



ACCESS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, which amended certain provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950, *et seq.*) to allow for local agency legislative bodies to conduct their meetings remotely either telephonically or by other electronic means under specified circumstances. Thus, pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e), the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee meeting will be conducted via remote conferencing.

Monday, January 24, 2022, 09:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Website Link:

<https://smcoe.zoom.us/j/93331123527?pwd=Tmo4M3FwRWRYYTBoSjVZa1k4cytDdz09>

Meeting ID: 933 3112 3527

Passcode: 101

Dial In: 1-669-900-9128

Call to Order	Christine Padilla
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 <i>ATTACHMENTS 1A AND 1B</i>	Christine Padilla <i>ACTION ITEM</i>
Approval of March 21, 2022 Access Committee Meeting Agenda and Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2022 <i>ATTACHMENT 2</i>	Christine Padilla
Item #1: Welcome, Introductions and Check-in	Christine Padilla
Item #2: Hot Topics	Christine Padilla
Item #3: Presentation on the SSF Early Care and Education for All Ballot Initiative	Chet Lexvold
Adjournment	Christine Padilla

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

Date: March 21, 2022

To: San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee

From: Sarah Kinahan, CCPC Coordinator

Subject: Resolution to make findings allowing continued remote meetings under Brown Act

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution finding that, as a result of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom, meeting in person for the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

BACKGROUND:

On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, which rescinded his prior Executive Order N-29-20 and set a date of October 1, 2021 for public agencies to transition back to public meetings held in full compliance with the Brown Act. The original Executive Order provided that all provisions of the Brown Act that required the physical presence of members or other personnel as a condition of participation or as a quorum for a public meeting were waived for public health reasons. If these waivers had fully sunset on October 1, 2021, legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act would have to contend with a sudden return to full compliance with in-person meeting requirements as they existed prior to March 2020, including the requirement for full physical public access to all teleconference locations from which board members were participating.

On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that formalizes and modifies the teleconference procedures implemented by California public agencies in response to the Governor's Executive Orders addressing Brown Act compliance during shelter-in-place periods. AB 361 allows a legislative body to continue to use teleconferencing under the same basic rules as provided in the Executive Orders when certain circumstances occur or when certain findings have been made and adopted by the legislative body.

AB 361 provides that Brown Act legislative bodies must return to in-person meetings on October 1, 2021, unless they choose to continue with fully teleconferenced meetings because a specific declaration of a state or local health emergency is appropriately made. AB 361 allows legislative bodies to continue to conduct virtual meetings as long as there is a gubernatorially-proclaimed public emergency in combination with (1) local health official recommendations for social distancing or (2) adopted findings that meeting in person would present an imminent risk to health or safety of attendees. AB 361 became effective on October 1, 2021 and will sunset on January 1, 2024.

AB 361 also requires that, if the state of emergency remains active for more than 30 days, the legislative body must make findings by majority vote every 30 days to continue using the bill's exemption to the Brown Act teleconferencing rules. The findings demonstrate the need for teleconferencing persists due to the nature of the ongoing public health emergency. Effectively, this means that legislative bodies must either agendaize a Brown Act meeting once every thirty days to make these findings, or, if a legislative body has not made such findings within the prior 30 days, the legislative body must re-adopt the initial findings if it wishes to conduct a remote meeting.

DISCUSSION:

California Department of Public Health and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>).

On September 28, 2021, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the state of emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Board of Supervisors issued a finding that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and decided to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing for Board meetings. The Board also strongly encouraged other County legislative bodies to make a similar finding and continue meeting remotely through teleconferencing; and

Accordingly, we recommend that the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee avail itself of the provisions of AB 361 allowing continuation of online meetings by adopting findings to the effect that conducting in-person meetings would present an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees. A resolution to that effect and directing staff to take such other necessary or appropriate actions to implement the intent and purposes of the resolution, is attached hereto.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RESOLUTION FINDING THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM, MEETING IN PERSON FOR THE SAN MATEO COUNTY CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL WORKFORCE COMMITTEE WOULD PRESENT IMMINENT RISKS TO THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF ATTENDEES

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, pursuant to Government Code section 8550, et seq., Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency related to the COVID-19 novel coronavirus, and subsequently, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors (“Board”) declared a local emergency related to COVID-19, and the proclamation by the Governor and declaration by the Board remain in effect;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N- 29-20, which suspended certain provisions in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950, et seq. (the “Brown Act”), related to teleconferencing by legislative bodies, provided certain requirements were met and followed; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21, which extended provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 that waive otherwise-applicable Brown Act requirements related to remote/teleconference meetings by legislative bodies through September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 into law, and AB 361 provides that a legislative body subject to the Brown Act may continue to meet without complying with the otherwise-applicable requirements in the Brown Act related to remote/teleconference meetings by legislative bodies, provided that a state of emergency has been declared and the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and provided that the legislative body makes such finding at least every thirty (30) days during the term of the declared state of emergency; and bodies, provided that a state of emergency has been declared and the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and provided that the legislative body makes such finding at least every thirty (30) days during the term of the declared state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the

dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>); and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2021, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the state of emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Board issued a finding that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and decided to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing for meetings of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board also strongly encouraged other County legislative bodies to make a similar finding and continue meeting remotely through teleconferencing; and

WHEREAS, the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee has an important governmental interest in protecting the health, safety and welfare of those who participate in its meetings; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee will therefore invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing for meetings of the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council Access Committee finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
3. Staff is directed to take such other necessary or appropriate actions to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.



**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.**