

SECAC Council Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

JULY 28, 2016, 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM

Jackson, Mississippi

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Vickey Berryman, Shanda Boarden (representative for David J. Dzielak), John Davis, Tamara Garner (representative for David Chandler), Rochelle Johnson, Ed Langton, Patty Marshall, Diana Mikula, Jennifer McNeal, Mimmo Parisi, Robin Parker, Sandra Parks, Laurie Smith, Jennie Sturgis, Nita Thompson, Carolyn Willis

OTHERS PRESENT

Carol Burnett, Tate Gould, Ariel Jacobs

MEETING OBJECTIVES

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

Approval of Minutes

Chair John Chair Davis opened discussion on the minutes from the May 26 SECAC meeting. Ed Langton motioned to accept the minutes. Sandra Parks seconded the motion. The council unanimously approved the motion.

SECAC Updates

John Chair Davis gave the update for the Family Support Committee. He said the committee has continued discussing the state definition of “family support.” Chair Davis shared the results of a survey in which SECAC members were asked to identify the most important principles and values of family support. He asked if SECAC members found the survey useful. Chair Davis pointed out the committee’s definition of family support is meant to be broader than how it might pertain to CCDF. Chair Davis asked Jacobs to send out the survey one more time to get more feedback from SECAC members. He said he is dedicated to getting everyone’s input. He asked for further discussion.

Willis gave the update on the Health, Mental Health, and Nutrition Committee. Willis said the committee has met twice since the May SECAC meeting. She said the committee objectives were unanimously approved by SECAC during the May SECAC meeting. She said the main goal of the committee is to assist and define mental health, health, and nutrition and to assist parents and children to reach their maximum potential through aligned resources and policies. She asked for comments on this goal. She said the committee will continue to work on objectives and how to get families involved. She said the involving families will mean that the work cannot be done in silos and that the committees must work together.

Langton gave the update for the Early Care and Learning Committee. He said there are some overlaps with other committees. He said Willis has worked with the committee on a professional development overlap. He said the committee is working on a gap analysis and regulation analysis. He shared the committee's updated definition of early care and learning.

Parisi motioned to adopt the definitions of every SECAC committee, with the understanding that the definitions can be changed later. Langton seconded the motion. The council unanimously approved the motion.

Davis gave an update on the CCDF process. He said MDHS has been receiving SECAC members' feedback on this plan. He presented the CCDF application timeline. He said the plan was submitted earlier in the year. He said MDHS will need everyone's help to get the implementation process done. He said immediate federal requirements are being addressed now until September.

Davis covered the immediate federal requirements: develop policy manual, train all child care givers from all eligible providers on new policies, and meet all requirements for the consumer education website. He said the policy manual is structured according to the Child Care Development Block Grant Act. He then went over a two-phase approval process for the policy manual. He said the draft policy manual (phase one) will be posted Aug. 2 for public viewing. He said a public hearing will happen Aug. 22. He said the last day for public comments is Aug. 27. He said phase two will involve filing a revised draft to the Secretary of State based on the public comments.

Davis said there are 10 areas of health and safety that MDHS needs to notify eligible child care providers of by the end of August. He said training on these areas will be done the first two weeks of September in classroom settings. He said the consumer education website will have quality assurance testing by the middle of September. He said the website will be live Oct. 1. He said SECAC will be instrumental in helping MDHS set different system priorities.

Public/Additional Comments

Chair Davis asked Tate Gould to talk about technical assistance centers. Tate Gould said all states are struggling with similar problems with technical assistance. Gould said Mississippi is ahead of the curve compared to many states. He said it's positive that Mississippi's ideas are getting recognized. He said there has been a movement nationally about getting data to help early education and care. He said Mississippi is ahead of the pack when it comes to data. Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 11:54.
