

**PDAC Steering Committee**  
**August 2, 2023**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Bela Mote	Julie Lindstrom	Norma Moore
Beth Knight	Lauri Morrison Frichtl	Rebecca Livengood
Elva DeLuna	Marcus Brown	Shauna Ejeh
Joellyn Whitehead	Marcy Mendenhall	Stephanie Bernoteit
Johnna Darragh Ernst	Marsha Hawley	Teri Talan
Joni Scritchlow	Mercedes Mondragon	

### Welcome and Review of Minutes

- May 3, 2023
  - Marcy Mendenhall moved to accept the minutes.
  - Marcus Brown seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

### Reports

- Illinois Head Start Association – Lauri Morrison Frichtl
  - Full enrollment is measured to be at least 97% fully enrolled.
  - Programs don't have the workforce to open classes, if they are unable to maintain 97% enrollment, programs are put on a list for chronic under enrollment plan with 12 months to get to full enrollment. Funds could be taken away from programs if they are unable to meet full enrollment.
  - Concern regarding the FY24 Federal budget. The House has proposed a 6.25% cut to Head Start funding, the Senate proposed a slight increase to funding.
  - One option is for programs to cut the number of children served in order to keep their level of funding, and use funds to raise salaries for a more competitive salary base.
  - Possible for reauthorization after the 2024 elections.
- Illinois State Board of Education – Norma Moore
  - Contract was released for the CS Three Community Systems project. This contract has been awarded to Illinois Action for Children.
  - PFAE contract for monitoring has not yet been awarded, currently waiting to see if there are any appeals and once that is complete it will be awarded.
  - Early Childhood Block grant includes Preschool for All Preschool for All Expansion and Preschool for All Prevention initiative RFP closed on June 30th. Currently the applications are being read, with the goal to award in September or October.
- Illinois Community College Board – Marcus Brown
  - Continue to accept scholarships for the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity.
    - Expanded eligibility for this fall. Continue to see growth in the number of students seeking scholarships.
  - Anticipate the final Consortium report soon.
  - ICCB has released a dual credit report. Have experienced an increase over the past year. Dual credit helps students continue to more through their programs.
  - The next Early Childhood Advisory Council meeting is on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Illinois Board of Higher Education – Stephanie Bernoteit and Marsha Hawley
  - Continue to enroll students for the scholarship.
  - Working with four higher education institutions through a competitive grant for Early Childhood faculty preparation program to recruit and train a diverse early childhood faculty. Institutions include: National Louis University, Illinois State University, University of Illinois – Chicago and Lewis University.
  - A joint statement was released by the Illinois Board of Education, Illinois Community College Board and the Student Assistance Commission regarding the recent Supreme Court decision on higher education admissions.
  - Continue to seek to grow the number of professionals working in behavioral health settings in through the Illinois Behavioral Health Workforce Centers.

### **Preparation for the September Strategic Planning Retreat**

- Jamboard Exercise – Big moments in PDAC history
  - PDAC began in 2002 from the Governor’s Forum.
  - The Career Lattice Committee began meeting in 2003.
  - The i-Learning system was established in 2008.
  - Race to the Top grant funding from 2013-2016, helped to develop the additional credentials.
    - Credentials included Family Specialist, Family Child Care, and School Age-Youth Development.
  - Pilot began in 2007-2008 for the ECE Level 1 in Illinois high schools.
  - Launch of the Registry began in 2009, with DCFS requiring membership for licensed programs in 2012.
- Committee Evolution
  - Over the 20 plus years of PDAC, committees have evolved into different committees or disbanded to meet the needs of PDAC. Examples include:
    - The Funding Committee evolved into the Financial Supports Committee.
    - Special Focus: Registry completed its work and disbanded.
    - The Information and Trends Committee merged into Workforce Development and Pathways Committee.
- Strategic Planning Retreat
  - PDAC Steering will hold an in-person meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The meeting will launch the 2024-2027 PDAC Strategic Plan.
- Concept of PDAC Tri-Chairs
  - Committee Leadership and Tri-Chairs
    - Need to cultivate leadership opportunities.
    - Moved to a Tri-Chair model almost three years ago, has been beneficial for committee stability.
    - Tri-Chairs are not in PDAC’s governance rules, but rather to help with committee flexibility.
    - Importance of training Tri-Chairs on the history and purpose of PDAC when on-boarding.
- Workforce Data
  - A link was provided to the 2023 Illinois Kids Count data dashboard: <https://ywcachicago.org/about/policy-research-and-evaluation/kids-count-publications-resources/illinois-state-reports/2023-illinois-kids-count-report-executive-summary/>
  - Illinois’ Early Childhood Education Workforce Report from 2017, 2020 and Gateways Registry unpublished data (2023):
    - Losing more teachers with higher degrees:

- In FY17 teachers in a licensed center with a Bachelor’s Degree was at 37.2% while the most recent data from FY23 shows teachers with a Bachelor’s Degree at 31.7%. Teachers are not being replaced with teachers with a similar qualifications.
- In 2020, 32.6% of centers directors held an ECE Credential. In 2023, 32.7% held an ECE Credential.
- In 2020, 22.3% of teachers held an ECE Credential. In 2023, 20.4% held and ECE Credential.
- In 2020, 27.9% of assistant teachers held an ECE Credential. In 2023, 23.0% held an ECE Credential.
- In 2020, 38.3% of FCC providers held an ECE Credential. In 2023, 42.4% held an ECE Credential.
  - (The ECE Level 1 Credential is not included in the calculation for center directors and teachers. It is included for assistant teachers and family child care providers)
- The Salary and Staffing survey is wrapping up now and analysis will be completed in the fall. Will share data at a PDAC Steering meeting in late fall.

**Announcements**

- The Child Care Advisory Ad Hoc group regarding compensation have been working on a salary scale to align salaries with cost allocation models.

**Adjourn**

