



**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY EARLY CARE & EDUCATION PLANNING COUNCIL**

3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

www.sanluischildcare.org • info@sanluischildcare.org • 805.782.7370

**Council Meeting**

March 8, 2023 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Meeting Location (In Person with Zoom Option for Public Attendance):

San Luis Obispo County Office of Education

3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Zoom Meeting ID: 994 3024 1466

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Katie Mervin

Jamie Sanbonmatsu

Patty Clarkson

Shana Paulson

Shannon Pimentel

Lauren Thorne

Michelle Holm

Melina Simonds

Katie Hollingsworth

Melinda Sokolowski

**Members Present via Zoom:**

Lauren Handley

**Liaisons:**

Michael Specchierla

Wendy Wendt

**Guests:**

Molly Myers (SLOCOE)

Mariela Rodriguez (CAPSLO)

Deja Knight (LPC Intern)

Allison Biggers

**Staff:**

Raechelle Bowlay

Nataly Renteria

Meeting called to order by Council Chair, Jamie Sanbonmatsu at 3:00 PM with welcome and introductions.

- [Council Meeting Presentation](#)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to approve consent agenda, including adoption of the [agenda](#) and [February 8, 2023 minutes](#), made by Katie Hollingsworth, seconded by Michelle Holm. Upon putting the motion to a roll call vote, the results were:

ABSTAINED: None

YES: Lauren Thorne, Katie Mervin, Michelle Holm, Jamie Sanbonmatsu, Patty Clarkson, Shannon Pimentel, Katie Hollingsworth

NO: None

Motion carried, results of the vote being: 7 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS & PROGRAM UPDATES**

#### **Melina Simonds, Cuesta College**

- The Child Development & Family Studies Department at Cuesta College is offering a menu of fully-online courses to help credentialed teachers gain ECE/CD units to teach Transitional Kindergarten.
- Attachment:
  - [TK Marketing Flyer Summer 2023](#)

#### **Lauren Handley, San Luis Obispo County Office of Education**

- Attended the UPK Mixed Delivery Quality and Access Workgroup meeting that was held at the state on February 23rd. Standing workgroup meetings scheduled for the rest of the year.
  - [UPK Mixed Delivery Quality and Access Workgroup](#)

#### **Katie Mervin, Cuesta College/San Luis Obispo County Office of Education**

- California Community College Early Childhood Educators (CCCECE) Regional Meeting was held on Friday, March 3, 2023.

#### **Patty Clarkson, Cal Poly State University**

- Agency and the Problem of White Supremacy in the Early Childhood Education
  - Guest Speaker Dr. Jennifer Keys Adair: Jennifer Keys Adair, PhD is Professor of Early Childhood Education at The University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Adair works to understand how racism and white supremacy impact the agency and overall learning experiences of young children at school.
  - March 9, 2023 11:10AM – 12:00PM
  - [Flyer](#)

### **FIRST 5 SLO COMMISSION UPDATE – Wendy Wendt**

- Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 3:00 – 5:30 PM
  - SLO County Office of Education Board Room
  - 3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
- Save the Date: Pediatric Town Hall – Engaging presentations and a resource fair will focus on early identification, support, and referrals for young children with mental health concerns.
  - Courtyard Marriott San Luis Obispo
  - Tuesday, March 21, 2023 5:00 – 8:30PM
  - [Register](#)
  - [Flyer](#)
- Family-Friendly Workplaces Workshop North County – Come face-to-face with organizations that are successfully implementing family-friendly workplace practices in our county!

- Springhill Suites by Marriott Atascadero
- Thursday, March 30, 2023 3:30 – 5:30PM
- [Register](#)
- [Flyer](#)
- Strategic Planning – Focus Groups

**COUNCIL STAFF – Raechelle Bowlay**

- UPK Mixed Delivery Planning Grant
  - The purpose of this grant program is to expand access universally to preschool programs for three- and four-year-old children across the state through a mixed-delivery system. The program funds local planning councils (LPCs) and resource and referral (R&R) agencies to support the mixed delivery system of Universal PreKindergarten (UPK). The grant focus is to support the relationship building between the local education agencies (LEAs), county office of education (COE), the LPC, and the R&R. The grantee will partner with the LEA and COE to align plans for the expansion of UPK.
  - Projected Allocation – San Luis Obispo County: \$197,986.00 (through June 2026)
  - Grant Activities:
    - Coordinate with the County Office of Education
    - Form a Plan single local workgroup for, but not directly funded, UPK options in a mixed delivery system.
    - Plan for increasing inclusion of with exceptional needs children in UPK.
    - Plan for Provide workforce development outreach services and enrollment support to meet needs of families.
    - Plan for, align and coordinate the plans, with all LEAs that received funding under California PreKindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program.
    - Partner with tribes as sovereign nations.
    - Develop a plan before June 30, 2023 – needs to be presented for consideration
- CDE Updates
  - Young Dual Language Learners: Strengthening Early Childhood Education Systems and Practices Webinar: The U.S. Department of Education’s Office of English Language Acquisition, in collaboration with the Institute of Education Sciences’ Regional Educational Laboratory West, is hosting a webinar on the topic of early learning of children who are dual language learners. The webinar will focus on practices and state policies for young dual language learners as well as how they are codified and implemented in a variety of settings. The panelists will discuss research-based instructional practices for young dual language learners and identify strategies, funding streams, and resources for caregivers and early childhood educators for supporting the development and optimizing the experiences of young dual language learners in early childhood educational programs and settings. The presentation will include discussions of topics such as social and emotional learning, oral language development, family engagement, and inclusion and student engagement.
    - March 14, 2023 12:00 – 1:30PM PST

- CDE Literacy Webinar: The Opportunities for All Branch is pleased to share this invitation to register for the California Department of Education Literacy webinar scheduled on March 23, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Learn about strategies to help California students reach our goal of reading by third grade. Administrators, teachers, reading coaches and specialists, classified staff, parents, and students are invited to attend. During the webinar, presenters will highlight a number of key strategies and tools that have been proven to help students meet literacy goals. This is a great opportunity for Preschool Through Grade 3 (P-3) and Universal PreKindergarten (UPK) interest holders to learn about literacy efforts in our state.
  - March 23, 2023 4:00PM
  - [Register](#)
- CDSS Updates
  - New Online Learning Series for California’s Early Learning and Care Professionals—Phase 2: The module series, offered in multiple languages, will launch in multiple phases and be available on [California Early Childhood Online \(CECO\)](#). In addition, content overviews for each series will be available on the [Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five](#) and [Quality Counts California](#) websites.
    - The second phase launches on February 28, 2023, and will include the following:
      - Responsive and Inclusive Early Learning and Care Environments
        - 8 professional development clock hours
        - [Visit the content overview](#)
      - Developing and Maintaining Responsive Relationships
        - 15 professional development clock hours
        - [Visit the content overview](#)
      - Supporting Young Children’s Development and Learning
        - 12 professional development clock hours
        - [Visit the content overview](#)
    - STEAM Starters: Tinkering for Early Learners Online Training Modules Available Now!
      - The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), in partnership with WestEd and the Exploratorium, is proud to announce the launch of self-paced online training modules focused on tinkering, titled STEAM Starters: Tinkering for Early Learners. The modules, offered through [California Early Childhood Online \(CECO\)](#) offer examples of how a tinkering approach can provide starting points to support children’s Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) learning.

**QUALITY COUNTS UPDATE**

- Beginning Together 2023 Inclusion Facilitator Institute: The institute is designed to support small teams of trainers with expertise and experience supporting inclusive practice from counties or regions. Participants will be provided with tools and resources to increase teachers’ confidence and competence in inclusive practice for all young children.
  - Currently Enrolled:
    - Raechelle Bowlay (LPC & QC)
    - Molly Myers (SLOCOE)

- Kym Riner (PRJUSD)
  - Lauren Handley (SLOCOE)
- CAEMI Phase 2: The Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) and partners is excited to partner with our agency in this new phase (Phase Two) of the California Statewide Early Math Initiative, or CAEMI. The focus of CAEMI Phase Two is dissemination and expanding our reach to more Californian educators and families. To support participation during the two years of the project, our agency will receive \$200,000. Funds can be used for personnel, professional development/coaching costs, materials/supplies, administrative expenses, and/or any costs associated with participation in the activities.
  - February 2023 to June 2025
  - Next Steps:
    - Finalize contract with Fresno COE
    - Identify Team of Partners
    - Virtual Community of Practice: March 30th 1:30 – 4:30PM
- Professional Growth Advisor Cadre Training
  - Friday, March 10, 2023 10:00AM – 12:00PM
- March Professional Development 2022 – 2023 registrations open:
  - Inclusion: Supporting Positive Social Emotional Development (*Online Class*)
    - Tuesday, March 14, 2023 5:30 – 7:30 PM
    - [Register](#)
  - DAP & the 9 Principles of Child Development and Learning (*Self-Paced*)
    - [Register](#)
  - Teaching Toddlers Good Food Habits (*In-Person Class*)
    - Wednesday, March 22, 2023 5:00 – 7:00 PM
    - [Register](#)
  - Community of Practice: Applying NAEYC Self-Paced Course (*Online Class*)
    - Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM
    - [Register](#)
- Cuesta College partners presenting at the 2023 CAAEYC Annual Conference & Expo
  - Loose Parts: Inspirations in the Early Learning Environment
    - Laurinda Wagner, Madelyn Chevalier & Sara Madgett - Cuesta College
  - Group Time Favorites and Opportunities to Extend Language
    - Lea Waterbury, Cheri Ferguson & Laurinda Wagner - Cuesta College
  - Teaching Toddlers Good Food Habits
    - Lucia Aguirre, Micaela Padgett & Keith Holland - Cuesta College
  - Professional Goal Development Systems: Building and Applying to Career and Leadership Development
    - Katie Mervin
  - Ticket 2 Teach Early Care and Education Apprenticeship Program: An Overview from Multiple Perspectives
    - Katie Mervin & Ethan Glover
- Join us at the 2023 CAAEYC Annual Conference & Expo: Quality Counts will extend support for Quality Counts Consortium partners and participating agencies by funding registration to attend the 2023 CAAEYC Conference.
  - April 21-23
  - Santa Clara, CA
  - [Partnering to Power the Profession](#)

- Stipend information and “Wellness Boxes” have begun making their way to Quality Counts Partner Sites, as a way of saying “THANK YOU” to the dedication and commitment our programs have to families and students every day.
- Stipends have been released, and communication with programs on next steps with their W-9, PGA/Goals, and collection of 21 PD hours has been shared.

## **COMMITTEES UPDATE**

- **Workforce Development Subcommittee:** Supporting issues that affect the early care and education workforce including talent pipeline, professional development and career pathways.
  - Committee Chair: Katie Mervin
  - Priorities:
    - Mentor Selection Committee
    - Professional Growth System Update
  - Meeting Highlights – February 16, 2023
    - Moving forward with Mentor Program
      - Selection Committee
      - Mentor Applications
    - Professional Growth Advisor Cadre
    - Continued alignment of programs/initiatives
  - Next Meeting: Thursday, March 16, 2023
  - ECEPTS National Conference on ECE Apprenticeship
    - May1-4, 2023 | Ontario, CA
    - [Ticket2Teach ECE Apprenticeship: A Countywide Collaboration in CA](#) – *presented by Katie Mervin & Raechelle Bowlay*
    - This presentation will provide an overview of San Luis Obispo County's development and implementation of the Ticket 2 Teach ECE Apprenticeship program, concentrating on how partnerships and collaborative efforts within the community have helped build a larger system to support the program and ECE workforce.
- **Advocacy Subcommittee:** Engages local government and identifies advocacy opportunities at local, regional, and state level.
  - Committee Chair: Kris Roudebush
  - Priorities:
    - Build Up Group
    - Track Budget City Goals
    - Liaison Relationships
    - Bring Back Public Comment
  - Activities & Highlights
    - February 11th – Atascadero City Strategic Planning Session
    - February 21st – SLO City Council Presentation on Child Care
  - Next Meeting: mid April TBA
- **Economic Development Subcommittee:** Develops strategies that support early care and education as an essential part of local economy from the lens of providers as small businesses/employers and as a recruitment and retention strategy for businesses/employers.
  - Committee Chair: Shana Paulson
  - Priorities:
    - SLO City Pilot Project

- Shared Services Alliance
    - ARPA Expansion Grant Application Process
  - Activities & Highlights:
    - Exploring ARPA Expansion Grant Application Process
    - Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 9:30 – 10:30 AM
- **Community Needs Subcommittee:** Identifies needs of the early care and education field as well as needs of families, employers and partner organizations to support the local mixed delivery system.
  - Committee Chair: Mika Buchanan
  - Priorities:
    - 5 Year Needs Assessment
  - Activities & Highlights:
    - Assessing: How has the need for childcare changed? What will mixed delivery system look like for families/providers?
    - Create a survey for community members to assess needs city by city
    - Highlight Community need through storytelling
  - Next Meeting: TBA

### **MONTH OF THE CHILD**

- Join us on Saturday, April 8th for the Annual Children's Day in the Plaza celebrating April as Month of the Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month. The event aims to connect children and families with resources throughout SLO County while embracing creativity, diversity, and individuality.
  - Registrations: 30 (as of March 8)
  - [Vendor & Performance registration still open!](#)
- Month of the Child Proclamations
  - Arroyo Grande City Council - *March 28 6:00PM*
  - Atascadero City Council - *TBD*
  - Grover Beach City Council - *March 27 6:00PM*
  - Morro Bay City Council - *March 28 5:30PM*
  - Paso Robles City Council - *April 4 6:30PM*
  - Pismo Beach City Council - *April 4 5:30PM*
  - San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors - *April 4 9:00AM*
  - San Luis Obispo City Council - *TBD*
  - Cuesta College Board of Trustees - *April 5 4:00PM*
  - San Luis Obispo County Office of Education Board of Directors - *April 6 1:30PM*
  - Paso Robles Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees - *TBD*
- Month of the Child & Child Abuse Prevention Month Community Events:
  - March 24 – Coastal Family Resource Fair
  - April 1 – [Nipomo Kids Day](#)
  - April 2 – Family Fun Day at Botanical Garden
  - April 4 – Board of Supervisors Proclamation
  - April 4 – Laguna Middle School Resource Fair
  - April 4 – Car Seat Safety Check – Twin Cities Hospital
  - April 8 – Children’s Day in the Plaza
  - April 12 – Latino Health Coalition/SLO Food Bank
  - April 28 – [Virtual Raising of the Children’s Memorial Flag](#)

- May 11 – Resource Fair at Bauer Speck
- May 13 – Spotted Whale and Resource Fair at Madonna Expo
- [NAEYC Week of the Young Child – Save the Date April 1-7, 2023](#)
  - April 1 – Kick Off Saturday
  - April 2 – Music Monday
  - April 3 – Tasty Tuesday
  - April 4 – Work Together Wednesday
  - April 5 – Artsy Thursday
  - April 6 – Family Friday

### **COUNCIL POSITIONS ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Special Election Nomination for 2023-2024 Council Chair:** Executive Committee has approved a special election for the 2023-2024 Chair position due to a conflict of interest with the Incoming Chair. This term chair will begin July 1, 2023 and will not have a year serving as Incoming Chair. Executive Committee has approved an additional candidate requirement since this term will not include a full year as Incoming Chair. Eligibility requirements:

- Must have one (1) year active Council participation
- Have served as a past chair are eligible (*additional requirement for this special election*)

Nominations for this position opened and were submitted at the February 8, 2023 Council meeting or via email to [nrenteria@slocoe.org](mailto:nrenteria@slocoe.org) by February 22, 2023.

Council staff confirmed acceptance with nominees and presented 2023-2024 Chair Nominations at the March 1, 2023 Executive Committee meeting.

Election for the 2023-2024 Council Chair was held at the March 8, 2023 Council meeting. Council Chair, Jamie Sanbonmatsu, announces incoming chair for 2023-2024, Jamie Sanbonmatsu.

**First 5 Commissioner Representative:** Specific to First 5 San Luis Obispo County, the Planning Council has a designated representative that serves on the First 5 Commission. Since 2010, Melinda Sokolowski, has served in this role. Prior to that, the position was filled by Council Staff.

The term for the First 5 - Planning Council representative will be reappointed serving a term beginning July 1, 2023.

Nominations for this position opened and were submitted at the February 8, 2023 Council meeting or via email to [nrenteria@slocoe.org](mailto:nrenteria@slocoe.org) by February 22, 2023.

Council staff confirmed acceptance with nominees and present First 5 Commissioner Nominations at the March 1, 2023 Executive Committee meeting.

Election for the First 5 Commissioner Representative was held at the March 8, 2023 Council meeting. Council Chair, Jamie Sanbonmatsu, announces First 5 Commissioner Representative, Patty Clarkson.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.



The next Council meeting will be held on May 10, 2023 from 3:00-5:00 PM at San Luis Obispo County Office of Education, 3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nataly Renteria, Administrative Assistant  
SLO County Early Care & Education Planning Council*