

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

**ESSDAK
December 1, 2006
Hutchinson, KS**

Welcome

Members Present:

Nancy Kruse, Provider Member
Linda Mitchell, Public Member
Jenny Rojas, Parent
Sharon Hixson, Public Member
Maria Martinez, Parent Member
Tom Laing, Public Member
Ellen Mellard, Provider Member

Thomas Kohmetscher, Service Provider Member
Dr. Margy Hornback, KSDE (Comm. Dennis Representative)
Richard Martinez, Parent Member/Chair

Members Present By Telephone

John Meetz, Kansas Insurance Department (Comm. Praeger Representative)
Susan Carriger, Provider Member
Alice Womack, SRS (Sec. Daniels Representative)
Linda Kenney, KDHE (Secretary Bremby Representative)

Members Not Present

Jennifer Crow, Governor's Representative
Senator Carolyn McGinn, Senate Member
Dr. Heather Rainwater, Provider Member
Rep. Melody Miller, House Member
Julie Broski, Parent Member
David Lindeman, Regents Representative
Eva Horn, Public Member
Tiffanie Krentz, Parent Member
Ks. Health Policy Authority Representative

Reno County ITS Services and LICC

KaAnn Graham, Early Education Center
Mary Schulte, Early Education Center
Michael Woods, Healthy Families Hutchinson
Tracy Rosas, Parent

Non-Members Present:

Doug Bowman, Coordinator
Brenda Kipers, Secretary

Non-Members By Telephone

Colleen Riley, KSDE
Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer,
NW Kansas Education Service Center

Brenda Maxey, TECH Inc.
Jan Pauls, State Representative
Terry Bruce, Senator
Mark Treaster, State Representative

Pam Abrahams, Early Education Center
Karla Starkey, Parent
Jo Glass, Early Education Center
Shawna Essmillen, Early Education Center
Kris Crainer, Early Education Center
Kay Carney, Child Care Links
Chris Baird, Hutchinson Head Start
Tamme Buller, Early Head Start
Nancy Soldner, USD 308, Hutchinson
Louise Hook, Parents As Teachers
Carla Little, Mental Health Coordinator, Reno Co. Smart Start
Lynn Love, Reno Co. Education Cooperative
Valerie Line, Early Education Center

Wanda Grubb, Reno Co. Smart Start
Doug Greer, Hays
Deb Voth, Rainbows
Paco Price, Rainbows
Deb Mai, Rainbows
Lorraine Bockorny, Rainbows
Peggy Miksch, Geary Co.
Nancy Jefferson, Cloud Republic

A reception was held celebrating twenty years of Council activity. Thanks to everyone who has supported the Council and its activity through the years. The children and families of Kansas appreciate it.

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND LOCAL STORIES

Richard Martinez welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting of the State ICC. Introductions were made by all of those in attendance. KaAnn Graham noted that three Reno County legislators were here to show their support: Senator Terry Bruce, Representative Janice Pauls, and Representative Mark Treaster. KaAnn also expressed appreciation for the many members of the local ICC who were present.

The Council heard dramatic stories from two parents who reside in Reno County about the services they have received for their children and families.

ADOPTION OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

Tom Laing moved that that the November minutes be approved with the two edits to the attendance roster. Tom Kohmetscher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NO PERSONS CHOSE TO SPEAK DURING THE PUBLIC FORUM

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tom Laing reported as Chair of the Sub-Committee on Selecting Local Lead Agency Process. Additional commentary from Wyandotte County was distributed. It was noted that comments from several other local partners had already been incorporated into the sub-committee's work product.

Linda Mitchell moved and Tom Laing seconded a motion to adopt the report of the committee, the suggested cover letter, and attach all commentary from local partners. This will then be forwarded to KDHE from the full Council. Passed Unanimously.

Mr. Bowman reported on behalf of the Advocacy Committee, which had met just prior to the Council meeting. It was requested that more information be shared with local partners about the activities of the Children's Cabinet. The Committee suggested that the Council contact SRS staff and offer our assistance as they work on a possible Medicaid waiver for young children with autism. Tom Laing made a motion to write this letter, with the names of Susan Carriger, DebVoth, and Peggy Miksch. Nancy Kruse seconded the motion, which then passed unanimously.

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Furthermore, the Advocacy Committee asked if the full Council would determine the appropriations target for state funding of Part C to drive our advocacy efforts in the 2007 Legislative session. Ellen moved that we follow the precedent used in previous years, and take the December child count times one-half of the Base State Aid Per Pupil. Tom Laing seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

It was then requested that we clarify the Council position on joining coalitions. Nancy Krase moved that we write a letter to the various coalitions who have approached us, stating why we won't be joining and asking for continued coordination of efforts. Further: that we amend our by-laws to clarify this matter. Linda Mitchell seconded this motion, which then passed unanimously.

Mr. Bowman then reported on behalf of the Funding Committee. He reported that the committee is scheduled for a teleconference for 12/12. The committee is completing work on a table, which details the results of a survey taken of the 36 tiny-k networks and their use of categorical aid or special education funding.

Mr. Bowman then reported on his appearance before the Special Education Advisory Council to discuss the proposed introduction of a bill "earmarking" general education funds generated by children aged 3-5 towards services for those same children. The idea was not favorably received by SEAC. It was the firm opinion of all those at SEAC that this bill wasn't necessary. They believed that expenditures already exceed revenues for these services. If inadequate funding was being given as a reason for not doing any particular thing in a team meeting, then complaints should be generated.

Mr. Bowman asked if the Council wished to a) forge ahead with its strategic plan - introducing a bill and working for its passage OR b) should we approach the problem from a different perspective. That would entail trying to gather data on how often this reasoning is an actual barrier to a team pursuing a given course of action and educating parents about how to file complaints when they hear this.

Mr. Kohmetscher commented that the advocacy committee had discussed this matter in the morning and recommends forging ahead.

Questions arose about accountability for education dollars. Kathy K-O assured us that audits do affirm that special education funds are used for special education purposes. Further questions arose if funding for children aged 3-5 could be separated out of those larger special education expenditures. Also, it was asked if there was any way to track the general education funds generated by 3-5 year-olds within the larger school budget.

After much discussion and no objection, staff was directed to go forward with drafting the bill, but not to introduce it without further direction from the Council.

AGENCY REPORTS

Dr. Margy Hornback reported from the Department of Education that work continues on the State Performance Report. She wanted to discuss efforts to collect data on one target: parent surveys of their involvement in the process. She would like for us to consider this matter now, and then to further work on this issue in January. (See handout)

In response to a question, Dr. Hornback announced that Dale Dennis is acting as Interim Commissioner of Education. The search process begins soon. New Board members will take their seats in January.

No reports from KDHE, SRS, or Insurance.

LEAD AGENCY FOR PART C OF IDEA

Letters from Gary Daniels, Secretary of SRS, and Dr. Howard Rodenberg, Director of Health, were handed out to those in attendance. (See attached)

The proposal is to transfer designation of lead agency for Part C of IDEA, Infant-Toddler Services, and the Coordinating Council from KDHE to SRS.

The Executive Committee of the ICC met yesterday with Secretary Daniels and Dr. Rodenberg. Later that day, we met with Jennifer Crow of the Governor's office.

The Executive Committee is now formally recommending a special session of the ICC set for December 15th.

Dr. Hornback requested that the ICC give consideration to an alternative proposal that Education be designated as lead agency for Part C. Dr. Hornback affirmed that Education was indeed interested in serving in that capacity.

Mr. Laing asked if the ICC had sought out this issue. The ICC did not seek out the issue. The two agencies (SRS and KDHE) recently approached the Executive Committee to begin this discussion. Our first meeting on this was yesterday.

Colleen Riley Director of Student Support Services in KSDE called in to emphasize that Education was very interested in being designated as lead agency for Part C, and had always been so.

Responding to a question, Mr. Bowman relayed that in yesterday's Executive Committee meeting Dr. Rodenberg commented he saw a better "fit" between this program and the SRS mission, rather than in public health.

In light of these developments, it seemed prudent that the Council spend its time on December 15th examining these two proposals before us. Our advice can then be forwarded to the Governor for her consideration.

Staff will clarify with the Governor how she would like the Council to proceed. Tentative plans call for a special session on December 15th.

Meeting Adjourned.