

## SECAC Council Meeting

### MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 19, 2015, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Starkville, Mississippi

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

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Richard Berry, Vickey Berryman, Ricky Boggan, Louise Davis, April May, Lora Mederos, Jennifer McNeal, Sandra Parks, Mimmo Parisi, Holly Spivey, Rhea Williams-Bishop, Carolyn Willis

#### OTHERS PRESENT

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Lydia Bethay, Andrew Boyles, Kenecha Brooks-Smith, John Davis, Kathi Gillaspay, Tate Gould, Brittney Harrington, Ariel Jacobs, Kristin Javorsky, Monica May, Michael Newman, Candice Pittman, Kelsey Risman

#### MEETING OBJECTIVES

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1. Approval of Minutes
  2. Committee Updates
  3. Public/Additional Comments
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#### MINUTES

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##### Approval of Minutes

Vickey Berryman made a motion to approve the October meeting minutes. Dr. Mimmo Parisi seconded the motion. The council unanimously passed the motion.

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##### Committee Progress Update

Data System: Drew Boyles gave the Data Committee update. Boyles explained that the committee's work over the past year laid the foundation for the early childhood data portal project to launch Oct. 1. Boyles said a project team at NSPARC has started completing a number of additional organizational tasks related to the EC data portal. The NSPARC team is collaborating with state agencies to complete this work. Work on linking the data will begin in 2016.

Professional Development and Workforce: Dr. Louise Davis said the committee has completed a number of deliverables this year. There is no other update at this time

Standards Committee: Dr. Candice Pittman said the committee has completed a statewide survey of early childhood care and education providers. Pittman explained some findings of the report. Pittman noted three major recommendations from the report: (1) future research should explore the fidelity of how ELGS are being implemented; (2) SECAC should explore pathways to increase education and training of early childhood providers; and (3) SECAC should have this survey completed annually.

Carolyn Willis said the report is a way to gauge the effectiveness of current professionalization efforts in the state. Dr. Parisi said the responsibility of the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) is to make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature on workforce issues. Parisi suggested that SECAC should engage with SWIB and present the findings of this report.

Kindergarten Readiness Assessment: Chair Boggan reported on behalf of the committee. Chair Boggan said the kindergarten assessment data for this year are in. He said there is an internal process before the data will be available to SECAC and the public. That process is ongoing, and the report and presentation are forthcoming.

Quality Rating Standards: Kelsey Risman said the technical assistance team is in the process of producing a document that will help SECAC make recommendations for the ongoing Quality Stars revision process.

2015 SECAC/Committee Documents: Chair Boggan opened the floor to discuss a number of SECAC documents produced in 2015.

Richard Berry said some numbers in the QRS report are from earlier in the year updated information from the Mississippi Department of Human Services was distributed to appropriate parties via email yesterday. Berry said he would be fine to move forward with a motion to adopt the QRS Report if the motion implied that the updated information from MDHS would be included prior to publication. Chair Boggan suggested SECAC move forward with a motion. Dr. Davis expressed disagreement. She explained that the Professional Workforce and Development Committee information in the report was completely incorrect and that she was not comfortable moving forward with a motion. The council determined Davis and Berry were referring to two different reports. Willis made a motion to adopt the QRS Report as a SECAC document. Sandra Parks seconded the motion. The council unanimously passed the motion.

Chair Boggan moved the council into discussion on the Mississippi Blueprint document. Dr. Davis and Rita Williams-Bishop both said they would like to make changes to the Mississippi Blueprint prior to publication. Boggan said he would entertain a motion to adopt the Mississippi Blueprint if the motion implied that changes to the document will be submitted by Davis and Williams-Bishop within the next two weeks and will be incorporated into the report prior to publication. Dr. Parisi motioned to adopt the Mississippi Blueprint. Williams-Bishops seconded the motion. The council unanimously passed the motion.

Chair Boggan moved the council into discussion of three more documents and suggested the next motion adopt the documents all at once. Berryman motioned to approve the three documents: the QRS Report Comparison document, the SECAC Committees Annual Report, and the Articulation Agreement Scan document. April May seconded the motion. The council unanimously passed the motion.

#### Committee Structure:

Chair Boggan suggested three committees for the upcoming year to reflect three areas of the early childhood system in Mississippi: Early Care and Learning; Health, Mental Health, and Nutrition; and Family Support.

Willis said this is a great idea. She said the Professional Workforce and Development and Standards Committees provide other examples of very integrated early childhood system issues. Willis referred to the Standards Committee report presented at the meeting as a tangible example of that integration.

Boggan said that the purpose of reorganizing committees is not to narrow the work of the council but to narrow the breadth of human capital necessary to accomplish committee work. Boggan suggested that three committees in the proposed areas would accommodate all of the committee work that is ongoing.

Lora Mederos motioned to adopt Early Care and Learning, Health, Mental Health, and Nutrition, and Family Support as the three SECAC committee areas for the 2016 working year. Williams-Bishop seconded the motion. The council unanimously passed the motion.

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#### **Public/Additional Comments**

Williams-Bishop brought up the idea of an alternating meeting schedule (council meeting one month, committee meetings the next).

Parisi suggested that January is when setting a new agenda of committee deliverables should occur. Chair Boggan also acknowledged a request from Dr. Parisi for a celebration to be held on December 17.

Chair Boggan opened the floor for public comment.

Monica May distributed the October Quality Stars Program Report.

Berry asked for clarification on when the updated QRS Report will be available for review by MDHS, which submitted updated numbers yesterday for the document. Chair Boggan said he will distribute the updated report to interested parties prior to its publication on the SECAC website.

Williams-Bishop motioned to adjourn. May seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

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