Minutes of the Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund Board Retreat

The Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund Board was called to order by Chairman Kim Moore at 10:05 a.m., November 8, 2019 at Shawnee Mission School District Center for Academic Achievement, 8200 W. 71st Street in Overland Park. Quorum present. Proper notice was published in the Kansas Register.


Cabinet Staff: Melissa Rooker, Amy Meek, and Dyogga Adegbore, Guests: Jackie Counts, Jessica Sprague-Jones, Mallory Rousseau, Owen Cox, KU CPPR, Lynn Schrepferman, WSU CEI

Welcome
Chairman Kim Moore welcomed everyone and opened the retreat with an icebreaker, asking everyone to share something about themselves that others might not know. Melissa Rooker, Executive Director went over housekeeping rules and shared background information about Center for Academic Achievement.

History of the Cabinet
The Cabinet reviewed the historical timeline of the Children’s Cabinet, beginning with the creation of the trust fund for child abuse prevention in 1979.

Dr. Lynn Schrepferman, WSU Community Engagement Institute and Dr. Jackie Counts, KU Center for Public Partnerships and Research (CPPR) discussed the university contractors’ roles with the evaluation, accountability, and data collection work with the CIF, ECBG and CBCAP grantees. Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, KU CPPR, presented information on how the common measures initiative was developed. Dr. Lynn Schrepferman and Amy Meek, Early Childhood Director, discussed the general process for evaluation visits at grantee sites and noted improvement in how programs use the Common Measures data over time.

Melissa Rooker reviewed the Children’s Cabinet statutes contained in the meeting packets:
38-1901 Kansas Children’s Cabinet membership and terms, qualifications, duties and expenses allowance,
38-2101 Kansas Endowment for Youth Fund; tobacco litigation settlement agreement proceeds, management and administration of fund
38-2102 Children’s Initiatives Fund; purposes, requirements for funded programs; transfers from KEY Fund
38-2103 Kansas Children’s Cabinet duties concerning CIF, reviews, assessments and evaluation of uses of money; audit and accountability
38-2104 Management and investment of KEY Fund and family and children endowment accounts of the family and children investment fund; investment standards and objectives
38-2105 Reports to Governor and Legislature, actual estimated receipts and investment earnings to KEY Fund
The Cabinet reviewed a handout displaying a bar chart of the *Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement Funds with deposits and CIF allocation* by year showing monies transferred to CIF. The allocations are based on tobacco sales.

Melissa shared plans for the Annual Investment Impact Report (AIIR) to include the Kansas Prevention Investments Annual (KPI) and Kansas ECBG reports in one complete report regarding the annual work of the Cabinet. The report will be provided to the Governor and Cabinet members annually.

Melissa reported on the Preschool Development Grant (PDG) and the State Director’s team work. Team members have been involved in strategic planning and mapping needs assessments as a result of their statewide community engagement tours. Discussion ensued.

Melissa reported the PDG renewal grant application was submitted on Monday, November 4, 2019. The application is for a three-year renewal at $10 Million dollars a year. Only 23 states will be awarded. KSDE is the fiscal agent, with the Cabinet named by the governor as the lead agency for Kansas for the renewal period. Awards will be announced the end of December 2019. The Cabinet reviewed a display in the power point presentation of the Blueprint for Early Childhood.

**Early Childhood Systems-Building Strategic Plan**

The Cabinet reviewed a sheet displaying the *Kansas Early Childhood Governance Structure*. Senator Dinah Sykes talked about her participation on the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems workgroup.

Currently, Kansas Head Start Re-authorization Act requires an active Early Childhood Advisory Council to be in compliance with federal law. Kansas has been out of compliance since 2014. Discussion ensued regarding the role if the Cabinet in the overall organizational structure.

Dr. Tyler Smith talked about importance of having talking points and goals for the Cabinet members to use. Chair Moore added that Cabinet need to be careful of not being political and advocate for stances on what is the right and best thing for children. Melissa assured the Cabinet members will be prepped with slides, talking points and presentation materials that they can use when speaking to groups about the Children’s Cabinet work. Additional discussion regarding the role of forensic physicians with the note that some grantees involve them in their work.

*Chairman Moore called for a break for lunch at noon.*

*The Cabinet meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.*
Melissa directed the Cabinet’s attention to the handout with the Children’s Cabinet recommendations for SFY 2021 captured the essence the motions from the November 1 meeting minutes. She asked members to review the recommendations. The Cabinet agreed the language captured their motions made at the meeting the week prior. The recs and along with the State Needs Assessment will be compiled into a report and Melissa will be sharing with Governor Kelly.

General discussion about the history of fund transfers, budget cuts, impact on the KEY Fund and the CIF among Cabinet members. State Budget Cycle handout from November 1 was included in packet and revisited, with a review of CIF timeline for recommendations

LeEtta Felter suggested having a time of recognition for programs at the Cabinet meetings. Melissa agreed that it would be nice for programs to be invited to the Cabinet meetings to share their bright spots in their communities.

Agreement that the Cabinet should establish a formal process for recognizing outgoing members. Recently Annie McKay and Jerry Henry either had expired term or departed the board. It would be good to recognize both of them.

**Vision and Goals for 2020 and Beyond**
Dr. Jackie Counts presented information on the Sense Maker online portal connected to the “Our Tomorrows” project and gave a brief demonstration of how the portal works. KU-CPPR has been coding the Our Tomorrows stories and inputting the data into the online tool.

Clarification sought from KU regarding PDG B-5 grant proposal for a common application for future RFP funding opportunities. KU-CPPR answered questions about the vision for that process.

The Cabinet will be taking action on the Strategic Plan developed through Preschool Development Grant Birth – 5 work at its February 7, 2020 meeting. General conversation ensued regarding the vision for that grant funding.

The Cabinet reviewed the Kansas Open Meetings act with regard to email communications as a reminder.

The Cabinet discussed working with programs that fall outside of the Cabinet guidelines, about seeking alternate funding sources, and discussed the need to open up new, private philanthropic donations to supplement current funding capacity. General agreement with regard to asking for more funding for early childhood programs in the state budget.

**Adjournment**
There being no further business for discussion, Chairman Moore adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.