



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

**March 21, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

CCPC Members Present: David Fleishman (late), Heather Hopkins, Karen Pace, Christine Padilla (Chair)
Members of the Public: Kristen Anderson, Diana Harlick, Chet Lexvold (late), Gina Quiney
CCPC Staff/Minutes: Ian Johnson

1. Call to Order Christine Padilla

Christine Padilla called the meeting to order at 9:11 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. Christine Padilla

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

3. Action to set the agenda for March 21, 2022, and Approval of the Minutes for the January 24, 2022, meeting Christine Padilla

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

4. Welcome, Introductions and Check-in Christine Padilla

Christine invited everyone to introduce themselves and provide updates.

- Karen Pace, Strategic Projects Manager, All Five (Belle Haven) updated the group that there have been delays, but their new expansion will hopefully be open and serving preschoolers by May 2022.
- Kristen Anderson, Child Care Planning and Policy Consultant, shared excitement concerning state facility grants being out and available and is interested to see how many providers in our county will be applying.

5. Hot Topics Christine Padilla

Christine Padilla provided the group an opportunity to discuss Hot Topics, and any other issues or concerns in the childcare community.

This meeting's Hot Topics were:

- The number of COVID cases are declining
- The possibility of a new variant
- Mask wearing (about 25% of children are not wearing masks)
 - Positives
 - Children are adaptive and used to masks
 - Negatives
 - Speech development and training in children
- School District TK rollout and outreach
 - Ravenswood has a Big Lift collaborative that has been working to make sure that UPK is an expansion of ECE spots and not taking away from existing providers.
 - Private preschools are concerned about the transition but also committed to expanding access and attendance.
- Heather Hopkins shared that Community Equity Collaborative is launching Rainbow Kids in April, a gender identity initiative focused on young children. Rainbow Kids was developed in partnership with San Mateo Pride Center with funding from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and will consist of online training and online materials. Rainbow Kids is a series of webinars (1 hour presentation / 30-minute Q&A) followed by companion resources and materials. This webinar will be developed into a Train-the-Trainer curriculum with information and materials accessible to partners.

6. Presentation on the SSF Early Care and Education for All Ballot Initiative

Chet Lexvold

Chet Lexvold, campaign organizer, presented the South San Francisco Early Care for All Parcel Tax Act.

The South San Francisco Early Care for All Parcel Tax Act is a ballot initiative campaign for the November 2022 election. Community organizers for social and economic justice, parents, teachers and early care and education workers, plus early care and education advocates from the nonprofit sector make up the coalition behind this campaign.

The three main tenants to the campaign are:

- **To provide free, universal early care and education for all 2.5- to 5-year-olds whose parents or guardians either reside or work in the South San Francisco Unified School District.**
 - South City's existing and affordable public preschool program has a four-year waitlist 700+ families long. Families who don't win a spot in this program can end up paying more than \$20,000/year per child for early care and education.
 - Early care and education reduces racial and income inequities, with proven benefits that lead to higher graduation rates and lower incarceration rates
- **To pay early care and education (ECE) workers a living wage, setting a wage-floor of 230% of minimum wage for the lowest-paid ECE worker.**
 - Currently, teachers' assistants in SSF's public preschool program make minimum wage (\$15.50/hr.), which is not a livable wage in the Bay Area.
 - UC Berkeley's Center for the Study of Child Care Employment reports the ECE workforce is one of the most underpaid in the county, comprised almost exclusively of women, 40% of whom are women of color. Wage justice is part of racial and gender justice.
- **To have this tax paid for by taxing wealthy corporations.**
 - Universal programs funded by progressive taxation are far more equitable and durable than means-tested programs funded through regressive taxation.



If passed this will be an opt-in program for ECE providers. This measure will create an administrative body to distribute funds and provide assistance on what the funds can be used for, such as administrative duties and infrastructure. This initiative does prioritize care for 2.5-to-5-year old's, but if there is enough support and revenue this could be adjusted to 0-5-year old's. The program will be adaptable over the years and the administrative body will be in control of these decisions.

This ballot measure is currently in the signature collection phase. Six thousand signatures must be collected by June 3, 2022. One big signature gathering mobilization has been organized for every weekend. 2,000 signatures have been gathered so far and about 45% of the time frame has elapsed.

\$50,000 dollars has been generated through fund raising in the campaign, although a large amount of that fund raising has been used toward legal fees (estimated \$35,000). These funds have also been used to hire a campaign intern.

For more information, please visit www.ece4allssf.org, or email, call or text Chet Lexvold at clexvold@gmail.com or (651) 380-2764.

8. Adjournment

Christine Padilla

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

**The next CCPC Access Committee meeting is
Monday, May 16, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.**