



Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee MEETING MINUTES

Growing jobs, careers, communities...

DATE: April 8, 2022
TIME: 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Zoom - <https://siskiyous-edu.zoom.us/j/95467254045>
COMMITTEE
CHAIR: Cathy Scott
PROGRAM
COORDINATOR: Patrice Thatcher-Stephens
STAFF: Christina Van Alfen, CTE, Interim Dean
Note taker: Courtney Williamson

Present: Patrice Thatcher, Cathy Scott, Courtney Williamson, Gordon Chatham, Heather Solus, Cassie Mecina, Marie Caldwell, Carol Wheeler, Anne Marie Acord, Sarah Bogener, Christina Van Alfen, Bright Nichols-Stock, April Ferguson, Tamara Alexander, Priscilla, Mike Michelon

Absent:

- **Welcome and Meeting Start-up (5 minutes)**

Review Minutes – Cathy: motion to approve?

Christina: Wrong agenda

Cathy: Motion to approve: Patrice, second by Carol

Please sign-in in the Chat.

- **College of the Siskiyous (10 minutes per topic)**

- Staffing Updates iDean Van Alfen

Christina: working on filling our President position. Will have a final decision in a couple of months. Recruiting for ADHS faculty, two Fire faculty, Business, several positions on the LAS side. Temporarily closed RN step-up program, LVN on pause because of no faculty

- COS Counseling and Advising Kim Peacemaker

Patrice: hiring two full-time counselors

- Perkins Comprehensive Needs Assessment (handouts)

Christina: sharing Main Summary Document. We look at labor market data, size, scope and quality, student outcomes. For ECE workers, not administration: just above living wage for region, employment outlook for preschool teachers is anticipated to increase by 6%, childcare workers is looking to decrease over the next 5 years, undersupply of awards (staff) vs. occupational demand

Patrice: it's undersupplied

Christina: I will send an email after the meeting with questions, think and give feedback within the next week. Due to the state on the 20th. Size is our resource (human, equipment, monetary), scope: should we be looking at expanding the scope (certs/degrees needed to support labor market), quality: are we providing high-skilled individuals, for in-demand occupations. Student performance: are they staying in the programs? How many are completing? And are they becoming employed afterwards?

Perkins: focuses on special populations. They'd like to see us recruit and support them so they are as successful as the student population in general

Patrice: are we really capturing all of the data?

Christina: we currently don't have a data collection method for homeless or youth with parents in active military. Some of it is on our application forms, some is through SAS. Some is voluntary for students to report. Our program level data is probably much more accurate than the data going through the Chancellor's Office. Perkins funds us based on CTE students who are economically disadvantaged. Take the data with a grain of salt, but think about the questions we email. Any questions? Nope, I'm done.

- CTE Updates

- **Early Education Program Updates (10 minutes per agency)**

- Siskiyou Early Head Start – Cassie: we've been struggling to find employees and teachers. We closed down a toddler/infant room due to low staff. Over the last week we hired new staff, 2nd toddler room is now open. We also had a traditional toddler room approved. 57 enrolled, 4 teachers and 2 aide positions open. Media and outreach coordinator is Tamara, couldn't make it today. She is working on a video, Patrice

Marie: we have a job fair planned on May 17th, we had over 100 job seekers last time

Cathy: let's connect Early Head Start to that for sure!

Patrice: please send me an email with your contact info Marie!

- Shasta Head Start – Sarah: currently in the same boat as Siskiyou Head Start, need teacher and family worker for Yreka Center. If we fill those spots we can open back up in person in Fall. Our MOU is done at our Weed Center in June this year. Mt. Shasta location we are fully staffed. Starting recruitment for children for next program year. Cassie, I will send you an email about children who are phasing out. Gordon do you want to add anything?

Gordon: relocating to Weed Elementary. New center with long term location

Patrice: 8th grade day students will visit the Discovery yard

April: we are doing practicum students this semester. 4 of them, 2 in person, 2 that zoom in

- Karuk Head Start – just came back from Anchorage and was able to visit their Early Head Start Center that week. We are open, looking for a teacher and a teacher in Happy Camp. Childcare option in Happy Camp and just started it in Yreka. 7:45-5pm hours. One of our Yreka staff members is a young male. Recruiting for our next school year. Will do a break and then start a kindergarten transition program in the summer

- Happy Campers – Cathy: absent, Abbie is in Hawaii. They have wonderful materials, continuous quality improvement plan. Enrollment is 14 children

- **ECE@COS Program Updates (15-20 minutes)**

- DCDC Transition – establishing a partnership with Siskiyou Child Care Council. In the middle of preparing for facility renovations, going to make a classroom into a smart classroom. Ordering materials and equipment and one of the head teachers. Working on a classroom design. My office space might be moved into the actual building. Working with SCCC to create options for infant/toddler, after school for older children. Heather and Christina please wave and say yes this is happening (both waved, then said yes).

- COVID Adaptations – Patrice: will you update us on the college policy?

- Current - Christina: we have lifted our mask mandate, it's optional. We still have a weekly testing requirement or vaccination. Daily check-ins, temperature and system check-in.

- Future - Waiting to see if anything changes since mask mandate has been lifted

- Classes and Enrollment Patrice

- Spring 2022

- Summer 2022 – Infant/toddler development, Staffing, Into

- Fall 2022 – no absolute decision yet

- Winter 2023 – Special Needs class

- Spring 2023 – shared proposed classes spreadsheet
Christina – May 2 open enrollment. Priority: April 25 Priority II: April 29. K-12: May 9th
Patrice: all of this will be available soon

Practicum change: 1-unit lecture, 2 units, 1-unit lab. Finally, this year, after curriculum update, Changed Practicum to a 4-unit class. Automatically MB qualified and can apply to SOU. Also, we did a course update, there's a list called CID and our classes have to align with them. I got a really nice note from a Curriculum Alignment Program. CAP classes will now be updated

Program name change: we used to be Home Ec, so we changed it to ECE. I called us COS Child Development and Early Education Program because nobody has stopped me. Proposed name changes are: Child Development, Families and Early Education or Child and Family Studies and Early Education. I also redid the program description. I'd like your thoughts on the new names

Cathy: I like the Child Development and Early Education

Priscilla: I like the one Cathy likes

Carol: Family Studies

Patrice: Child Development, Family Education?

Carol: I like the one Cathy just said. I like Child, Family, Early Childhood Development Studies

Cathy: Family Studies and Early Education?

Christina: yes, I like that one!

- Permit Party May 2022 – Patrice: May 22nd. Cathy is doing the data gathering and tell them they will get their permit

Cathy: I have a list of all the qualified people in the county and ones that aren't and what they need to do

Patrice: for the last 17 years we've been talking about certificates. Everyone always asks about them. Working with Christina on certificates. There will a 26-unit class that will earn an administrator certificate

Christina: it's just a hoop for the college to jump through. It won't change the program at all.

We are packaging it which helps with funding. Currently the credential doesn't count as a certificate. We have to get paperwork done. At the Fall meeting we will present it to the committee and get it approved and present it to the college

- Mentor Teacher Program – Cathy: we have 6 mentors, 19 practicum students. Mentors are all encouraging staff to get permits. We really want practicum to create a viable workforce. The selection committee is coming back. We don't know the new process, but if you know a good candidate that would make a good mentor, make a list

Patrice: I won't yell out names but there are a couple here

Cathy: I'm just learning, but I have connections with other colleges and have been learning it from the coordinator side

Carol: there have been some conversation amongst the director mentors, we might be put back with the coordinator for you?

Cathy: Haven't heard that but the grant might be coming back. It would be an in person

Carol: I have two potentials

Cathy: that's all I have

- **Community Agency Updates (10 minutes per agency)**

- First Five and CARES – Text from Karen: Katie Eastman is hired as the new Quality Counts

Cathy: paper dolls, pinwheels

- Siskiyou Child Care Council – we are working on our partnership with COS. Once transition completed, we will open an infant/toddler center here. Other than that, I'm still trying to learn everything

- Local Planning Council – Cathy: It's been really hard with COVID, we've been able to increase childcare in Willow Creek. Able to keep Shasta Head Start in Weed and find them

a perfect location match and finding a spot at COS for Siskiyou Head Start. Local childcare planning council, working on collaborations for a TK—PreK program. Drafting a statement for what we want to see and what we recommend. Another goal of LPC is to get everyone to train together

Patrice: COS has finally reconnected with the local planning council

Cathy: We have openings on LPC, two public agency openings.

- QRIS Collaboration – Cathy: growing and expanding. Really exciting about all of the collaboration. Any questions?

Patrice: short comment. Help Me Grow is wrapping up, however, if we have a non-profit designation

Bright: question about K-12. What is happening with outreach?

Patrice: Dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment. We contact high schools to remind them.

We've always had high school students in our ECE program

Marie: Strong Workforce grant?

Cathy: most students come to the college as ROP students

Bright: we no longer offer ROP's in Siskiyou County

Cathy: up until 4 years ago, I haven't had a formal way to direct high school students to centers

Marie: in 2008 all of the funds were swept for vocational or ROP, into the general funds.

They're now called CTE Programs. The SWF came to replace that. All of the high schools belong to that, also some middle schools. Education pathways, we have two students from Happy Camp HS working in Happy Campers daycare. As we move forward, we are writing our K-16 grant. The whole north state region will be working on this. All of the 10-county office of educations are all working on this.

Patrice: I want to be careful of the employment numbers. Employment opportunities are decreasing

Marie: the purpose of this program is a stackable certificate with many onramps and offramps to education. The idea is that you can enter the field with the stackable certificates, not just directly out of HS to a 4-year school. This grant links all of those programs with a really clear pipeline, the programs will link and align through to a UC and right back down to middle school. All community colleges and county offices are on board.

Cathy: that's wonderful. I volunteered in HS at my local head start and it led to a 30-year career. Is it just UC Davis they can transfer to?

Marie: they can go to any college with this program, but with this particular prog, it requires one community college, one USC and one UC.

Patrice: let's come back to this after Bright and Marie discuss with Christina

Christina: the reason SOU isn't specified is because it's a California specific grant. We're unique because we are so close to the border

Cathy: thank you guys for your work on this grant

Meeting Adjourned 4:58pm

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