

Kansas Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services

Meeting Minutes

Virtual – due to inclement weather

February 17, 2023

1:00 PM

Members Present

David Lindeman, Chair & Regents Representative

Nichelle Adams, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF)

Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Parent Member

Lisa Collette, Vice-Chair & Insurance Commission Representative

Amy Meek for Melissa Rooker, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund

Ann Elliott, Service Provider Member

Erin Schuweiler, Service Provider Member

Kim Kennedy, Kansas Dept. for Children and Families (DCF) (Ex-Officio)

Kimber Corn, Head Start Representative

Laura Leistra, Medicaid Representative

Susan Bowles, Service Provider Member

Tricia Waggoner, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

Members Not Present

Tayler Cantrell, Parent Member

Gary Henault, KDADS

Lesli Girard, Families Together (Ex-Officio)

Monica Ross, Service Provider Member

Nonmembers Present

Stacy Novak, KSDE SICC staff member

Amanda Petersen KSDE EC Director for Julie Rand

Beccy Strohm, SICC Staff Person

Cathy Redelberger, Leavenworth USD 453 Director of Special Education

Call to order: Chair Dave Lindeman introduced himself and called the meeting to order with introductions of all present (it was noted that there was a quorum).

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes from January 2023 were reviewed and approved.

- Motion made by Amy Meek to accept minutes
- Seconded by Ann Elliott

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Meeting agenda:

The agenda for February 2023 was reviewed and approved with revisions.

- Lisa Collette moved to accept agenda
- Tricia Waggoner seconded the motion

Motion carried – All members voted yes

Public Comment:

No request came in for public comment.

No public comments made

Local Program Update:

Leavenworth USD 453, Cathy Redelberger, Director of Special Education
 Indicator 6 Improvement

Leavenworth, Kansas Community Information was shared

District demographics:

Leavenworth USD 453	Earl Lawson Early Learning Center
Total Student Population: 3,600 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Males-51% ● Females-48.7% 	Total Student Population: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Males-58.1% ● Females-41.9%
Demographics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● White-62.5% ● African American-6.7% ● Hispanic-21% ● Multiracial-6% ● Economically Disadvantaged-43.2% ● IDEA-16.1% ● ELL-9.2% 	Demographics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● White-51.6% ● African American-13.9% ● Hispanic-12% ● Multiracial ● Economically Disadvantaged-46.6% ● IDEA-24.1% ● ELL-.9%

History of the program:

Prior to 2017-2018 School Year	2017-Present
<p>Programs: Early Learning Programs in Each Elementary Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Risk PK Separate Class- Adults • ECSE Separate Class-2 Adults • Itinerant ECSE in building/out of building • K-5 Classrooms 	<p>Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Education Co-Taught Classes-4 Adults • Itinerant ECSE in building/out of building* • Kindergarten Classes Co-Taught
<p>Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Selected • ECSE-Intervention Based 	<p>Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PK&ECSE-Creative Curriculum • ECSE-Intervention Based

Progression of the program:

2017-2018

- Added Play Center and piloted PBL/Play Based learning
- Difference in data from pilot classes to other two kinder classes
- Academic (Based on Kinder Checklist)
 - Pilot class: 35 point growth
 - Non pilot class: 26 point growth
- Attendance
 - Pilot class: avg 4.9 days absent per student
 - Non pilot class: avg 8.6 days absent per student

2018 – 2019

- Pilot class started implementing Creative Curriculum
- Began Service Learning with Uncover KC

2019-2020

- All three kindergarten teachers co-taught with special education
- Teachers rotated students based on skills
 - Focused on personalized learning
- Continued implementation of Creative Curriculum and Uncover KC Service Learning

2020-2021

**Hybrid schedule then in-person and offered remote learning*

- Continued Creative Curriculum PD

- Piloted Co-Teaching in Early Ed
- Earl Lawson Early Education Center is being designed
- Building Leadership Team is created and started to meet to prepare for reopening the building.

Examples of supports:

- Vocabulary Rich environments
- Access to communication
 - Assistive technology in all environments
 - Visual cues in all environments
 - Physical icons created with a 3D machine to facilitate communication – tactile communication
 - Ongoing PD provided by Deaf & Hard of Hearing Teachers and SLPs

2021-2022

3 Co-Teaching Teams at the Pre-K level

- Each Pre-K Team consists of:
 - 1 Pre-K At Risk Teacher
 - 1 ECSE Teacher
 - 1 Pre-K At-Risk Aide
 - 1 ECSE Paraeducator
 - Stations & group learning
- Ratio of 15 general education to 10 students with an exceptionality

2022-2023

3 co-teaching teams at the Pre-K level and 1 co-teaching team at the kindergarten level

Early Childhood Interdisciplinary Team plans a comprehensive activity

- Held one time per month
- Programming approach allows all students to have contact with related service providers
- OT, SLP, PT activities based on a theme
- Activities and information also go home

Challenges:

Time: plan, collaboration, data review

Change is hard

*Language development and communication is the cornerstone for learning.

Contact information:

Dr. Cathy Redelberger: Director of Special Education

Cathy.redelberger@lvpioneers.org

913-684-1400

Dr. Rebekah Varvel: Assistant Director of Special Education

Rebekah.varvel@lvpioneers.org

913-684-1400

Stefanie Bourne: Principal

Stefanie.bourne@lvpioneers.org

913-684-1570

Information from Questions asked during presentation

Does the military create a high percentage of student turnover?

- Not until 10th grade due to Ft. Leavenworth having their own school (pre-k-9)
- Many military families send their children to Leavenworth public schools for 9th grade for a consistent high school career.

What is your percentage of students Identified as a student with a disability?

- 24%
- They have ALL of early childhood special education student programs at the center including pre-K itinerate service.

Do the students at your center have medical disability or learning disabilities?

- Both
- In early childhood students often have a developmental delay identification.
- Specific identifications begin at the end of kindergarten.

What credentials do your teachers have?

- Early C U certification

Are there any unidentified students?

- Yes, peer models and traditional kindergarten students

Do you have problems with recruiting and retaining staff?

- Yes. COVID has exasperated this issue. There is also the tax on keep staff educated.

State Program Update:

Amanda Peterson, KSDE EC Director

Outcomes for Measuring – ASQ

We'll be reviewing data every 6 months during SICC meetings

Discussions heard from around the state:

- There is a concern that there aren't enough ASQ trainers.
- Physicians are becoming more aware of the ASQ.

- Ages & Stages Questionnaires®, Third Edition (ASQ-3)
 - Addresses five developmental areas: communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem-solving and personal-social
- Ages & Stages Questionnaires®: Social-Emotional, Second Edition ASQ:SE-2
 - Addresses seven social-emotional areas: self-regulation, compliance, communication, adaptive behaviors, autonomy, affect and interaction with people

Beginning in 2015, Kansas has done intention work to identify more students and students sooner.

All In for Kansas Kids Strategic Plan

- Assisted in the plans to assess kindergarten readiness using the ASQ.
- Find the Plan, webinars, and subscription to the newsletter:
- kschildrencabinet.org
- Every Part C program now has access to ASQ online resources.

Kansas is working to update the needs assessment and strategic plan in 2023.

Goal 2, Community-Level Coordination, Strategy 2.1: Develop localized comprehensive resource and referral networks that meet community specific needs to drive quality referrals, coordinate care, and ease navigation for families.

Tactic 2.1.3 Use evidence-based, standardized screenings such as the Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) and the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale to identify needs and connect families to the right services as early as possible.

Goal 5, Capacity & Access, Strategy 5.4: Support communicates, educational environments, families, and children to ensure that each child entering kindergarten at age five is socially, emotionally, and academically prepared.

Tactic 5.4.1 Provide information to families and technical assistance to school systems to increase the number of students who participate in the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot (the Ages and Stages Questionnaires).

Developmental Health Family Engagement Sessions:

- Increase family engagement **STIPEND \$100** per participant
- Kschildrencabinet.org
- Spread the word.

Sign up is on: Kschildrencabinet.org

- Each LICC has already received an email with this information. It's also been shared through various newsletters.
- Will be sent out to Deaf/Blind groups.
- SICC will resend this information to the LICCs.

- Will be sent through the KITS listserv.

Highlights of the Kansas ASQ data:

*This is aggregate data. *Amanda will be sharing the slides with everyone in the next few weeks.*

The number of ASQ screenings has increased consistently since 2018.

In 2022, there were 45,033 ASQ-3 screenings completed and 43,071 ASQ:SE-2 screenings completed.

More younger students (>60 months) are being screened in Kansas:

In 2021, 72% of the screenings completed were the 72-month and 60-month screenings combined.

In 2022, 60% of screenings were the 72- and 60-month screenings.

We reviewed the results of the screenings for the years 2019 - 2022. It was noted that fine motor scores are lower than other areas. This has also been an observance of our partners.

Next, we reviewed the results of the screenings by age for 2022.

It was noted that the fine motor results varied by age but continues to be a higher area of need.

What's ahead: Kansas Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot 2023-24

- ASQ – tool to start building the partnership/relationships between school and families.
- Kansas schools are required to use the ASQ to partner with families and share the information gathered from the ASQ in a timely manner.
- Screening window is April 1st – Sept. 20
- Oct. 10: Data is due
- NOT a screening tool to prevent a child from attending kindergarten
- agesandstages.com/ks

Contact Information:

Amanda Peterson
Director of Early Childhood
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Amy Rzadczynski
Consultant Special Education & Title Services
arzadczynski@ksde.org

Questions and comments:

Are any of the ASQ questions inclusive of children with special needs?

The state has worked to communicate that not all families need to complete the ASQ if needs are already identified, especially if there are multiple needs. The ASQ is a screener to identify areas of concerns. If a team has already identified the areas of concern, then the ASQ is not needed. Families can also opt-out. Some students are given the AEPS to identify needs in students with significant delays. If a child has an active IFSP then an ASQ may not be appropriate.

Has there been an increase in referrals due to more screenings?

Kansas is following the trends that are being seen across the United States so the increase in referrals can't be attributed to the increase in the number of screenings.

***At the March meeting we'll review the part B & C raw data and national trend data regarding the number of referrals.*

What percentage of students identified as needing monitoring or at-risk are receiving services?

We don't have access to personalized data so we can't track individuals.

There was interest from several attendees to see the raw numbers for the ASQ results as opposed to the percentages.

COVID concerns: It may be worth investigating how COVID has affected student's results.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee

No written report:
Grant paperwork for the LICC progress discussion

EC / LRE Workgroup

Did not meet

LICC Support Committee

Did not meet

Social Emotional Workgroup

Written report items:

- Natalie McClane, Education Program Consultant from KSDE, presented on the Kansas Early Learning Standards revision.
- Nichelle mentioned that the Help me grow website was going to promote something to help parents with social-emotional problems. Natalie noted

that KSDE needed the Kansas Early Learning Standards revision for KSDE purposes. If KSDE and Help Me Grow have different information, then share links with each other.

- Elizabeth shared the State Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Planning Toolkit with the group.
- Nichelle suggested checking with Dave Lindeman to see if he thought the SE specialist from his program should join Liz's cohort. Liz emailed Dave.
- The Committee will look at the State Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Planning Toolkit and see if they know of any information not mentioned on the toolkit elements and share it.
- Next meeting will be Feb. 23rd at 1:00 pm.

SPP/APR

Report is Submitted for Part C

Workforce / Funding Committee

Written Report:

The group worked on coming up with questions that could be used for potential testimony at the Bob Bethel Hearings. We were unable to meet with representatives from KDADs or KDHE due to scheduling conflicts but communicated some through email. Questions and the recording and chat box were uploaded into our Teams Group by Beccy.

Our group plans on meeting with Gary Henault from KDADs who a council member is also concerning mental health and social emotional issues that needs to be addressed. We are hoping to get his help for our potential testimony in this area.

Agency Reports:

KSDE Report

- Written Report items:

The **Kansas State Board of Education** will conduct a public hearing at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, on **Tuesday, May 9, 2023**, in the Board Room of the Landon State Office Building to consider the adoption of proposed emergency safety intervention administrative regulations.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Secretary of the Kansas State Board of Education at the address below or by email to bhughes@ksde.org. The address for the Kansas State Board of Education is Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson Ave., Suite 102, Topeka, Kansas 66612. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity to present their views orally regarding the adoption of the proposed regulations during the public hearing.

Visit To review the proposed amendments and the economic impact statement, visit [Emergency Safety Interventions \(ESI\) \(ksde.org\)](#). You may also visit [KSDE Weekly](#) to read the full article.

Emergency safety intervention requirements apply to **all** students and to **any** learning environment, including any nonprofit institutional day or residential school and any accredited nonpublic school that receives public funding or over which KSDE has regulatory authority. This definition includes **preschools run by public school districts** and accredited nonpublic schools.

To advance **kindergarten readiness**, all Kansas elementary schools are required to partner with families to better understand incoming kindergarten students' development. The Ages & Stages Questionnaires®, Third Edition (ASQ-3) and Ages & Stages Questionnaires®: Social-Emotional, Second Edition (ASQ:SE-2) provide a snapshot of children's developmental milestones. As caregivers know their children best, they complete both questionnaires.

Since districts first implemented the [Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot](#) statewide in fall 2018, KSDE has gathered feedback on how to best use this tool to improve kindergarten readiness. After receiving positive feedback, KSDE began offering the flexibility to partner with families of incoming kindergarten students to complete the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot (ASQ) in the **springtime before children enter kindergarten**.

For the **2023-24 Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot**, districts and private school systems may begin screening April 1. Please contact Amy Rzaczyński via email at arzaczynski@ksde.org if you would like to begin prior to April 1. All schools must administer the ASQ to incoming kindergarten students by Sept. 20, and all data (including pending Family Access screenings) must be entered into ASQ Online by Oct. 10. Visit the [KSDE Weekly](#) full article for more information.

The **Kansas School Social Workers Association (KSSWA)** is currently seeking nominations for this year's **School Social Worker of the Year** and **Champion for Children** awards.

Use these links to nominate -

School Social Worker: [KSSWA2023SchoolSWofYRform.docx](#) (Deadline is March 10, 2023)

Champion for Children: [KSSWA2023ChampionForChildren.docx](#) (Deadline is March 10, 2023)

The Kansas State Department of Education's (KSDE) **Child Nutrition and Wellness (CNW)** team will host a town hall meeting at **2 p.m. Feb. 21 via Zoom**. Agenda items for the February town hall meeting include new guidance from the United State Department of Agriculture, School Breakfast Week, new CNW website and more. The link for the meeting is [HERE](#).

The **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** is looking for sponsors willing to provide nutritious meals to Kansas children during the summer months. A program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), SFSP provides reimbursement to schools, public agencies and private nonprofit organizations for food services.

The goal of the SFSP is to ensure children in high-poverty areas continue to receive nutritious meals when the low-cost or free school meals provided through the Child Nutrition Programs of the USDA are no longer available. SFSP sponsors receive reimbursements for documenting and serving healthy meals to **children between 1 and 18 years of age** at approved sites in needy areas. These nutritional opportunities help keep children ready to learn when school resumes. Proper nutrition is a critical component of reaching the Kansas State Board of Education's vision for education — Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

Can SFSP assist in your community? Organizations interested in serving nutritious meals to children through a summer program can call Kelly Chanay, assistant director of Child Nutrition and Wellness for KSDE, at (785) 296-2276. You may also read the [full article](#) for more information and to learn more about the opportunity and goals of the program.

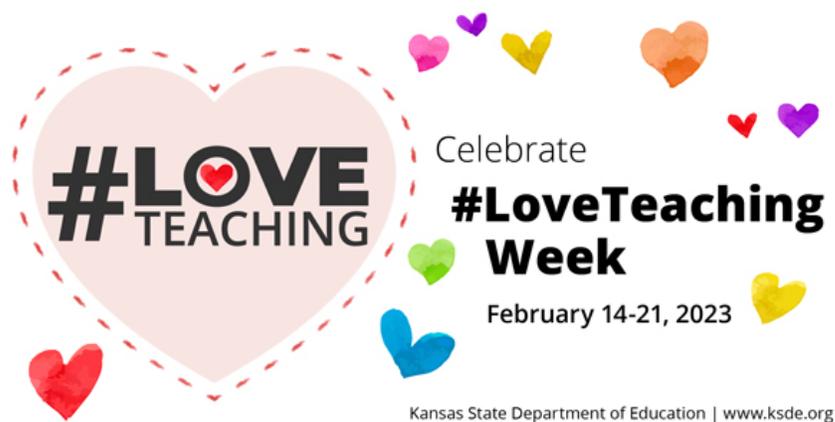
As Kansas students continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, Gov. Laura Kelly announced earlier this week the creation of the **Kansas Education Enrichment Program (KEEP)**, which will provide qualifying parents and guardians with a one-time **\$1,000 award per child** to pay for educational goods and services, such as tutoring and school supplies. KEEP will open for application on **Feb. 22**.

Students whose household income is less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines will be eligible for KEEP funds. KEEP funds will be able to be used on enrichment and educational activities including:

- The purchase of curriculum and educational materials, including school supplies and certain allowed technological devices.

- Camps with academic-related curriculum, such as music, arts, science, technology, agriculture, mathematics and engineering.
- Tutoring.
- Language classes.
- Musical instruments and lessons.
- The funds won't be eligible for private school tuition.

Parents and guardians may select enrichment and educational activities from approved service providers via the online **KEEP Marketplace** or request that a service provider be approved and added to the statewide directory. View the [full article](#) or more information



#LoveTeachingWeek is a grassroots campaign started by teachers in 2015 as an opportunity to celebrate teaching, leading and learning. Every year, Valentine's Day marks the beginning of a weeklong conversation that highlights why teachers enter and remain in the field of education.

Please share why you **#LoveTeaching on social media** using the #LoveTeaching hashtag when you post. And watch the **Kansas State Department of Education's Twitter and Facebook accounts** for special messages from the 2023 Kansas Teacher of the Year team.

KSDE would like to thank the Council for welcoming and onboarding our newest team member, **Stacy Novak**, who will be filling the role of the **State ICC consultant**. We are excited to have her part of the SICC Council, Early Childhood team, and the Kansas State Department of Education!

Beccy Strohm has been incredibly helpful in the interim

DCF Report

Written Report items:

FRCs are community-based or school-based hubs to support families. Services are unique to each site and range from:

- Childcare resource and referral
- Counseling
- Early childhood programs
- Food bank, cooking, and nutrition programs
- Health screenings
- Home visiting program
- Job skills training
- Legal services
- Literacy programs
- Parent leadership and peer groups
- Play groups
- Youth leadership and peer groups

KCSL is providing technical assistance and certification to each site with the goal to align with the National Family Support Network Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening. Contact information is on the attached

Kansas has been awarded \$20M in grants focused on keeping families together and reducing the number of children entering foster care. The focus is on providing mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Link: <https://www.dcf.ks.gov/newsroom/pages/Families-kids-in-foster-care.aspx>

KDHE Report

Written report items:

- The RFP for a new database is now going through an internal review at KDHE.
- We continue to meet with local programs on a branding initiative.
- KECDs and KSDE will be presenting at KDEC on transition from C to B.
- We have submitted the SPP/APR to EMAPS (OSEP reporting website) February 1st.
- We met with local program coordinators February 16th.
- We have started the Determinations process for local programs. The Determinations will be complete and be distributed to local programs by February 20th.
- We have started filling out the federal grant application and will have it posted to our website by mid-March.

Meeting additions:

- Federal grant is due May 21, 2023

KDADS Report

No written report provided

Kansas Childcare Capacity Accelerator Grants – create affordable and accessible childcare

<https://allinforkansaskids.org/communities/>

email: ccaccelerator@ku.edu

KCCTF Report

Written report items:

Providers: please share with your families!

Are you a parent of a child age birth to 5 (Pre-K) in Kansas? We need your help to improve early childhood developmental health experiences!

In 2021, we conducted a survey with families and providers across the state to learn more about their awareness of early childhood development, access to developmental health screenings, and who they turn to for resources and supports. We want to invite families to join us to hear more about the results and determine how funding should be utilized to improve experiences for families of young children in your communities.

Multiple sessions will be held from February 27-March 27, with a Spanish language session on March 23. **If you are interested in participating, please [click this link to register](#).** Participants who attend the full session will receive a \$100 stipend for their time, commitment, and input.

If you have questions, please contact [Rachel Gardner](#) or [Meghan Kluth](#).

Other Reports:

Staff Reports:

No Report given

Chair Report

- Interviewed for the KSDE staff person
- Open session (Q&A) to provide information about the SICC at KDEC

March Meeting

- Discussion about meeting in person
- Meeting changed to March 24 to avoid spring break

Other materials provided prior to meeting via email:

Adjournment:

Motion made by Ann Elliott to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Lisa Collette.

Meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm by Dave Lindeman

All in favor

The next State ICC meeting will be on Friday, March 24, 2023.

Join with this link: