

Minutes of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund board met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., **Friday, October 20, 2017**, in Room 112-North at the State Capitol, 300 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, with Amanda Adkins, Chair presiding. There was a quorum. Cabinet notices all meetings by publishing in the Kansas Register.

Present: Amanda Adkins, Annie McKay, Gerald Henry, Shari Weber, LeEtta Felter, Valdenia Winn, Terri Rice, Dinah Sykes, Randall Bowman, DOC/JJA Ex Officio Member, Sandra Kimmons, DCF Ex Officio Designee
Cabinet Staff: Janice Smith, Amy Blosser, and Dyogga Adegbore

Cabinet Evaluators/University Partners present:

KU Center for Public Partnerships & Research:

Jackie Counts, Jessica Sprague-Jones, Shabrie Perico, Amy Smith, and Megan Leopold

WSU Community Engagement Institute:

Lynn Schrepferman, Cassandra Braun-Martin and Amber Dean

Introductory Remarks from the Chair

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions from around the table and from audience.

Chair Adkins introduced Senator Dinah Sykes, who is the new Senate President's Appointee to the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund board. She asked Dinah to talk about her background. Dinah said she is a first-term member of the Kansas Senate representing District 21, city of Lenexa and Northwest part of Overland Park. Prior to election, Dinah enjoyed being a full-time stay at home mom who also ran her own business as a personal chef. She enjoys being active in her community and has served in various roles on the local PTA and also as an Alumni Board member for her alma mater.

Updates from Executive Director

Janice Smith, Executive Director announced that audience members can participate in the meetings by asking questions using **note cards** located in various locations in the room. Audience members can write a question down, write their e-mail address, hand card to KU CPPR representative in the room. Questions may be answered during the meeting, if time permits or will be responded to via e-mail.

Janice reminded everyone the Kansas Children's Cabinet is moving toward a paperless board and the agendas, minutes, meeting slides, policies, and other historical information could be accessed online through **BoardDocs** at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ks/kcct/Board.nsf/public>. Limited copies of the agenda will be available for the audience members at the meetings. Janice encouraged attendees to use their electronic devices to access materials.

Approval of the Minutes of August 4, 2017

Cabinet Chair Adkins remarked that board members received copies of the minutes prior to the meeting. Chair Adkins asked if there were any edits. Hearing none, Annie McKay moved that the board approve the minutes of August 4, as written. Motion was seconded by LeEtta Felter. Motion carried.

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Community Feedback on the redesign of KPP and PAT

Brett Martin, Vice President of Community Impact for United Way of Greater Topeka, Deb Voth, President of Rainbows United Inc., Wichita, and Aubrey Abbott-Patterson, President and CEO of Hutchinson Community Foundation, presented feedback on the redesign of Kansas Preschool Program and Parents As Teachers programs.

Brett shared that United Way of Greater Topeka and their partners have been a part of the Kansas Preschool Program over the past decade. When KSDE changed the program in the early summer of 2017, his collaborative did not have all details about the shift and were unable to meet the deadlines of the RFP. The short timeframe and with many staff and administrators away from school buildings as school was no longer in session, there just was not sufficient time to enter and agreement with USD 437 Auburn-Washburn school board or the USD 501 Topeka Public Schools board and our community partners. The two school districts applied, however, without the collaborative support from KPP partners and thus also lost funding. Partners also felt the consequences as a result of changes to funding for PAT and the effects of reductions in the Early Childhood Block Grant in recent years.

Cabinet Chair Adkins opened the floor for questions from the board. Chair Adkins thanked Brett for coming to present and she asked the Board if they had questions.

Chair Adkins asked Brett if any of the USDs in Shawnee County receiving Early Learning Kansas dollars or were they left out for funding this year? Brett said he was not aware of any, however, USD 437 Auburn-Washburn and USD 501 Topeka Public Schools were not presented with the opportunity. Chair Adkins remarked she thought KSDE might appreciate this feedback. Brett comments that sometimes the effects of those changes do not show up immediately. Janice Smith clarified that Brett was speaking about two subjects; his organization's and partners' experience from the redesign of KPP and PAT and then the cuts experienced through the ECBG.

Aubrey Abbott Patterson shared that Hutchinson Community Foundation and Reno County's experience with the KSDE redesign of KPP and PAT. She reported that in early June 2017, the Reno County partners were engaging in continuous quality improvement of their KPP program in preparation of the release of the KPP RFP. They soon learned on June 9 that the State Pre-Kindergarten Program and the Kansas Preschool Program were being combined and that only school districts would be allowed to apply with application due in 17 days. With the news, Hutchinson Community Foundation communicated with their partners and received a lot of questions. It was not until June 14, the Community Foundation received confirmation could not apply on behalf of its partners. The school districts scrambled to coordinate staff to write the grant with only a two weeks' notice. The frequently asked questions about the Early Learning Kansas RFP came out on June 16. She remarked that KSDE did not disclose possible solutions for KPP sites making this transition until June 22.

Chair Adkins opened the floor for questions from the board to Ms. Patterson.

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Community Feedback on the redesign of KPP and PAT (contin.)

LeEtta Felter asked who had the authority to make those changes. Janice Smith replied that KSDE had been managing these two programs. The original design came from the Children's Cabinet that administered the Kansas Preschool Program from years 2006 to 2008. In 2008, the Kansas Legislature moved oversight of that program to KSDE. Last year, the Legislature replaced CIF funds with TANF as the funding stream for both KPP and PAT. Janice commented she was not aware of the thinking that went into the redesign of KPP and PAT. This year, KPP (now Early Learning Kansas) is funded by TANF and PAT (now known as Kansas Parent Education Program or KPEP) is funded by CIF.

LeEtta asked the presenters did they receive any collaborative input when the applications were being written. Aubrey Patterson said there was no opportunity to respond. The USDs were on their own when applying for the RFP. Hutchinson Community Foundation put together what little information they could to help in the process.

Annie McKay asked Representative Valdenia Winn would it be possible for the Legislature to take a look at this particular funding this year. Rep. Winn replied the easy answer is yes. She suggested that Janice Smith could appear before the House Appropriations Committee to present testimony of how this situation caused a negative impact to communities.

Chair Adkins remarked there appeared to be a systemic loss of equilibrium felt due to the KPP redesign for the RFP. She suggested to Ms. Patterson to talk to her community partners and USDs and decide what is their shared message to the Legislature who makes decisions about money.

Deb Voth shared that Rainbows United, Inc., Wichita and their partners challenges with the redesign of KPP and PAT. President Voth remarked that her organization had received funding for the Pre-Kindergarten program through a strong relationship with USD 259 Wichita Public Schools. Deb outlined eight reasons why the State's administration of the RFP did not and will continue to not work for communities in the future with its current structure, which are outlined in her written testimony. 1) Lack of time to apply; 2) KSDE only entity knowledgeable about the changes, 3) Restricted to only USDs applying, 4) Limitation on number of children who can participate, 5) USDs not allowed to work with community partners, 6) Funding caps of \$2,003 per slot in order to align with the 4-year old at-risk program; 7) TANF funding restriction which restricts who can be served and how funding can be used, and 8) Lost of services resulted for children across the State. Ms. Voth asked if the Children's Cabinet could take control of the KPP program in the future.

Copies of all three written testimonies are attached with the minutes.

Chair Adkins asked if Cabinet members had questions or comments. Senator Dinah Sykes called on fellow legislator colleague, Rep. Melissa Rooker, House District #25, Fairway, Kansas, to talk about the impact of the redesign in her community. Rep. Rooker said she had a lot of questions on why this redesign occurred. She said it was not part of the Legislative deliberations. Chair Adkins said that she and Janice Smith are scheduled to meet with Commissioner of Education Randy Watson next week and plan to share this discussion and copies of the presentations with him and his staff.

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CIF Accountability Process & Recommendations and Conditions

Overview and Updates of 2017 AIIR –Jessica Sprague-Jones and Shabrie Perico, KU CPPR

Jessica Sprague-Jones, Ph.D., KU CPPR, presented information about the accountability process and timeline. The CPPR team gathers information through interviews with program staff, conducting surveys, and collecting supporting documents. Then the team synthesizes, contextualizes and describes what each program has done before preparing a report of findings which becomes the AIIR that gets presented to the Cabinet for making recommendations. Jessica discussed the May through October timeline for conducting the accountability process. The goals of this segment of the meeting are to 1) Describe program contributions and strategic alignment with Cabinet goals, 2) Offer context regarding changes in funding, 3) Expand content on the Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) and 4) Explore a shared vision for Kansas children.

Shabrie Perico, MA, KU CPPR, presented information about the AIIR. She went over sections of the AIIR that cover CIF Funding Allocations, FY 2017 Funding by Agency and Program, CIF Funding History, FY 2018 Allocations; Vision and Blue Print, and ECBG Common Measures Initiative Report.

Various program managers came before the Cabinet and discussed their programs.

The total for all CIF programs adds up to \$48 million dollars. The Cabinet discussed that additional receipts are added to ECBG, Diagnostic Autism, Child Care Quality Initiative, Maternal Health Home Visiting, and the Family Preservation programs upon collecting extra data through supplemental documentation in FY 2019.

Janice Smith and the Cabinet discussed program profiles, recommendations and conditions. The CIF Recommendations and conditions are attached with the minutes.

Motion for CIF Recommendations

It was moved by LeEtta Felter and seconded by Terri Rice the Children's Cabinet recommend that all CIF programs for FY 2019 are funded at original funding levels from FY 2016, the extra \$4 million dollars be added to ECBG, and if there are additional receipts to the State, those dollars are attached to the ECBG in CIF. Recommendations total \$48 million dollars. Motion carried.

New Business

Janice discussed that Parents as Teachers has never been a part of the common measures initiative. That is data not available. The Cabinet had been in discussions with KSDE for the past three years and at one point suggested random samples. Those discussions ended when legislature switched out CIF for TANF for this program. The program is back under funding by CIF and we will need to work out a process for collecting their data. Cabinet Chair Adkins underscored that all programs are to participate in the common measures initiative. Chair Adkins said that she and Janice Smith are scheduled to meet with Commission Randy Watson next week to discuss this topic among others. Janice remarked that Ryan Weir, KSDE is in the audience and has information regarding data for the PAT and KPP programs. She suggested that Ryan ask Commissioner Watson and Colleen Riley to bring the materials to next week's meeting.

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2018 Cabinet Meetings:

Friday, February 9, 2018 (KSDE Boardroom)

Friday, April 6, 2018 (Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library)

Friday, August 17, 2018 (Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library)

Friday, October 26, 2018 (Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library)

Adjournment

There being no further business for discussion, Annie McKay moved that the Cabinet adjourn its meeting. LeEtta Felter seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Cabinet adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.