

Policy Council Meeting Minutes



Virtual Meeting

Date: 2/17/2021 Time Convened: 6:01 PM Time Terminated: 8:04 PM **Recorder:** Imelda Prieto Martinez

TOPIC	RECOMMENDATION / SUMMARY				
Review Desired	Jasmine Cisneros, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. Matthew Carles Visa Chair, reviewed the desired outsomes and meeting ground rules				
Outcomes	Matthew Carlson, Vice Chair, reviewed the desired outcomes and meeting ground rules.				
and Meeting Rules					
Public Comment	None				
Correspondence	None				
Staff Recognition	The following staff was recognized for going above and beyond in their work with the children and the families:				
	 Aghogho Chinwike, Associate Teacher at Lavonia Allen, and Divina Tiamzon, Teacher at Bayo Vista, were presented with a certificate and a book to acknowledge their dedication to the children and families. 				
Ice Breaker	Policy Council Representatives participated in an icebreaker activity - "What creative activity do you do with your children now that they are home all the time?" - to open communication and build connections among members.				
Administrative	Katharine Mason, CSB Interim Director, welcomed Policy Council representatives and thanked them for attending.				
Reports	Administrative updates:				
CSB Interim Director	CSB Central Kitchen-tonight, you will be asked to consider approval of our "1303 Facilities Application", which is the funding plan for the central kitchen. I encourage you to ask any questions you may have.				
InterimDivisionManagerFiscal	 Upcoming Review by the State- CSB received a 60-Day Notice for the State's review of our childcare programs, some of which are blended with our Head Start and Early Head Start programs. It will take place in the first two weeks of April and will be virtual. Reviewers will look at child files and services provided to children and families, as well as attendance, enrollment, eligibility, and more. 				
	• On January 19, the Board of Supervisors approved salary increases for eight (8) job classifications: Teacher Associate in Training (TAT), Associate Teacher (preschool and infant/toddler), Building Service Workers, Food Transporters, and Child Nutrition Worker I, II & III. These increases will help us be more competitive employers to hire and retain employees in these positions while supporting our staff to be more financially stable.				
	 Amy Wells, Interim Division Manager, provided enrollment and attendance statistics for the month of January as follows: The month's enrollment was 58.92% for Head Start, 88.42% for Early Head Start, and 73% for Early Head Start Child Care Partnership #2. The month's attendance was 73.80% for Head Start, 78.40% for Early Head Start, and 75.60% for Early Head Start Child Care Partnership #2. 				
	Program updates:				

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- Contra Costa County Stay at Home order was lifted. CSB is currently enrolling families to reach max classroom capacity at this time (3, 4, 8, and 10). Further enrollment increases and modifications to the Reopening Plan will occur as we move to a less restrictive tier. Currently in Purple tier. At present, CSB goes above and beyond any requirements from the CA Dept. of Public Health and CCHSD-such as when to close, cleaning procedures, etc.
- Last week, Pride in Food Service Week! Centralized Nutrition Unit, (CNU) preps and serves/delivers almost 1000 meals a day to our children! Usually more, but due to pandemic, we serve less children on-site. Staff and children recognized the CNU with a hand print bouquet of flowers and beautiful drawings. Visits were made from Katharine, Isabel, and Amy. Lots of social media recognition. Thank you to Isabel for her support of CNU.
- Air purifiers in each classroom-many were provided already, but some still in progress. The air purifier covers up to 800 square feet. Thank you to Jay and Business Systems for leading those efforts!
- CSB Connect-web portal for families/staff. Hoping for completion by the end of February. Public info-such as site names and locations, how to apply for services, and request eligibility appointments. Also would allow current families to log in to see specific child and classroom information. Teachers will have the ability to post lesson plans and activities, including links for stories and read-aloud, including gross motor activities (such as YouTube). Chat features and much more! More details to come as we roll this out shortly.
- Continued focus on wellness throughout CSB. Monday &Wednesday wellness activities. 5-minute cognitive breaks. Alsospace for staff; Bayo Vista break room is now complete.
- Members of Senior Administrative Managers, (SAM) are continuing with their participation in the 21-day Racial Equity Challenge. Each meeting, we reflect on what we have done to further our own knowledge and how to implement what was learned in the workplace thoughtfully.
- Reminders-Follow us on Facebook and YouTube

Haydee Ilan, Accountant III, presented the following fiscal reports:

- **2020-2021 Head Start Program: December 2020** year-to-date cash expenditures were \$14,388,653 YTD, representing 77% of the program budget.
- **2020-2021 Early Head Start Program: December 2020** year-to-date cash expenditures were \$2,527,739 YTD, representing 61% of the program budget.
- **2020-2021 Early Head Start CC Partnership: December 2020** year-to-date cash expenditures were \$1,179,207 YTD, representing 23% of the program budget.
- **Credit Card expenditures** for all programs, including Head Start and Early Head Start, for the month of **December 2020** were \$10,661.10.
- Child and Adult Care Food Program: December 2020, total meals served, including breakfast, lunch, and supplements, were 6,607.

Subcommittee Updates

Program Services: Myriah Herrington shared the information presented and discussed during the subcommittee meeting, including the 2018-2022 Goals & Objectives updates, Child Outcomes report and 1303 Facilities Application.

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Fiscal: Myriah Herrington shared the information reviewed during their subcommittee meeting, including Fiscal reports from December, 2019 Head Start/Early Head Start Unobligated Funds and 2019-2020 Early Head Start Child Care Partnership 2 Unobligated Funds.

Bylaws: Rita Loza, CS Manager shared on behalf of Karen, Parliamentarian, the information reviewed during their subcommittee meeting, including the 2021 Policy Council Bylaws summary of changes.

Action: Consider approval of 2019 Head Start/Early Head Start Unobligated Funds

Haydee Ilan, Accountant III, reviewed the 2019 Head Start/Early Head Start request for carryover of unobligated balance. CSB is requesting carryover of unspent/unobligated funds of \$853,265 from the year 2019 grant to the year 2021 Head Start and Early Head Start Programs, Grant #09CH010862/04. These carryover funds will be used to finance a portion of the new Kitchen project as outlined in the 1303 facility application to be submitted to Administration For Children and Families (ACF).

A motion to approve the 2019 Head Start/Early Head Start Unobligated Funds was made by Delia Zarges and seconded by Matthew Carlson. The motion passed

Ayes		Nays	Abstentions	Not Present	
Jasmine Cisneros	Maria Palestino		Jason Streffery	Deniedre Henry	
Joel Nickelson-Shanks	Devlyn Sewell			Jasmine Jackson	
Delia Zarges	Deanna Carmona			Evelyn Garcia	
Dana Von Austin	Nivette Moore-Abalo			Jamillah Monroe	
Matthew Carlson				Maria Chavez	
Kara Simmons					
Karen Medrano					
Myriah Herrington					
Folakemi Omole					

Consider approval of 2019-2020 Early Head Start Child

Care Partnership 2

Unobligated Funds

Action:

Haydee Ilan, Accountant III, reviewed the 2019-2020 Early Head Start Child Care Partnership #2 request for carryover of unobligated balance. CSB is requesting carryover of unspent/unobligated funds of \$1,457,564 from FY2019-20 grant to FY2020-21 Early Head Start-CCP2 Program, Grant #09HP000111/04. These carryover funds will be used to finance projects with Public Works that are already in the pipeline to improve CSB's various facilities, which have the status of work in progress. Likewise, a portion of the carryover funds will be used to finance the new Kitchen project as well as to support other necessary program expenditures.

A motion to approve the 2019-2020 Early Head Start Child Care Partnership 2 Unobligated Funds was made by Matthew Carlson and seconded by Delia Zarges. The motion passed

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Ayes		Nays	Abstentions	Not Present
Jasmine Cisneros	Maria Palestino			Deniedre Henry
Joel Nickelson-Shanks	Devlyn Sewell			Jasmine Jackson
Delia Zarges	Deanna Carmona			Evelyn Garcia
Dana Von Austin	Nivette Moore-Abalo			Jamillah Monroe
Matthew Carlson				Maria Chavez
Kara Simmons				Folakemi Omole

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	Karen Medrano						
	Myriah Herrington						
	Jason Streffery						
Action:		Sarah Reich, ASA III, reviewed the 1303 Facilities Application for the Central Kitchen. CSB is requesting to utilize Head Start funds to					
Consider approval	contribute to the cost of the relocation and renovation of the CSB's Central Kitchen. The Central Kitchen provides over 30,000 meals						
of 1303 Facilities	a month to 14 centers serving children and families in need, resulting in 2/3 of a child's daily nutritional needs.						
Application for the	A motion to approve the 1303 Facilities Application for the Central Kitchen was made by Matthew Carlson and seconded by Dana						
Central Kitchen	Von Austin. The motion passed						
		Ayes	Nays	Abstentions	Not Present		
	Jasmine Cisneros	Folakemi Omole			Deniedre Henry		
	Joel Nickelson-Shanks	Maria Palestino			Jasmine Jackson		
	Delia Zarges	Devlyn Sewell			Evelyn Garcia		
	Dana Von Austin	Deanna Carmona			Jamillah Monroe		
	Matthew Carlson	Nivette Moore-Abalo			Maria Chavez		
	Kara Simmons						
	Karen Medrano						
	Myriah Herrington						
	lacan Straffon						
	Jason Streffery						
Action:	Christina Reich, Divis	- ·	•	~	cy Council Bylaws. The Policy Council serves		
Consider approval	Christina Reich, Divis a governing body us	ing a shared decision-ma	aking process with th	e County Board of Su	cy Council Bylaws. The Policy Council serves pervisors in all matters relating to the Head		
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Action: Consider approval of 2021 Policy Council Bylaws	Christina Reich, Divis a governing body us Start and Early Head A motion to approv motion passed Jasmine Cisneros Joel Nickelson-Shanks Delia Zarges Dana Von Austin Matthew Carlson Kara Simmons Karen Medrano Myriah Herrington Jason Streffery	ing a shared decision-made Start programs operate the 2021 Policy Counce Ayes Folakemi Omole Maria Palestino Devlyn Sewell Deanna Carmona	aking process with the d by the Community il Bylaws was made Nays	Services Bureau. by Matthew Carlson and Abstentions	nand seconded by Nivette Moore-Abalo. The Not Present Deniedre Henry Jasmine Jackson Evelyn Garcia Jamillah Monroe Maria Chavez		

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Consider Approval of January 20, 2021, Policy Council Minutes A motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2021, Policy Council meetings was made by Delia Zarges and seconded by Matthew Carlson. The motion was approved.

Ayes		Nays	Abstentions	Not Present
Jasmine Cisneros	Folakemi Omole			Deniedre Henry
Joel Nickelson-Shanks	Maria Palestino			Jasmine Jackson
Delia Zarges	Devlyn Sewell			Evelyn Garcia
Dana Von Austin	Deanna Carmona			Jamillah Monroe
Matthew Carlson	Nivette Moore-Abalo			Maria Chavez
Kara Simmons				
Karen Medrano				
Myriah Herrington				
Jason Streffery				

Report:

2018-2022 Goals & Objectives – January updates

Sarah Reich, ASA III, provided an overview of the 2018-2022 Goals & Objectives – January updates.

Goal 1: Through the use of multiple technologies, CSB will develop systems to enhance staff and client communication while coordinating program-wide approaches to effective data management and ensuring high-quality service delivery.

Objective 1: By June 30, 2021, CSB will take a program-wide approach to identify a platform that allows families to access individualized child and family information remotely.

Outcome 1: CSB will identify a web-based application providing families a platform for accessing information specific to their child and family needs. This will improve communication between families and staff across all content areas and support family engagement.

January Update: CSB is in the process of developing a website inclusive of all programs to interact with families, community partners, and staff. The web design has been completed, and developers are in the process of linking functions to the CLOUDS database.

Objective 2: By June 30, 2021, CSB will use technologies to design a contact-less sign-in/out process that supports safety for families and staff while maintaining accurate records.

Outcome 2: CSB will implement a touchless attendance process through the use of QR codes to record daily electronic signatures, reducing the risk of spreading illness through communal use of hardware. Utilizing QR codes will expedite the sign-in/out process and support child attendance data management.

January Update: The QR code system for sign-in/out has been developed and is currently being used at all CSB centers. CSB has collected input from initial implementation and is currently working with developers to refine the process to ensure efficiencies.

Objective 3: By June 30, 2021, CSB will employ new innovative strategies to support communication with clients conducive to a remote workspace, including the CLOUDS calling feature.

Outcome 3: CSB will ensure staff can effectively connect with families remotely through the implementation of an embedded calling feature to allow staff working from home to communicate with families through the CLOUDS application. Recordkeeping will be enhanced through automated records kept by the database showing contact history.

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January Update: CSB has developed a calling feature in CLOUDS, which maintains automated records. The feature has been tested and presented to the CLOUDS user group. A training video has been created, and staff training will be conducted by Spring 2021 to support families' communication, especially as we continue to engage families remotely.

Goal 2: Due to an 84% increase in Early Head Start slots (from 311 to 623) in two years, CSB will enhance its Early Head Start programming through a multi-faceted approach.

Objective 1: By June 2021, CSB will implement an oral health curriculum for families and staff to support dental health practices at home and at school.

Outcome 1: Parent evaluations at two directly operated and two partner sites will indicate which curriculum is best received and demonstrate that parents have a great understanding of the need to attend to oral health at birth to reduce the risk of early onset dental decay in children under three years old.

January Update: Oral Health Curriculum "Teeth for Two" and "Mouth Healthy-Pregnancy" are scheduled for February's parent meeting/workshop at Aspiranet and Crossroads. "Teeth for Tots" and "Mouth Healthy-Babies and Kids" are scheduled for February's parent meeting at Ambrose and Contra Costa College. CSB will evaluate success to inform program-wide implementation.

Objective 2: By December 2020, select program staff will receive Infant/Toddler CLASS coaching with a certified Infant/Toddler CLASS consultant to increase their understanding of best practices in adult/child interactions.

Outcome 2: Evaluations from training will show that staff knowledge of best practices increased due to this training. Ongoing education monitoring results will show improvement in adult/child interactions.

January Update: Infant/Toddler CLASS coaching was initially put on hold due to our county shelter-in-place. We resumed coaching using a virtual format in October 2020. The program is extended through Spring 2021. At that time, we will provide the participants with an evaluation form to encourage the participants to reflect on their experience. Once in-class monitoring resumes, our monitoring team will continue with ongoing education monitoring.

Goal 3: CSB will implement a "Grow Our Own" approach to hiring, developing, and retaining a robust staff across all service areas that are responsive to the clients and intrinsically motivated to be the best they can be through a variety of supports and services. **Objective 1**: By December 2020, 7 additional Teacher Assistant Trainees (TAT) will complete the core 12 units by participating in the ECE Work-Study Program, in partnership with the colleges of Contra Costa and the YMCA of the East Bay.

Outcome 1: Seven TATs will have completed the program and be eligible to apply for the Associate Teacher Permit and for promotion as an Associate Teacher within our agency, thereby alleviating the teacher shortage.

January Update: Two TATs have completed the program and are in the process of applying for the Associate Teacher permit. Three TATs continue in Spring 2021 and are set to complete the program by the end of that semester. With the pandemic affecting this program's execution, the recruitment plan Is being redesigned to adapt to the new climate.

Objective 2: By December 2020, the Staff Health Improvement Plan, in partnership with the Wellness Champions, will incorporate wellness activities unique to each unit or center's needs. The impact of efforts will be measured by the annual workforce satisfaction survey.

Outcome 2: The workforce satisfaction survey will show an increase in the areas of joy at work, good self-care, and work balance, feeling heard, engaging in reflective practice, and receiving recognition and appreciation.

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January Update: Due to several surveys that were issued in 2020 to assess stress, anxiety, and feedback from staff to ensure support for staff in delivering services during sweeping shifts and changes, the workforce satisfaction survey has been postponed to Summer 2021.

Objective 3: By June 2021, CSB will utilize innovative recruitment strategies to increase the number of qualified Teacher Assistant Trainees (TAT) and Associate Teachers (AT) by 10%.

Outcome 3: CSB's TAT and AT staff will increase by 10%, translating into a reduction in vacancies, ensuring CSB's ability to achieve full enrollment and serve all enrolled children. This reduces workloads and stress levels of existing staff increases the ability to use subs for staff illness and vacation rather than in long-term vacancy placement, and increases the number of candidates for the ECE Work-Study programs.

January Update: A total of the following were hired: Three Associate Teachers and six Teacher Assistant Trainees.

Goal 4: CSB will implement data-driven Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) services that embrace the PFCE framework and result in measurable impacts that achieve the organization's mission.

Objective 1: By June 2021, CSB will practice "Strong Partners/Strong families," a new approach directed at re-designing Parent Committee Meetings and enhancing meaningful participation by parents and staff.

Outcome 1: This approach to parent meetings will foster an authentic partnership with families. Site Supervisors and Comprehensive Services will complete training on organizing and hosting meaningful virtual parent meetings. CSB will validate family and staff participation through documentation of meeting sign-in.

January Update: The parent meeting re-design is planned for Spring 2021.

Objective 2: By June 2021, CSB will build pro-fathering knowledge, attitudes, and skills of the fathers and other male caregivers by piloting the Fathering in 15^(TM): Online Learning for Dads.

Outcome 2: CSB will pilot the program with two directly centers by the fall. Through analysis of pilot outcomes, CSB will then offer Fathering in 15^{TM} bureau-wide by June 2021. Usage data and other reports provided by the tool and evaluations will demonstrate the impact this program has had on the fathers/father figures.

January Update: The pilot of the pro-fathering online learning will be facilitated in Spring 2021.

Objective 3: By June 2021, CSB will implement a comprehensive approach to serving homeless families that addresses all of their needs that result from the devastating effects of homelessness.

Outcome 3: CSB will improve the identification of families meeting the McKinney Vento definition of homelessness, implement ECLKC training for comprehensive services staff, and develop streamlined referral processes with CSB's housing partners in the Community Action Program.

January Update: All Comprehensive Services staff completed the ECLKC training on homelessness in October 2019. By March 2021, Comprehensive Services staff will participate in refresher training focused on McKinney Vento definitions and the ECLKC training. By April 2021, the referral process will be developed and implemented with Community Action Partners. By May 2021, the Centralized Enrollment Unit will implement a screening questionnaire as part of the new families' enrollment process.

Report:

The DRDP Child Outcomes & School Readiness Report was tabled to the next meeting due to time restraints.

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1st DRDP Child	
1 st DRDP Child Outcomes & School Readiness Report Site Reports	Ambrose DRDP's were completed for all children, including Distance Learners. Teachers keep supporting Distance Learners through ZOOM and weekly check-ins. Ms. Patty Moreno is participating in the Teaching Learning Community (TLC) program. Three (3) Air Purifiers were installed at Ambrose last week. Teachers and children created "Thank you Cards" for our wonderful Nutrition Services Unit. Grab-N-Go bags with family activities were distributed. Diapers were donated to two of our families. Bayo Vista Bayo-Vista is celebrating Black History Month and Chinese New Year with activities and books celebrating both cultures. The Preschool classroom received new games and activities to be used for the children, and all rooms received new books. Alarms for the gates on the playground were replaced. The Teachers Staff lounge is now complete. The next phase is to begin setting up the lounge with furnishings. Parents received information regarding Kindergarten Registration and TK Transfer deadlines for school districts. Contra Costa College We are celebrating the success of being fully enrolled. This month is Black History Month. We have many different projects going on in each classroom about the History of African Americans. The toddler room has made buses represent Rosa Parks and her bravery, not sitting in the back of the bus. The infant room has colored pictures of Fredrick Douglas and Barack Obama, some of the most famous black men in History. The teachers have also put up a display board of African American inventors, writers, poets, actors, and activists who made a difference in African Americans' History. We share our resources with the parents about Food Bank opportunities and COVID vaccines at the college. George Miller III GMIII staff have come together to show their greatness in developing a plan to help parents sign in their children each morning without a long wait, making the process run more efficiently. Teachers have received new literacy materials for their classrooms to support the chil
	Teaching Pyramid coach Ruth Rodriguez. • Parents have received information about the Dual Language Learning Program with the WCCUSD, which is open for registration this month.
	Lavonia Allen
	We welcomed Ms. Doretha back from her leave of Absence.
	The teaching staff received new educational supplies and IPADs for distance learning students
	and the state of t

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New air purifiers were installed at Lavonia Allen.

	Classrooms received new plants and a betta fish.					
	Los Arboles					
	Staff and children are well and healthy- no illness.					
	 Children are getting more comfortable wearing their masks throughout the day. The Preschool classroom is full, and we are working on enrolling a couple of children for the toddler room. 					
	• The Preschool classroom is full, and we are working on enrolling a couple of children for the toddler room.					
	One of the children previously in distance learning came back to in-class services. Me are re introducing some of the classed areas that weren't available due to COVID, such as: dramatic play areas, sand and					
	 We are re-introducing some of the closed areas that weren't available due to COVID, such as: dramatic play areas, sand and water areas. Teachers individualized play by having their own dramatic play bag for each child with a container of individual sand and water. 					
	 QR scanning codes are working well for the staff and the families. 					
	 Children will be working on an insects project starting in March. 					
	 Monthly educational packets are going home to distance learning ch 	ildren.				
	Riverview					
	We reopened and are following strict CDC Guidelines. We frequently wash hands, encourage children to wear a mask, and social distance.					
	 We gave out a tablet for a child to have individualized speech therapy; we received new shelves for beds and flashlights for each classroom and office. 					
	The yard was cleaned, discard old toys and some old equipment, and arranged the kitchen to keep it clean and comfortable					
	to prepare meals.					
	 Classroom 1 is working on a Zoo animals project, and classroom 2 is working on a Farm animals project. Parents received information about kindergarten registration and ESL Online parenting classes. 					
A	Parents received information about kindergarten registration and ESL Online parenting classes. Pita Large Company Agricus Managar (agricus Managar) (a					
Announcements	Rita Loza, Comprehensive Services Manager (on behalf of Ana Araujo, Comprehensive Services Manager for Parent, Family, and Community Engagement), provided the following announcements and resources:					
	Supporting Father Involvement Workshop, to register call (925) 689-5811 or online at www.copefamilysupport.org					
	Contra Costa County Office of Education – 2021 Virtual Job Fair (Saturday, February 27, 2021)					
	https://hopin.com/events/cccoe-2021-virtual-job-fair					
	TK and Kindergarten Registration (flyers will be emailed)					
	Strengths Breakthrough Workshop in May 2021 – a survey will be sent to check availability					
	The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2021.					
Meeting Evaluation	Pluses / +	<u>Deltas / Δ</u>				
	Excellent facilitation	The order of the approval items will be reviewed				
	Informative discussion	carefully when setting up the agenda				

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