

Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council

Minutes

The Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council met on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, in the Thomas Jefferson Room, located in the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. by Mellynn Baker. Members present were Maria Blanco, Carmen Brabham, Brigit Bryant, Rep. Kim Carver, Dr. Michelle DeMeulenaere, Aimee Ewing, Jane Hamilton, Deputy Chief Nicholas Heinen, Antoinette Hoard, Arielle Hughes, Jodie Joseph, Tafta Miller, Amy E. Moran, Norma Palma, Jonathan Pearce, Jen Roberts, Dr. Libbie Sonnier, Kellie Taylor-White, Shanda Theriot, David Thibodeaux, Kahree Wahid, Shannon Wyche, and Amy Zapata.

Lt. Markus Smith served as proxy for Captain Adam Albright, and Dr. Sarintha Stricklin served as proxy for Dr. Paula Polito.

Capt. Adam Albright, Kristy Bennett, Sen. Rick Edmonds, Rep. Jason Hughes, Dr. Ashley Lucas, Caroline Oglesby, Dr. Paula Polito, and Amy Zapata were not in attendance.

A quorum was present.

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education were Dr. Jenna Chiasson, Karen Powell, and Mellynn Baker.

1. On motion of Dr. Sonnier, seconded by Ms. Taylor-White, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council elected Dr. Paula Polito to serve as chair.
2. On motion of Dr. Sonnier, seconded by Ms. Taylor-White, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council elected Ms. Maria Blanco to serve as vice-chair.
3. On motion of Ms. Taylor-White, seconded by Ms. Roberts, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received the report regarding the meeting held November 15, 2023.

4. On motion of Ms. Taylor-White, seconded by Dr. Sonnier, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions to *Bulletin 137, Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations* regarding policy alignment, definitions, and technical edits.
5. On motion of Ms. Taylor-White, seconded by Ms. Bryant, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the proposed revisions, to *Bulletin 139, Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs* regarding time and attendance, required trainings, and B-3 contracted seats, with recommendations for stakeholder engagement.
6. On motion of Ms. Roberts, seconded by Ms. Bryant, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received Louisiana's Child Care and Development Fund State Plan overview.
7. On motion of Dr. Sonnier, seconded by Mr. Pearce, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received Louisiana's Early Learning Center Emergency Plan.
8. On motion of Mr. Pearce, seconded by Ms. Taylor-White, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received the report regarding the 2023 Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Quarterly Report - Quarter 4.

With no further business to come before the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.