

# **KANSAS INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

## **MINUTES**

### **KANSAS ICC MEETING**

**February 26, 2010**

**Wichita Airport Hilton**

**Kansas Division of Early Childhood (KDEC) Conference**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Eva Horn, Chair & Public Member  
Carol Ayres, KS Dept. of Education  
Carolyn Nelson, KDHE  
Julie Broski, Parent Member  
Deb Voth, Provider Member  
Susan Carriger, Provider Member  
Tom Laing, Public Member  
Tom Kohmetscher, Provider Member  
Sharon Hixson, Public Member  
Nancy Krase, Head Start Rep.  
Dr. David Lindeman, Board of Regents

#### **NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Doug Bowman, Coordinator  
Kayzy Bigler, Families Together  
Tiffany Smith-Birk, KDHE  
Kalin Koehn, Head Start  
Michelle Storz, DSNWK Infant-Toddler  
Barbara Dayal, Turner USD 202  
Anna Nippert, Pott-Waubaussee I/T  
Crystal Elliott, TARC Topeka  
Stephanie White, SCKSEC  
Shannan Scholler, Families Together  
Dennis Provine, USD 234  
Damaris Kunkler, SEK-Cap, Iola  
Gayle Stuber, KSDE  
Carrie Hastings, SRS - HSSCO

#### **MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

Richard Martinez, Parent Member  
Dr. Pamela Shaw, Public Member  
Dr. Dale Walker, Public Member,  
Senator Laura Kelley  
Representative Barbara Craft  
Tiffany Krentz, Parent Member  
John Meetz, Ks. Insurance Dept.  
Jennifer Knorr, Governor's Staff

### MEMBERS ON PHONE

Scott Bears, KHPA – Medicaid  
Dr. Tish Taylor, Provider Member  
Michelle Ponce, SRS  
Misty Van Nostrand, Parent Member  
Jill Bamber, Parent Member  
Katherine Kersenbrock Ostmeyer,  
Provider

### NON-MEMBERS ON PHONE

Dr. Eva Horn, Chair to State ICC, called the meeting to order with a welcome and asked for introductions from those around the table and those present on the telephone.

### ADOPTION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The agenda had an action item added to it. The Council wished to consider the drafted policy statement on budget solutions. Dr. Lindeman moved for approval of the agenda as amended. Ms. Carriger seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Ms. Nelson moved approval of the January minutes s distributed. Mr. Laing seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

### PUBLIC FORUM

No one chose to speak.

### OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business at this time.

### LOCAL STORY

Lee (Paco) Price of Rainbows United gave us a report on how early intervention looked in South Central Kansas. Rainbows serves a local lead agencies for two tiny-k networks: Sedgwick and Butler counties. Butler served 185 children last year with 8 staff. Sedgwick served 943 children last year. He also updated us on the two Local ICCs.

### DEC Conference in Kansas City

Peggy Miksch gave a report on the upcoming national DEC conference being held in Kansas City October 14-17, 2010 at the Westin Crown Center. The event is being hosted jointly by the Kansas and Missouri chapters of DEC.

Dr. Horn emphasized that the national DEC conference was an opportunity to hear speakers with national and international perspectives. She encouraged participation.

#### Early Learning Block Grant Activities

Ms. Miksch provided information on the Kansas Early Learning Collaboration (KELC) activities that are funded by the Early Learning Block Grants. Significant efforts are underway to enhance training, ramp up screening activities, and create more opportunities to provide child care services to children with disabilities in our communities. Members of KELC include: KDEC, Ks Head Start Association, Parents as Teachers, Kansas Infant Mental Health, Kansas Children's Service League, and Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (KACCRRA).

Vera Stroup Rentier is doing much of the staff work on this initiative. They have a birth to age three emphasis. Some funds are flowing directly to each of the 37 tiny-k networks.

#### KSDE Report

Carol Ayres handed out a written report (Attached below). KSDE offered to once again share orientation activities for new members at their leadership conference here in Wichita next July. Carol will report extensively on the State Performance Plan (SPP) at the March ICC meeting.

#### SRS Report

Michelle Ponce was in attendance on the telephone conference call, but had no report to present. Dr. Horn welcomed her again to the Council.

### **KDHE Report**

Carolyn Nelson reported that due to the November allotment, contracts in the Part C program (Families Together, KITS, data system, etc.) will likely be cut by 7% next year. She further reported that the annual Part C grant was submitted, and the a more detailed SPP report will be given in March. The Sound Beginnings program has been able to offer some oto-acoustic .testing equipment to the local tiny-k networks.

#### Insurance Report

No report.

### KHPA Report

Scott Bears reported on the 10% Medicaid cuts that went into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. They have had an impact upon numerous providers. Scott was questioned about availability of providers in Kansas City and Durable Medical Equipment. He will get back to us with answers to our questions.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Public Awareness Committee

Plans continue for tiny-K Day on March 10, 2010. This committee will meet again on March 8, at 3pm.

### Improving Services Committee

Conversations centered around the recent survey of Part C networks. Although only about two-thirds of networks replied, we will not pursue this further for now. This committee plans to meet on March 11 at 9:30 am.

### Policy Committee

Tom Laing, Co-Chair provided a written report (Attached below). He also provided a draft "talking points" document for use on tiny-k Day. Send edits to staff ASAP. They are scheduled for the next meeting at 3:30 on March 18.

### Policy Recommendation on Budget Solutions

Staff had prepared and distributed a draft policy statement for consideration. Kathy K-O reported on a similar conversation between the Governor and school administrators at a recent meeting. There were some suggested edits discussed. (See below)

Tom Laing moved adoption of the policy statement as edited. The motion was seconded by Susan Carriger. Several members chose to abstain from the vote: Nelson, Ayres, Ponce, and Bears. All others voted AYE. Motion passed.

### MEETING ADJOURNED

The next meeting of the Kansas ICC will be on Friday, March 26 in Topeka.

# KANSAS BUDGET SOLUTIONS

The State of Kansas is currently facing a budget crisis of historic proportions.

The Council has watched with great concern as services to children and their families have been severely and negatively impacted by the recent rounds of budget cuts to state agencies and their local partners.

Accordingly, we strongly advise that any solution to our current budget shortcomings **MUST** include provisions for significant revenue enhancements **to fund programs for young children with disabilities and their families.**



## Report to the Kansas Coordinating Council on Developmental Services

February 2010

Parents as Teachers (Submitted by Janet Newton)

*This letter was sent in January to Parents as Teacher Coordinators in response to the budget:*

You have probably seen some of the e-mails from Advocacy groups that include information about Parents As Teachers as it appears in the Governor's Budget. Currently, if the legislature passes increased taxes to increase revenue, PAT is in the Governor's budget as level funded. However, if the legislature does not increase revenue, then indeed, PAT is one of the programs the Governor included in the list for elimination. The budget process is a very long one and not likely to be complete before May.

Diane DeBacker, Interim Commissioner of the Department of Education reiterated the Department's continued support of Parents As Teachers. In fact, the Board of Education had recommended an increase of \$460,000 for the program in 2010-11. In addition, the P-20 Council recommended expanding PAT to all families with

children Prenatal to Age 3 as well as families with children 3 to 5 years of age over a 5 year period.

The strength of the Parents As Teachers program and the work you do in partnership with families with young children is recognized and supported by many other organizations and agencies including Kansas Action for Children and the Coalition for School Readiness. Sharing the results of the great work done by your local program with your school board, superintendent, community partners, public officials, business and public at large will provide opportunities to you to ensure that others understand Parents As Teachers and your program's accomplishments. We are 20 years strong in Kansas! KSDE is committed to the Parents As Teachers program and will support it's continuance in Kansas. We will update you as the budget progresses.

- The PAT RFP for 2010-11 Continuation Grants will be available to existing PAT programs not later than mid-March and due April 30 to KSDE.

#### Kansas Preschool Program: Four Year Old At-Risk Program

(Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

The RFP for the Four Year Old At-Risk program has been put up on the Early Learning Services Unit webpage on [www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org) School districts may apply to continue their programs with the same number of children. There is no new funding at this time for new programs or for more 'slots' in current programs.

Applications are due March 9 and will be sent to the State Board for approval at their April meeting. Letters will be sent out to districts immediately upon Board approval. For the 2009-2010 year, 7,943 children were approved for participation in the program.

#### Kansas Preschool Program: Pre-K Pilot Program

(Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

The RFP for Pre-K Pilot Program has been put up on the Early Learning Services Unit webpage on [www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org) Current participating sites may apply to continue their programs for the 2010-2011 year beginning July 1, 2010. There is no new funding at this time for expansion. Applications are due March 9 and will be sent to the State Board for approval at their April meeting. Letters will be sent out immediately upon Board approval. For the 2009-2010 year, \$5 million was approved by the Children's Cabinet. At this point in time, the same amount is available for 2010-2011. The final amount will be dependent upon legislative funding.

#### School Readiness Project

(Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

Results from the fall 2009 data collection are being statistically examined and results will be available later this spring. Kindergarten teachers completed KELI

(Kansas Early Learning Inventory) forms on children who participated in the Four Year Old At-Risk Program and the Pre-K Pilot program in 2008-2009. Kindergarten teachers were given the opportunity to get college credit for their participation in the study. They will also complete an online survey about classroom practices.

The Kindergartners from 2006-07 will be followed into 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and the results of their third grade state assessments in reading and math will be examined. Results will be available in the fall of 2010.

Early Childhood Block Grant: Demonstration Early Learning Community  
(Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

A presentation by all three communities (Liberal, Rossville, and Coffeyville) was delivered in mid-December. Several communities have expressed an interest in participating starting this summer. Data on child results are being examined and classroom practices information is being collected this spring. Children who have identified special education needs are participants in integrated and inclusive classrooms as part of this model for the Kansas Preschool Program.

Section 619

(Submitted by Carol Ayres)

- Discussion of the submitted APR for Indicator B-7 Early Childhood Outcomes and B-12 Transition Part C to Part B.
- Opportunities to volunteer at the International DEC Conference in October 2010.
- Share information from the joint meeting of SEAC and SICC held in November 2009.

Homeless Programs

(Submitted by Tate Toedman)

Last school year, 2008-2009, school districts identified 6700 students enrolled in public schools. As of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, districts had identified 5,246 enrolled students as homeless for the 2009-2010 school year.

A breakdown by primary nighttime residence was:

- 4,458-Students doubled up (e.g., with relatives, living with another family)
- 278-Students stayed in hotel/motel
- 413-Students stayed in shelters, transitional housing, or are awaiting foster care
- 97-Students were unsheltered (e.g. car, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, or abandoned buildings)
- 94 school districts have identified homeless students so far this year

**Additional Early Childhood Updates**

MTSS

(Submitted by Margy Hornback)

KPIRC has developed a resource for families on MTSS, [A Family Guide to Multi-Tier System of Support \(MTSS\)](http://www.kpirc.org). It is available at <http://www.kpirc.org>. This resource provides basic information that is helpful for anyone not familiar with MTSS.

The KSDE MTSS definition and belief statements follow:

MTSS is a coherent continuum of evidence based; system-wide practices to support a rapid response to academic and behavioral needs, with frequent data based monitoring for instructional decision-making to empower each Kansas student to achieve high standards.

### **Core Beliefs:**

- Every child learns and achieves to high standards
- Learning includes academic and social competencies
- Every member of the learning community continues to grow, learn and reflect
- Every leader at all levels is responsible for every child
- Change is intentional, coherent and dynamic

### **How to achieve the core beliefs:**

- Every child will be provided a rigorous and research-based curriculum
- Every child will be provided effective and relentless teaching
- Interventions will be provided at the earliest identification of need
- Policy will be based on evidence based practice
- Every educator will continuously gain knowledge and develop expertise to build capacity and sustain effective practice
- Resources will be intentionally designed and redesigned to match student needs
- Every leader will be responsible for planning, implementing and evaluating
- Academic and behavioral data will be used to inform instructional decisions
- Educators, families and community members will be part of the fundamental practice of effective problem-solving and instructional decision making
- An empowering culture will be enhanced/developed that creates collective responsibility for student success

Another web-site of interest for early childhood is <http://www.crtiec.org>.

Core team members are continuing to work with EC pilot sites to determine any modifications needed in MTSS structuring and implementation training materials to include EC in the literacy, math and behavior continuum.