



**SAN MATEO COUNTY CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
ACCESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**January 24, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

CCPC Members Present: Karen Alden (late), Karen Pace, Christine Padilla (Chair), Christine Thorsteinson

Members of the Public: Kristen Anderson, Pamela Campos, Marco Chávez, Suzi Guerra, Diana Harlick, Sarah Poulain, Karla Rodriguez, Eric Valladares

CCPC Staff/Minutes: Sarah Kinahan

1. Call to Order

Christine Padilla called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

2. Action to adopt a resolution finding that, as a result of continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency, meeting in person for the Child Care Partnership Council's Access Committee would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

MOTION: PACE / SECOND: THORSTEINSON
AYES: Unanimous
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

3. Action to set the agenda for January 24, 2022, and Approval of the Minutes for the November 15, 2021 meeting

MOTION: PACE / SECOND: THORSTEINSON
AYES: Unanimous
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

4. Welcome, Introductions and Check-in

Christine invited everyone to introduce themselves and provide updates.

Suzi Guerra introduced herself as Executive Director for Open Minds, Silicon Valley, and shared that Open Minds is opening a new early learning center with Family Connections. They are also a community resource for COVID PCR testing.

5. Discussion of Universal Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten

Marco Chávez, Associate Superintendent for Educational Services at the San Mateo County Office of Education shared updates on the Universal PreKindergarten (UPK) Planning and Implementation Grant Program and sought questions and input on UPK planning. Marco reviewed options for TK classroom



staffing and scheduling and noted that adult:child ratios are due to go to 1:10 in the 2023-24 school year. He shared that TK facilities will need to meet the needs of 4 year olds. He emphasized that parents have the choice to keep their child in Head Start or preschool, rather than enroll in TK. He shared that Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required to engage with parents in their planning efforts.

Some of the feedback included:

- Question – How can community-based providers partner with school districts?
- Comment – Districts will have to partner because they don't have enough facilities and staff to serve all 4 year olds.
- Question – Do parents know about the expanded TK eligibility and LEAs' UPK planning efforts?

Marco invited preschool leaders to a 2-part informational worksession series that SMCOE will be hosting to support UPK planning. The first session is on January 28.

6. Steps to Success Presentation

Christine Padilla reviewed a slide deck provided by the Santa Clara County Office of Education that outlines their "Steps to Success" public education campaign. The campaign's goals are to increase enrollment and attendance in early learning programs (birth through kindergarten). SCCOE is willing to work with San Mateo County to share and adapt their materials for our county.

The group discussed whether a campaign like this would be useful in San Mateo County and if it could be successful in reaching families and boosting enrollment. A local campaign would need to address parents' concerns about health & safety in early learning programs given the pandemic (SCCOE does have newer campaign materials that address this.) Starting with health and safety messaging could be a good way to start small with a campaign in San Mateo County.

To implement in San Mateo County, we would need to know where the program would reside and what resources are needed to launch and sustain. Silicon Valley Community Foundation and First 5 San Mateo County have done some initial research to understand the best communication channels in our county. Using this campaign has the potential to give us an excellent way to engage with City leaders.

Next step: Understand more about 4Cs referral database and invite them to give an R&R update at CCPC.

7. Hot Topics

No "Hot Topics" this month.

8. Adjournment

Christine adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

**The next CCPC Access Committee meeting is
Monday, March 21, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.**