



**Present:**

Kevin Bain

M. Cindy Frey

Lacey Kottkamp

Nicole Norvell

Christopher Stokes

Nathan Williamson

**I. Call to Order**

1. Kevin Bain, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

**II. December Meeting Minutes**

1. Nathan moved to approved the meeting minutes from December; Chris seconded; all approved and the minutes were approved.

**III. 2017 Annual ELAC Kickoff Event**

1. The January event featured presentations from key partners and time for workgroups to begin outlining their priorities for 2017;

**IV. Workgroup Report Outs**

**Child Development and Well-Being**

1. Carrie Bale, co-chair, reported that the workgroup has not met in February yet, but had a planning call with the ELAC Project Support Team and added some new members since the kickoff event.
2. Their brainstorming session at the kickoff event resulted with the following potential priorities for 2017:
  1. Fulfill the Call to Action Dr. Judy Cameron proposed at the June 2016 Indiana Summit for Economic Development via Early Learning Coalitions on educating communities on the importance of early brain development;
  2. Support social-emotional development in young children, possibly by developing a toolkit/best practices guide on suspension and expulsion.

**Data Coordination and System Integration**

1. Matt Hetzel, co-chair, shared they had not met yet but had a planning call with the ELAC Project Support Team. Their brainstorming session at the kickoff event resulted with the following potential priorities for 2017:
  - a. Enhance the ELAC Annual Report and;
  - b. Develop a toolkit on data driven decision making and
  - c. Create a data sharing policy



2. New members were added from Indiana State Department of Health and Family and Social Services Administration.

**Question:** What is the purpose of the subcommittees and tools? Charlie shared that it is to guide organizations to make data-driven decisions. John Peirce suggested that the 2017 Indiana Summit for Economic Development via Early Learning Coalitions would be a good time to have the data sharing toolkit completed.

### Evaluation of Child and Family Outcomes

1. Megan Purcell, co-chair, reported that the workgroup met the day before and outlined the following priorities for 2017:
  - a. Review/summarize the Early Education Matching Grant and On My Way Pre-K pilot program evaluation results for the ELAC Annual Report;
  - b. Review the landscape of Kindergarten Readiness / Kindergarten Entry Assessments to use as a guide for an Indiana-specific assessment tool;
  - c. Research child and family “core” outcomes.

### Family Engagement

1. Katie Herron, co-chair, reported that the workgroup has not met in February yet, but had a planning call with the ELAC Project Support Team and have been working on their 2017 priorities remotely with workgroup members and state partners. At the time of the meeting, their drafted priority areas included:
  - a. Support the use of the Family Engagement toolkit, including collecting and analyzing data from the toolkit to guide future revisions (small changes in 2017, large revisions to align with new policy statements in 2018);
  - b. Create a product that helps support home visiting around the state, such as supporting the Indiana Home Visiting Advisory Board with their needs assessment, which might include county-level data;
  - c. Partner with IDOE during their planning for Every Student Succeeds Act ([ESSA](#)), developing a definition of “transition” (pre-k to kindergarten) and possibly creating a framework/guide for organizations.

**Question:** This seems like a lot on the workgroup’s plate for one year. Do you plan to use subgroups? Yes for the home visiting work. The co-chairs haven’t decided yet on how the other tasks will be structured/divided.

**Question:** In outlining the use and dissemination of the family engagement toolkit, are there any considerations of making an online version? Yes. The workgroup plans to support the work of Early Learning Indiana, which has created an online version of the



toolkit that includes online training modules and completing the toolkit online. This will be rolled out with their Family Engagement Prize Competition in the Spring.

**Question:** What does the initial data reflect about the implementation of the toolkit from the CCR&R coaches? Katie explained that a survey was created to gather such feedback from the coaches, but it has not been sent out yet since their deadline for submitting scores is May. Lacey expanded further, sharing that the expectation is the coaches had the training on the toolkit and should be implementing the toolkit with the program directors. That is why the feedback survey Katie created is directed at the coaches.

### Funding Streams

1. Ted Maple, co-chair, reported they met the day prior and identified the following priorities for 2017:
  - a. Research and identify funding data at the county level to dashboards;
  - b. Create an early childhood provider tool (i.e. decision tree) to help organizations make sense of and utilize the various funding streams available (CCDF, CACFP, Head Start, etc.).
  - c. It was decided that an updated funding memo does not need to be released every year, but instead every other year leading up to budget session. Therefore, the workgroup will look at ways to enhance the report this year in anticipation of a 2018 release date.

### Provider Participation and Advancement

1. Mike Bachman, co-chair, reported that their workgroup meets the Monday following this meeting and plan to review/finalize the following items for 2017:
  - a. Review and finalize the self-assessment for coalitions developed in 2016;
  - b. Research best practices for garnering business supports available for early childhood providers;
  - c. Review the Paths to QUALITY pathway for schools and outreach methods to potentially enroll more public schools.

**Question:** Can you be more specific on “business supports”? Mike shared that this topic is in the early conversations, but there are so many funding opportunities available for providers however they struggle to secure them. This is partly due to them not viewing themselves as a business, so the workgroup sees a need to develop business trainings/education to help message the business side to providers. Lacey suggested doing a small scan to make sure this work is not already happening by groups such as Head Start or ELI.



**Question:** There are many workgroups planning to develop tools to help providers, including many online options, so how can we best direct providers to a central location? Could we highlight these tools on the ELAC website? Who is the target audience for the developing tools?

Chris suggested the workgroups/ELAC might need to identify the impact they want to see over the years, including quantifiable results, when developing the tools. Having that focus/results will help show how the workgroups are adding value to early learning.

Kevin rephrased to, “what change are we looking to get out of this (tool/guidebook/research)?” He also stated that the [ELAC logic model](#) specifies outcomes, so that should be the starting point to outline which outcome(s) the workgroup is supporting.

### **Workforce and Professional Development**

1. Dianna Wallace, co-chair, reported they met yesterday and outlined the following priorities for 2017:
  - a. They will continue their work related to the recruitment, retention, and recognition of the early learning workforce by looking at the environmental conditions of organizations that succeed in recruiting and retaining high-quality teachers. They will take on diverse case studies of PTQ Level 4 programs to see what conditions are consistent with retaining high-quality teachers;
  - b. They will also do a scan of the supply and demand of the ECE workforce to stay current on needs and gaps. They will assist with the workforce Registry to help fill any gaps in the workforce;
  - c. They will also do a review of professional development opportunities for the early learning workforce, to identify which resources they utilize and where gaps exist.
2. The workgroup will breakup into 3 subcommittees and has welcomed 5 new members.

### **V. Every Student Succeeds Act ([ESSA](#))**

1. In December 2016, Nathan Williamson presented on the new federal law, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that replaces No Child Left Behind, and Indiana’s Implementation Plan;
2. Nathan reviewed sections with potential implications for early learning and areas for feedback/ intersection with ELAC.

**Question:** Can there be an executive summary of the plan shared with ELAC to review before being submitted in September? Nathan said they have to provide a public draft as



part of the process but does certainly want ELAC's specific input. IDOE is also planning additional listening tours and will share those dates with ELAC, so early learning representatives can attend.

#### VI. State Pilot Programs

1. Nicole Norvell, FSSA, reported that there are 1,361 applications received for On My Way Pre-K in the 2017-2018 school year. She also shared advertisements for this pilot program, which will consist of radio spots and other marketing tools in areas with the program. The application window closes on March 31.

**Question:** Is there funding for the program for which these applications are designated? Yes, the program has funding through the 2017-2018 school year and are not impacted by hold on funds.

**Question:** Is there a capacity increase in On My Way Pre-K providers? Yes, in some places. Nicole offered to share more numbers next month.

#### VII. Other Business

1. The 2017 Indiana Summit for Economic Development via Early Learning Coalitions is being planned for early June in Bloomington. More details will be released as they develop, however it is not too early to reach out to local coalitions!

Christopher motioned to adjourn. Nicole seconded. Kevin adjourned the meeting at 2:13pm.

**Next Meeting:** March 10, 2017 | 1:00 – 3:00pm | Indiana Government Center South