year.

**9:23am:** Sue Miller gave an overview of HB 2262, the bill that reforms the ELC.

### Discussion of ELC Roles

9:30 – 12:15 PM

**9:32am:** Council members were divided into small groups to discuss roles and brought back for whole group discussion. The Council identified the following six roles for itself:

1. Champion the Oregon Early Learning System to the executive branch, legislature and communities to raise awareness and build public will
2. Develop expertise across Raise Up Oregon principles (cross-sector, equity, outcomes), strategies, and progress of implementation
3. Help identify and elevate policy successes as well as barriers and roadblocks to Raise Up Oregon implementation
4. Contribute to the discussion of what success looks like in two-five years
5. Learn about and coordinate with agency-specific policy or oversight councils
6. Adopt rules specific to the Early Learning Division administered programs

### Break at 11:00am for 15 minutes

**11:16am:** Alyssa Chatterjee, Policy Advisor to Governor Brown joins the group. Harriet reconvenes the group to begin discussing the second handout, which focuses on placing actions to the goals discussed in the last portion of the retreat. George, David and Angie are focusing on roles 3 and 4. Katy, Miriam, and Kali will focus on roles 1 and 2. Sue and Alyssa will focus on roles 5 and 6. What are the ideas or recommendations for the roles that are assigned?

**11:21am:** 30 minutes for small group discussion on roles.

**11:54am:** Group reconvenes to discuss outcomes of small group discussions.

### Lunch

12:15–12:40 PM

### Early Learning System Presentation

12:40 – 1:30 PM

**12:40pm:** Early Learning System Director Miriam Calderon gave an “Early Learning System – Sector Deep Dive”. Topics discussed include Early Learning Division programs and strategies, as well as *Raise Up Oregon*.

### Day 2 Analysis & Discussion

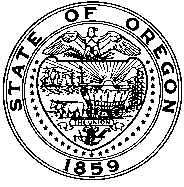
1:30 – 2:45 PM

**1:38pm:** Carey distributes analysis of Day 2 morning discussion of first-year goals of the ELC, including the actions developed. There are currently 21 activities that the Council must discuss in prioritization for the first year.

**1:45pm:** The group breaks up into small groups to discuss the priorities and roles of the next year vs. five years.

**2:21pm:** Group reconvenes to share small group reflections on priorities and roles.

2:45 – 3:00 PM



## Reflections & Closing of Retreat

3:00 – 3:10 PM

### Business Meeting

**3:04pm:** Sue Miller, Early Learning Council Chair, opens the meeting and administrator calls roll. Present: Angie Blackwell, Peter Buckley, Anne Kubisch, Kali Thorne Ladd (by phone), Miriam Calderon, Early Learning Systems Director, and Sue Miller, Chair. Excused: Katy Brooks, George Mendoza, Margaret Miller, Eva Rippeteau.

### Public Testimony

**3:08pm:** Sue Miller calls for public testimony. There are no members of the public present to testify.

### Closing of Meeting

**3:10pm:** Sue Miller, Chair, adjourns the meeting.