

Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council
Wednesday, October 8, from 9 am to 12 pm

In-Person Meeting

In-Person Meeting Location:
The Holiday Inn at The American Center
5109 W Terrace Drive, Madison WI 53718

Members Present: Dr. Jill Underly, Jeff Pertl, Jillian Clemens, Andrea Gugel, Angi Kruger, Heidi Luft, Jennie Mauer, Suzette Mayotte, Ivy Meierotto, Charlene Mouille, Rebecca Murray, Dan Rossmiller, Dea Wright, Dr. Katie Roberts, Jose Martinez, Kathy Mullally, Kathy Paul, Kelly Matthews,

Welcome, Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM by Sara Knueve. The agenda for the day's meeting was reviewed.
- Sara requested approval of the minutes from the June 25, 2025 meeting.
 - Kelly Matthews motioned to approve the minutes.
 - Jennie Mauer seconded the motion to approve the minutes.
 - Minutes were approved.

Co-Chair Comments

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) State Superintendent and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) Secretary provided department updates.

New Member Update

Kendra Norris of the Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association (WCCAA) was introduced as new member of the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council.

Federal Update

DCF's Secretary provided an overview of the current state of the federal shutdown and its impact on DCF, including updates about impoundment, rescissions, and PayGO .

DPI's Policy Initiative Advisor in the Office of the State Superintendent also emphasized the uncertainty and unknowns around federal education spending and the shutdown.

Department of Health (DHS) Office of the Secretary's Policy Director echoed the uncertainty and unknowns pertaining to the impact of potential federal cuts alongside the shutdown.

The Wisconsin Head Start Association (WHSA) Executive Director provided updates on Head Start as it relates to federal funding.

Council members asked questions and provided feedback on the federal budget update.

State Budget Review

The Council heard and discussed agency budget overviews from DCF, DPI, and DHS.

Get Kids Ready

The Council received a presentation on Get Kids Ready program, a new a new community-based school readiness initiative to support licensed and certified child care providers serving four-year-olds.

WMELS Revision

The Council heard a presentation on the revision of the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (WMELS) which currently serve as the state's early learning and development guidelines.

Public Comment

The Council will hear comments and updates from members of the public. Rebecca Murray shared information about an upcoming series of Family Friendliness as a Workforce Strategy seminars.

Next Steps

Next meeting is scheduled for December 10th from 9am – 12pm.

Adjourn

Sara Knueve requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

- Motion to adjourn was made by Kelly Matthews
- Jillian Clemens seconded the motion to adjourn.
- Meeting was adjourned at 11:47 AM.