

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

**December 3rd, 2004
SRS Learning Center, Topeka, Kansas**

Welcome and Introductions

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Non-Members Present</u>
Ellen Mellard, Chair, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center Sharon Hixson, Russell Child Development Center Thomas Kohmetscher, Service Provider Member Carolyn Nelson (representing Secretary Bremby) Paula Jasso (representing Secretary Schalansky) Marnie Campbell, (representing Commissioner Tompkins) Adam Obley, Governor's Representative Susan Adams, Service Provider Member Michael Steiner (representing Commissioner Sandy Praeger) Maria Martinez, Parent Member Karla Kenton, Parent Member Richard Martinez, Parent Member	Paco Price, Rainbows United Karen Snell, Families Together Angie Unrein, University of Kansas Medical Center Amy Kueser, University of Kansas Medical Center Jon Harding, National Technical Assistance Consortium Kim Sykes, Kansas Department of Health and Education Dawn O'Brien, Leavenworth County Ed Henry, Marshall County Sally Henry, Clay-Washington Infant and Toddler Services Nancy Jefferson, Cloud/Republic Infant and Toddler Services Doug Bowman, Coordinator Patty Miller, Staff
<u>Members Not Present</u>	
Senator David Haley Representative Brenda Landwehr Mark Tremaine, Parent Member Doctor Dave Lindeman, University of Kansas	

Approval of October, & November 2004 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Ellen Mellard, Chair. Carolyn Nelson made a motion to approve the October 8th, 2004, Interagency Coordinating Council meeting minutes. Seconded by Sharon Hixson; passed unanimously. Sharon Hixson made a motion to approve the November 5th, 2004, Interagency Coordinating Council meeting minutes. Seconded by Susan Adams; passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
The October, and November Interagency Coordinating Council Minutes will be posted on the Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council website.	Patty Miller	December 6, 2004

PUBLIC FORUM

Paco Price, Rainbows United discussed the concern of Categorical Aid, reimbursement for non-public school entities. According to the audit guidelines, reimbursement is provided when a child is transported to a school or to a therapist. When teachers and therapists go to homes and cannot locate families, Rainbows is not reimbursed. Also, when there are breaks in service, reimbursement cannot be received. Contracts are written based on the school year, but every child cannot be seen the first day. Contracts are reduced at the beginning and at the end of the year. Therefore, reimbursement is reduced for the first and last day of service. The process for breaks in service involves writing a new contract from the date of break in service until the end of the year.

Ellen Mellard explained the Legislative Education Planning Interim Committee’s proposal to change categorical aid. One-half of special education funding would be sent out to locals based upon current system (per staff). The other half would be disbursed based on total school enrollment (per child). As full-time equivalent positions across the State increase, the amount per Full-Time Equivalent staff goes down.

Marnie Campbell, Kansas Department of Education, suggested writing details of concerns, and send to ZoAnn Torrey and a copy to Carol Dermyer, and auditors.

The Categorical Aid Task Force will review issues discussed. Susan Adams, Dawn O’Brien, Paco Price, Carolyn Nelson, and Sharon Hixson will assist.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Categorical Aid Task Force will meet and review issues discussed.	Doctor Dave Lindeman	January 2005

DEAF BLIND CONSORTIUM – Jon Harding

Jon Harding passed out handouts. Attachment A.

The Mission of the Deaf Blind Consortium is to increase the awareness and accessibility of services available to individuals who are Deaf-Blind. The Consortium is from birth to death and does not limit

to a specific age population.

The Federal Definition of Deaf Blind states that vision and hearing impairments, the combination of which creates such severe communication and other developmental and educational problems that the student cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for students with hearing or visual impairments.

The Consortium can help with intervention of students that the providers are aware of that have vision and hearing impairments. Jeff Cook, Project Director, Kansas State Department of Education, is the primary contact for birth through 21, 120 Southeast 10th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1182, 785-296-0917 (voice/TTD), Fax 785-296-6715, jcook@ksde.org.

Tiny-k FOUNDATION REPORT – Ed Henry

The *tiny-k* Foundation is now incorporated thanks to the \$10,000 grant from the Health Foundation. Ed Henry explained that they are seeking a grant of \$150,000 for a three-year period to provide a base staff, office, and to get the foundation in place. A vista grant has been acquired in the last couple of years, and he expects to get a vista position dedicated solely to the *tiny-k* Foundation.

Ed Henry passed out the draft *tiny-k* Lottery Bill. Attachment B. An Act authorizing the Kansas Lottery commission to establish a benefit lottery game for the purpose of providing additional funds to supplement and enhance the early intervention services funded by the State of Kansas through federal grants and state funds commonly known as the *tiny-k* programs. The benefit lottery program shall be known as the *tiny-k* benefit game. There are many states using the same method of lottery funds. The lottery would also provide publicity, which would be of great value to *tiny-k*.

Susan Adams moved that the Council support the *tiny-k* Foundation proposal for a Lottery Bill to introduce a new Lottery Game with the proceeds going to the *tiny-k* services, but that language is included which would state it would not impact other funding sources. Seconded by Richard Martinez; passed unanimously.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT – Doug Bowman

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Reauthorization was signed into law. There were questions regarding qualifications of para educators due to ramifications of Title I. Language was deleted regarding comprehensive system personal development. Language allows Local Education Agencies to spend up to 15% of their Individuals with Disabilities Education Act funds to support services for those who are not currently identified as being eligible. Birth to six Statewide Option, for any fiscal year for which the amount appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under section 644 exceeds \$460,000,000. The Secretary shall reserve 15 percent of such newly appropriated amount to provide grants to States that are carrying out the policy of a birth to six program.

Language in the new Individuals with Disabilities Education Act law clarifies that ANY child under

the age of 3 years in a child abuse case will be referred to Part C for a screening.

FINALIZE STRATEGIC PLAN

Final Strategic Plan. Attachment C. Sharon Hixson moved to approve the Strategic Plan for 2005. Seconded by Susan Adams; passed unanimously.

COMMITTEES and TASK FORCES

Interagency Coordinating Council committees were discussed. It was decided to have a draft schedule for the November Interagency Coordinating Council meeting.

Funding/Finance Committee - Deb Voth, Chair

Discussion: The Funding committee met via teleconference November 22nd, 2004. Categorical Aid concern from Wichita was discussed. Waiting on Supreme Court decision on School Finance. The Appropriation process was discussed and will be finalized and will report back to the Council January 2005.

Advocacy Committee - Debbie Mai, Chair, was unable to attend.

Discussion: Doug Bowman stated the Advocacy Committee met on November 12th, 2004 in Wichita. There will be two different tracks of training, and will replicate training same as last year. The training is scheduled for January 21st, 2005, located in Topeka, Kansas. A basic and advanced training will be available with a birth to five emphases. The Advocacy Committee is planning an advocacy day the week of February 17th, 2005, for a *tiny-k* day, birth to three.

Partnerships Committee - Maria Martinez, Chair

Discussion: No report.

Interagency Agreement Task Force - Sharon Hixson, Chair

Discussion: The Interagency Agreement regarding Part C services met November 17th, 2004. Carolyn Nelson is working on merging the Agreement, the scanning format did not work.

Newborn Screening Task Force – Doctor Chet Johnson, Chair

Doug Bowman reported partners in Wyandotte County have an amount of money they are offering to pilot. The original bill allowed for information that is currently in the Vital Statistics database, and searches for factors which are correlated with later developmental delays, that is, low birth weight, low Activity, Pulse, Grimace, Appearance, Respiration Scores. A letter is generated to the family of the child to inform them of issue and what they can do to pursue the matter.

Ad Hoc Committee - Maria Martinez, Chair

Discussion: Maria asked for volunteers for this committee.

Governmental Affairs Committee - Tom Kohmetscher, Chair

Discussion: No report.

Parent Leadership Task Force - Maria Martinez, Chair

Discussion: No report.

Categorical Aid Task Force – Doctor Dave Lindeman, Chair, unable to attend.

Discussion: Waiting on Supreme Court ruling.

Public Forum Task Force - Sharon Hixson, Chair

Discussion: No report.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Committees and Task Forces will meet prior to the January State Interagency Coordinating Council meeting and provide updated information to the Council.	Chair of Committees and Task Forces	January 7 th , 2005

COORDINATORS REPORT - Doug Bowman

Discussion: Doug Bowman stated the Joint Committee on Children and Families has met. Some issues are with Foster Care and termination of parental rights.

The budget figures tracked thus far for this fiscal year have been above estimates. The revenues are looking good. The overall State budget will need to be lean due to budgeting maneuvers that were made, that is, property tax accelerator.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius spoke to the Kansas Head Start Association Annual meeting in Wichita. Early Childhood is a high priority.

The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center conference is scheduled for February 5th, 6th, & 7th, 2005. Carolyn Weinhold, Social and Rehabilitation Services, Head Start Collaboration, will sponsor a parent member to attend. Ellen Mellard, Chair will attend the conference.

Doug spoke about the sign-up sheet for Committee and Task Force assignments that have been passed out at previous Council meetings. If you have not signed up for a Committee and/or Task Force, then you will be assigned.

Ellen Mellard, Chair, mentioned the Strategic Planning meeting which has been scheduled in September in previous years, has now been changed to June 3rd, 2005.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Assignments will be made in final for the Committees and Task Forces	Ellen Mellard, Chair Doug Bowman, Coordinator	January 7 th , 2005

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT - Carolyn Nelson
Carolyn Nelson handed out a copy of her report, (Attachment D).

Discussion: The Part C Coordinator position remains vacant, have received applications and will continue to interview. The position will continue to be posted until filled.

Reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was signed into law by President Bush. The Office of Special Education programs will begin work on developing regulations immediately.

The Sound Beginnings Newborn Hearing Screening has funds to purchase additional Evoked Otoacoustic Emissions screening equipment. Two Early Head Start programs, and one Part C Network will be trained in the use of this equipment.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – Marnie Campbell

The Agency reorganization is going forward where schools that need improvement will be assigned a team, based on the needs of the school.

SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES REPORT - Paula Jasso for Alice Womack
A copy of the Social and Rehabilitation Services report was handed out, (Attachment E).

Discussion: Effective July 1, 2005, the Medicaid Program and responsibility as lead agency for Medicaid will transfer from Social and Rehabilitation Services to the newly created Health Care Authority. The Health Care Authority will be a branch of the Department of Administration. On July 1, 2005, Social and Rehabilitation Services will have a new name, the Kansas Department of Human Services.

The Request for Proposal for professional development activities funded through the Child Care Development Fund was released a few months ago and several bids have been received.

INSURANCE COMMISSION REPORT – Michael Steiner for Robert Tomlinson

Discussion: None, no report given.

Doug Bowman discussed the Regents Seat new person representation will be Doctor Dave Lindeman.

He will replace Doctor Chet Johnson. This opens up a general public member seat to the Council. The Council will send suggestions to the Governors office. Tom Kohmetscher and Maria Martinez will participate in the process.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Interagency Coordinating Council meeting is scheduled for January 7th, 2005, located in Topeka, Kansas at the Social and Rehabilitation Services Learning Center, 2nd & Macvicar, South West East Circle Drive South, Building 2600, Room B. The meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. Tom Kohmetscher made motion to adjourn. Seconded by Carolyn Nelson.

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