

COORDINATING COUNCIL ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL
SERVICES
April 5, 2002
Meeting Minutes

<u>Members Attending:</u>	<u>Others Attending:</u>
<p><i>TOPEKA SITE:</i> Ellen Mellard, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center Carolyn Nelson (representing Secretary Graeber) Carolyn Weinhold (representing Secretary Schalansky) Representative Ethel Peterson Julie Stell (representing Commissioner Sebelius)</p> <p><i>HAYS SITE:</i> Karla Kenton, Parent Member Maria Martinez, Parent Member</p> <p><i>WICHITA SITE:</i> None.</p> <p><i>OVERLAND PARK (REGENTS CENTER):</i> Marnie Campbell (representing Commissioner Tompkins)</p> <p><i>GARDEN CITY SITE:</i> Sharon Hixson, Chair, Russell Child Development Center</p> <p><i>PARSONS SITE:</i> Doctor Dave Lindeman, University of Kansas Center on Developmental Disabilities</p>	<p>Kathy Johnson, Shawnee County Infant and Toddler Services Peggy Miksch, Kansas Department of Health and Environment Services Lona Foust, Riley County Infant and Toddler Services Tracey Oltmanns, Families Together Linda Kenney, Kansas Department of Health and Environment Doug Bowman, Coordinator Patty Miller, Staff</p> <p>Doug Greer, Hays Interagency Coordinating Council</p>

The meeting was called to order by Sharon Hixson, Chair. Introductions were made.

Ellen Mellard moved to approve the draft Interagency Coordinating Council meeting minutes from March 1, 2002 as amended with correction on page three, "Ellen Mellard reported that she spoke with the legislative aid to Representative Wilk", rather than "met with the legislative aid". Seconded by Carolyn Nelson; passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

Kathy Johnson reported Shawnee County was notified they would no longer be able to access categorical aid in the same manner contracting with Greenbush Educational Service Center. Shawnee County presented to six school districts asking to access categorical aid on a per child basis through the school districts. Due to budget scrutiny, the school districts do not want to add to their revenues. Shawnee County Infant-Toddler Services offered the school districts a percentage to offset their administrative costs. The Shawnee County network met with staff from the State Board of Education to discuss the letter from Mister Dale Dennis and Mister Rod Bieker that Shawnee County network could no longer access categorical aid in the same way through Greenbush. Kathy Johnson expressed Shawnee County Interagency Coordinating Council is in a dilemma and urged the State Interagency Coordinating Council to continue to work with the State Board of Education and Kansas Department of Health and Environment looking for opportunities to access this funding in an equitable way. Kathy Johnson explained the Infant-Toddler staff from each of the agencies contracting with Greenbush may need to become Greenbush employees. Ellen Mellard stated it is her understanding that categorical aid cannot flow through to private agencies. Kathy Johnson confirmed this. The school districts need to employ or contract with individuals to provide services. Sharon Hixson asked about responses to our proposal of a pilot per child formula for distribution of categorical aid last fall. Doug Bowman explained there has been no further movement on our initiative to examine the possibility of flowing categorical aid on a per child basis. Carolyn Nelson mentioned Johnson County will have a significant categorical aid shortfall this year. They are looking at other avenues of funding to support their budget. The categorical aid guidelines are on-line. A message telling networks of this was sent out on the list serve. Sharon Hixson suggested someone come to a future Interagency Coordinating Council meeting to discuss funding issues.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Doug Bowman reported the House has completed their version of the budget and sent it to the Senate. The Senate is working up their own budget plan. The Senate Ways and Means Committee completed work with the intent that the full Senate will take it up next week. The Senate is working with the Senate Taxation and Assessment Committee working on revenue enhancement. The House is \$130 million behind. The Senate is at least \$200 million behind, but are looking at revenue enhancements.

Doug Bowman reported the budget packages include difficult management issues for state agencies to address, that is, travel, bonuses, and the shrinkage rate in salaries and wages by almost ten percent.

Doug Bowman reported when the master tobacco settlement money comes to the state it goes to the Kansas Endowment for Youth Fund then transfers to the Children's Initiative Fund. The House and Senate position is to take Fiscal Year 2003 Children's Initiative Fund Expenditures back to Fiscal Year 2002 levels. Exceptions are the Accountability Fund the Children's Cabinet uses to hire consultants to track outcomes, and the Parents as

Teachers being reduced. If the general education budget comes out as bad as it looks now, the demand for Parents as Teacher money will be low.

The Kansas Department of Education budget on the Senate side is status quo with base state aid at \$3,870 and Special Education at 85% of excess cost. The House has a \$10 per student increase to the base state aid with 85% on Special Education.

The Social and Rehabilitation Services budget originally includes proposals to change the PASARR score, that is, an elderly or disabled person's ability of doing daily tasks used to determine eligibility for in home services and level of in home supports to maintain residence as opposed to an institutional setting. Doug Bowman explained the PASARR scores will remain the same due to the many disabled persons who came to the Statehouse to vocally state their concern.

Doug Bowman reported there is a 30% reduction in Social and Rehabilitation Services Grants going to the Community Mental Health Centers. There is a 25% cut going to the Community Developmental Disability Organizations.

Doug Greer asked where we were with the one-half million the Governor had recommended moving from tobacco dollars to Part C. Doug Bowman replied this was in the Governor's recommendation in the State of the State address in January 2002. The current status of Children's Initiative Fund recommendations for Infant-Toddler Services is the level funding level of one-half million in tobacco money. The House and Senate position is to take Fiscal Year 2003 Children's Initiative Fund Expenditures back to Fiscal Year 2002 levels.

Sharon Hixson explained the Tiny-K letterhead which is located on the web at www.tiny-k.org may give our message more impact.

If the Senate completes their version of the budget next week, then will go to conference committee in late April.

Representative Ethel Peterson encouraged everyone to continue writing letters and to make phone calls expressing your concerns.

Representative Ethel Peterson discussed House Bill 2945, Child in need of care; central registry for child abuse perpetrators; definition of abuse; family preservation.

Doug Bowman reported on Senate and House Bills:
House Bill 2907 - Foster Parent as interested party. The language in this bill was broad and has been narrowed down.

House Bill 2575 - This cleans up statute with the Developmental Disability Council.
Senate Bill 421 - This bill allows Social and Rehabilitation Services to charge sliding scale fees to families for services provided, that is, family preservation and Medicaid waiver services.

The contact information for your legislator can be accessed on the internet at www.accesskansas.org.

Doctor Dave Lindeman mentioned a couple years ago the Infant-Toddler program lost \$500,000. Doctor Dave Lindeman asked if this create a problem in the state maintenance of effort. Doug Bowman explained the maintenance of effort applies to the total state support of Part C.

Maria Martinez asked about the federal level Assistive Technology being at risk. Doug Bowman will follow-up. Doctor Dave Lindeman mentioned the Assistive Technology grants are on a ten year program. Kansas came into the program late. The first few states that came in the program early are looking at the possibility of their projects sunsetting. There has been a lot of activity by the Assistive Technology projects across the nation trying to get legislation rewritten so projects would not sunset.

Doug Bowman mentioned the reauthorization of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The United States Department of Education is holding hearings.

The Child Care Block grant is also up this year for renewal. Carolyn Weinhold stated Social and Rehabilitation Services is expecting cuts. The HeadStart reauthorization is one year away for renewal.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Infant-Toddler and Kansas State Department of Education received notice from the Office of Special Education Programs that Kansas' self-assessment report is due in October. They anticipate that the "magnificent seven" (last states to be monitored) will submit very good reports since we have had so much time to prepare!! Infant-Toddler held a committee meeting to review completed report information. In addition, Infant-Toddler has been forwarding report sections to Kelly Nelson at the Office of Special Education Program. Kelly reviews the information, then joins Infant-Toddler and Education staff on a conference call to discuss her findings/suggestions. This call takes place each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. in the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Children's Developmental Services office area. Feel free to join us on these calls. Plans are to have a draft (Part B and Part C) of the report completed and reviewed by the Steering Committee by the end of July, with public comment/focus group meetings to follow in August.

TEACHER LICENSING – Doctor Dave Lindeman

Doctor Dave Lindeman reported we are waiting on hearings scheduled in June 2002. Will then find out if the State Board maintains the birth through grade three unified license or may split it out. The birth through grade three standards have been written. There will be an additional Ad Hoc committee to review academic areas. The faculty of Institutes of Higher Education taskforce met and will meet again in May to discuss issues of what programs are doing, what curriculums look like, and if opportunities for university or college cooperation addressing the standards exist.

Marnie Campbell mentioned the State Board meeting scheduled June 11, 2002 will hear from people and then vote on accepting regulations as proposed or as amended based on information from hearings.

The web site www.ksde.org/cert/redesign.html can get you to the certification page that lists (see attachment):

- Chart of Endorsements
- Regulations with Proposed Changes (to be acted upon at June 11-12 State Board of Education meeting)
- Teaching Standards Adopted 9-11-01.

KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Marnie Campbell

Marnie Campbell reported we estimate that 200 people attended the Kansas Division for Early Childhood conference in Wichita specifically for the School Readiness sessions.

The School Readiness brochure is at the State Printer and should be delivered soon. This brochure can also be available on-line for those who need to print more copies at the local level.

Marnie has investigated some appropriate journals to write an article about School Readiness in Kansas. Editors have expressed interest in the Kansas collaborative approach to defining School Readiness and proposing measures appropriate for assessment using four areas of indicators.

Marnie reported through the Media Services Department at Parsons, Carol Dermeyer has led efforts to provide public awareness materials about the Kansas State Department of Education website on Early Literacy. The website is www.readyforlearning.net. Kansas State Department of Education has been contacted by other states asking if they can link to their website.

Marnie also mentioned she has been invited to Chapel Hill to participate in a summit about staff development for the National Pre-Kindergarten Center, which is a federal grant. Kansas will feature the newly revised Quality Standards, Core Competencies, and other resources.

Marnie has received clarification on teacher licensure from Martha Gage explaining that when the new regulations go into effect in 2003, the requirement will be for all school-based early childhood programs to have an early childhood licensed teacher in the appropriate age range. This would include at-risk four-year-old programs, Title I, school-based HeadStart, Even Start, Bilingual, Migrant, and others.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT - Carolyn Nelson

Carolyn Nelson introduced Peggy Miksch, the new Part C Coordinator.

Effective April 12th, Children's Developmental Services will be losing the expertise of DeAnna McClenahan. She will assume the position of Tuberculosis Nurse with Epidemiology on April 15th.

Sound Beginnings received notice of grant approval for another year.

Office of Special Education Programs notified Infant-Toddler last week that Kansas' grant award estimate for the upcoming federal Fiscal Year is \$3,884,393. Last year's award was \$3,511,726. Network grant awards are being calculated. Notifications of these awards and grant applications should be mailed next week. The grant packet received by Kansas from the Office of Special Education Programs is in draft form. They indicated that a final packet would be forwarded as soon as it has completed the Office of Management Budget clearance process. Significant changes in the packet are not anticipated.

Infant-Toddler Services received a draft year 1 report from SRI International for the Kansas Early Intervention Longitudinal Study. Infant-Toddler staff are reviewing the report, will forward suggestions to SRI. SRI will incorporate these suggestions into the report, then send a final report to Infant-Toddler Services.

Gateway is donating up to 4,500 computers that were used in the Winter Olympic Games to non-profit organizations. Donations will be made sometime in April 2002, but you'll need to register. For more information and to register your group, visit <http://www.gateway.com/olympics/donations.shtml> .

SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES REPORT - Carolyn Weinhold
Carolyn Weinhold reported for Alice Womack the Social and Rehabilitation Services budget has projected reduction in funding for most programs.

Kansas Early HeadStart was a presenter at a strategic action to promote the well being of infants and toddlers and their families conference in March. Kansas Early HeadStart is in the process of finalizing outcome measurements including the use of tool to measure language and literacy development designed by University of Kansas staff. Consistent outcome measurement for all agreed upon indicators will begin July 1, 2002 for all thirteen programs. Data will be available for use during the next legislative session.

Work on the 2002 market rate survey of child care providers is under way. The contractor is finalizing the survey instrument including a separate block of time survey for Social and Rehabilitation Services providers. Data provided by Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies will be analyzed along with data collected from the market rate survey for comparison in future use purposes.

Social and Rehabilitation Services is working on an agency fatherhood initiative. Child Support Enforcement is taking the lead working in cooperation with a group of stakeholders convened by the HeadStart Collaboration Office.

INSURANCE COMMISSION REPORT - Julie Stell

Julie Stell reported Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas and Anthem filed an appeal in Shawnee County District Court March 7, 2002, in regard to the Commissioner's denial of the proposed merger.

There will be a meeting later this month with the Kansas Insurance Department to discuss issues of insurance coverage for early intervention.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Doctor Dave Lindeman explained he is putting together a list of information to add to a website that best fits our needs. Doug Bowman mentioned we need to look at what material would go in the website and what would most fit in the tiny-k website.

COORDINATORS REPORT - Doug Bowman

Doug Bowman reported there will be a funding committee meeting next Thursday, April 11th from 12 to 1.

Doug Bowman informed tiny-k Letterhead and Envelopes are available on the tiny-k website at www.tiny-k.org .

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 3:30.

The next meeting will be on May 3rd, 2002, located in Topeka at the White Lakes Location at 3600 Topeka Boulevard. Conference room A.