

KANSAS INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

MINUTES

KANSAS ICC MEETING

September 24, 2010

Topeka/Shawnee County Library

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Eva Horn, Chair & Public Member
Carol Ayres, KS Dept. of Education
Sabra Shirrell, KDHE
Richard Martinez, Parent Member
Julie Broski, Parent Member
Tom Laing, Public Member
Michelle Ponce, SRS
Senator Laura Kelly
Tom Kohmetscher, Provider Member
Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, Provider
Sharon Hixson, Public Member
Jill Bamber, Parent Member
Dr. David Lindeman, Board of Regents

NON-MEMBERS ON VIDEO

Nancy Juhlin, Greenbush
Doug Greer, Hays Area Children's Ctr.
Scott Kedrowski, Wyandotte County
Amy Ownes, Johnson County ITS
DeAnna Berry, Russell Child Dev. Ctr.
Jill Reeble, Russell Child Dev. Ctr.

ICC MEMBERS ON VIDEO

Deb Voth, Provider Member

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Nancy Krase, Head Start Rep.
Susan Carriger, Provider Member

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Doug Bowman, Coordinator
Kathy Johnson, TARC Topeka
Tiffany Smith, KDHE
Joyce Allen, Atchison ITS
Kim Kennedy, SRS - HSSCO

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. Pamela Shaw, Public Member
Scott Bears, KHPA – Medicaid
Rep. Barbara Craft
Dr. Dale Walker, Public Member
Misty Van Nostrand, Parent Member
Dr. Tish Taylor, Provider Member
Tiffany Krentz, Parent Member
Ks. Insurance Dept. representative
Jennifer Knorr, Governor's Staff

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 video.

ADOPTION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The agenda was approved by acclamation after several additions.

Sharon Hixson moved approval of the April minutes with one minor edit. Kathy K-O seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no one expressing an interest in speaking to the Council at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

November Verification Visit by the US Office of Special Education Programs

The date of the actual visit will be the week of November 15. The telephone call to be made with selected stakeholders from the Kansas ICC will be October 29.

Kathy K-O gave an overview of how the Kansas Special Education Advisory Council is going about their portion of the Part B visit process. Much attention is being given to the question: "When special education (categorical aid) was cut and then federal stimulus funds (ARRA) were used to back-fill the hole, did any child or their services plan suffer?" The answer appears to be – NO.

The Chair briefly highlighted the draft document that was prepared by staff and the Executive Committee in response to the questions posed to the Kansas ICC by OSEP.

Tom Laing made a motion to move forward with these documented responses and allow the Executive to make minor edits as comments are submitted later. Tom Kohmetscher seconded the motion, which then passed unanimously.

ARRA Funding and Possible Ramifications When it is Gone

The Kansas Part C program received approximately \$4.6 Million over a two year period. Roughly one half million dollars of this was used to address training and other state-wide needs. The balance was sent out to the 37 local networks using the existing funding formula.

Tiffany Smith commented that the timing was approximately the same as the (even larger) substantial cuts made to special education funding. Many local tiny-k staff persons whose jobs would have likely been lost were able to retain their jobs, because of this influx of ARRA funds

Kathy K-O remarked that for some networks the special education cuts were off-set by increased contributions of local support from various other funding sources. Kathy Johnson agreed, saying her network had to make more serious demands upon other sources of funding to continue operating. Shawnee County no longer has a budget for staff training or development. Tom Kohmetscher also agreed that other funding sources were accessed to continue operations. Deb Voth was unhappy to report that Sedgwick will lose 10-12 full-time professional positions if there is not some restoration of funding back to previous levels. This will drastically impact services to children and families.

Dena Bracciano reported that local Part C administrators are often doing double duty, meaning they have growing caseloads to maintain as well as administrative duties. It was reported Sarah Walters sent an e-mail for Ottawa. Their staff is now all part-time. Without some restoration of cuts, they will not continue to operate.

Kathy Johnson remarked that the complexity of the needs presented by families is escalating. The level of service provided to each child/family is dropping for fiscal reasons that are not in line with family needs. DeAnna Berry commented that there is much disparity among the operations of the 37 networks. Some are much more "bare bones" than others.

Scott K. reported that Wyandotte county invested one half million dollars in four positions and much effort to address child find needs. They are making headway in countering a long-standing problem reaching underserved populations. This will not be possible with reduced resources. He also reminded us that Part C of IDEA requires us to meet the needs of every child determined eligible. There are to be no waiting lists. Amy Owens made the point that the new model of delivering services being implemented in most networks will struggle to be successful if we do not provide adequate resources.

Tiffany clarified that the reduction in special education (categorical aid) provided to Part C was reduced by about \$3.9 Million dollars compared to the previous year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Awareness met by telephone conference on September 17. They submitted a written report, including a draft for that segment of next year's strategic plan. They will meet again by telephone at 2pm on 10/11.

The new Parent Task Force met in Lawrence on September 7. They also submitted a written report, including several question posed to the full ICC to clarify their charge. They will begin by focusing on collecting data on Local ICC parent participation and how to improve our efforts.

The Underserved Populations Task force will meet by telephone at 1pm on 9/30.

The Policy Committee and the Transition Task Force will meet soon.

Senator Kelly suggested that based upon earlier discussion, she recommended a task force look at private insurance as a source of funding for Part C. It was decided to send this topic to the Policy Committee.

Agency Reports

Carol Ayres handed out a written report (Attached below). We will be meeting jointly with the Special Education Advisory Council on November 10. This will be an all day meeting at the Topeka Zoo. The agenda is yet to be set, but it was suggested we discuss the impact of last year's SB 359 on future disbursements of categorical aid (special education funds).

Tom Laing distributed a letter from KHPA sent yesterday to the federal Medicaid program managers. This letter requests that Medicaid reimbursement for attendant care services be allowed for the current school year. This would allow for clarifications concerning this policy shift, and also allow for school districts to alter their budgets for next year with a bit of time to adjust.

Sabra gave a brief verbal report on the status of the implementation of a federal grant for home visitation. The targeted counties have been selected: Shawnee, Wyandotte, Sedgwick, Crawford, and Montgomery.

The other agencies did not have anything to report.

ANNUAL REPORT

A further draft was sent out with an e-mail earlier last week. Tom Laing made a motion to approve the Kansas ICC Annual Report. Jill Bamber seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

KANSAS ICC MEETING SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Tom Kohmetscher to approve the proposed schedule for upcoming ICC meetings. This motion was seconded by Tom Laing, and approved unanimously.

A question was raised about a proposal to amend the Kansas constitution in the upcoming November elections. The issue relates to voting rights of those with mental health issues. More information will be sent out to ICC members and local partners next week.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next meeting of the Kansas ICC will be on Friday, October 22. Location is To Be Announced.



Report to the Kansas Coordinating Council on Developmental Services

August 2010

IDEA, Part B, Section 619 (Submitted by Carol Ayres)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION RELATED TO TRANSITION FROM PART C TO PART B

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has distributed a document that addresses the State's responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to ensure a smooth transition for children served in Part C and referred to Part B as these children approach their third birthday.

Documents are posted at the KSDE Website, Special Educations Services Team, Integrated Accountability, SPP Related Items, State Performance Plan Indicators, then Indicator 11 and 12. Here are the links to the documents:

The original FAQ developed by OSEP in December 2009

<http://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=aK8Jo7QKvEI%3d&tabid=2291&mid=8964>

Kansas FAQ Document

<http://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=9kbFznMIU6k%3d&tabid=2291&mid=8964>

LEA Notification of Change in Requirements for Indicator 12

<http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2291#ind12>

Any Questions/Comments – Please direct to Carol Ayres at cayres@ksde.org or 785-296-1944.

Additional Resources:

Transition from Part C to Part B – Technical Assistance Training Packet available on Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) website at

<http://www.kskits.org/~kskits/ta/Packets/TransitionPartCtoPartB.shtml>

Infant Toddler Part C Procedure Manual located on the Infant Toddler Services website at http://www.ksits.org/part_c_manual.htm

Transition from Part C to Part B Training will be conducted in March and April across the state with C and B partners attending. For more information, please see the KITS training calendar.

Early Childhood Outcomes

A small group of Part C and Part B stakeholders met to explore the use of guidance tools under development and the "Report Builder" function of the Outcomes Web System. This workgroup provided valuable information about the usefulness of the tools and how local programs will be able to use the

resources to improve outcomes for children and families. Agency staff and KITS technical assistance providers will continue to “test” the process throughout the year and provide feedback to the process. The result will be a well-developed process for data drill down to support program decisions. Indicator B7 will have data compared to the baseline this year and progress toward the targets will be explained in the upcoming Annual Performance Report (APR) due to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) on February 1, 2011.

Homeless Programs (Submitted by Tate Toedman)

During the 2009-2010 school year, 126 districts reported that they had identified 8,485 students. I will provide an age breakdown for the next meeting of the council.

We have two upcoming conferences:

October 20-22- Statewide Homeless Coalition Conference

This conference will be held at the Ramada Inn in Hays, KS. Pre conference is on the 20th. The main conference will run all day on the 21st and the morning of the 22nd. This conference focuses more on social services regarding homeless adults, children, and families. For more information please go to www.kshomeless.com. There will be a local liaison training provided by KSDE during the afternoon of the 20th.

November 6-9- NAECHY Conference

This is a **required** conference for McKinney-Vento sub-grantees. This good learning opportunity for all liaisons and provides a great networking opportunity to meet other liaisons from around the country. We are expecting between 20 and 30 Kansas school districts to be at the national conference. For more information go to: http://www.naehcy.org/conf/conf_2010.html

Kansas Parents as Teachers (submitted by Janet Newton)

The Parents As Teachers program is in place and going strong this year! From the Parents As Teachers National Center, the news is that the program has a new curriculum that will be out next year—after January, 2011. This will require training all current and new Parent Educators over the next three years. Janet Newton, the PAT Coordinator for the State of Kansas is working with state leaders and with Kansas Parents As Teachers Association to develop a plan for the training.

Kansas Preschool Program: Four Year Old At-Risk Program and Pre-K Pilot Program (Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

The Four Year Old At-Risk Program and the Pre-K Pilot are up and running for the 2010-2011 school year. The original 12 sites of the Pre-K Pilot are still in place. Funding for the Four Year Old At-Risk Program is tied to the school funding formula and is down to just over \$2,000 per child. There were no new

programs allowed to start this year although several districts expressed an interest in setting up a new program.

School Readiness Project (Submitted by Gayle Stuber)

This year the School Readiness project has some added sections this year.

The School Readiness Data Initiative was launched in July at a meeting with a diverse and somewhat small group of stakeholders. One result of this meeting was a list of 8 Priority Policy questions which are being shared with the field. A second result will be a task force that will revisit the school readiness framework and consider the data elements needed to measure 'school readiness'. This work will be led by Gayle Stuber and results will be shared throughout the process.

School Readiness data collection is being done in several different ways this year with the purpose of revising the Kansas Early Learning Inventory (KELI) and the Kansas Early Learning Inventory for Fours (KELI-4). This will allow Kansas to have a web-based inventory that is based upon Kansas Early Learning standards and is more useable for statewide data collection.

KSDE is collaborating with a group at KU under a LAUNCH grant. Kindergarten teachers in Garden City and Holcomb will be asked to complete the KELI and the KELI-R on their children to provide baseline data for the grant as well as to help with the revision of the instrument.

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

The present three communities (Liberal, Rossville, and Coffeyville) are working with 10 other communities who expressed an interest in being a part of the project. A conference for the DELC grant, the current Pre-K Pilot programs, the Kansas Preschool Program development groups, and the new 10 communities is set for October 6 in Junction City. One result of this meeting will be to share the Kansas Preschool Program recommendations with the upcoming Early Childhood Advisory Council.

Teachers in the three original communities will again complete KELI-4 and KELI-4R on their children. At least one community will follow their children into Kindergarten for follow-up work.