

Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE)  
Early Childhood Care and Education Commission (ECCEC)

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Minutes – Unofficial

The January 21, 2021 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission was called to order at 11:06 A.M.

Members present were: Judy Thompson, Michael Tipton, Maria Blanco, Anthony C. “Buddy” Leach, Ileana Ledet, Alan Young, Libbie Sonnier, Ph.D., Representative Stephanie Hilferty, Representative Gary Carter, Monique Scott-Spaulding, Scott Richard, Monique Rouege, Liz Smith, Melissa Goudeau, Senator Beth Mizell, Paula Polito, Cindy Rushing, Dionne Frost, Keith Perrin, M.D., Shery Guarisco, Lindsey Fisher, Seema Dave, Brenda Sharp, Jenna Chiasson, Ph.D., Kahree Wahid, Brittany Braun, Susannah Craig, Ph.D., Stacey Neal, Toni Buxton, Sandy Holloway, and Mary Mills.

Kayla McCollum served as a proxy for First Lady Donna Edwards. Allison Tregg served as a proxy for Charles H. Zeanah, M.D.

Susan Spring, Ph.D., Melissa Stilley, Theon Julien, Senator Regina Barrow, Michelle Fazio-Brunson, Ph.D., Cynthia DiCarlo, Ph.D., Linda Flynn, Ph.D., and Christina Melton were absent.

Public comment was received by Melanie Bronfin.

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education was Jenna Chiasson and Taylor Dunn.

Jenna Chiasson requested a motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2020 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission (ECCEC).

- 1 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Dr. Perrin, the ECCEC approved the minutes of the October 26, 2020 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission (ECCEC).

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Libbie Sonnier, Ph.D. and Michael Tipton presented the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission Task Force recommendations.

- 2 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Tipton, the ECCEC received the ECCEC Task Force recommendations, as follows:
  - a. The Louisiana Legislature should increase the state budget for early childhood by \$85.8 million in the next state fiscal year;
  - b. The Louisiana Legislature should ensure the Early Childhood Education Fund is sufficiently funded to match revenue raised by local entities; and

- c. The Louisiana legislature should facilitate local revenue generation, or consider ways to do so in the long-term.

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Taylor Dunn provided an update on the process to develop the 2021 ECCEC report.

- 3 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Tipton, the ECCEC received the update on the process to develop the 2021 ECCEC report.

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Jenna Chiasson provided an update regarding the proposal for the Louisiana Early Childhood Family Website.

- 4 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Tipton, the ECCEC received the update regarding the proposal for the Louisiana Early Childhood Family Website.

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Taylor Dunn provided a discussion regarding the ECCEC Workgroup on Family Child Care.

- 5 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Tipton, the ECCEC received the update regarding the ECCEC Workgroup on Family Child Care.

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- 6 With no further business to come before the ECCEC, the October 26, 2020 meeting of the ECCEC was adjourned at 12:56 P.M.