

We envision Illinois as a place where every young child – regardless of race, ethnicity, income, language, geography, ability, immigration status, or other circumstance – receives the strongest possible start to life so that they grow up safe, healthy, happy, ready to succeed, and eager to learn.

**Illinois Early Learning Council
Executive Committee Meeting
October 5, 2020 - 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

Join via [Webex](#)

Meeting Number/Access Code: 133 777 1670

If joining by phone, dial: 1-312-535-8110

Agenda

1. **Welcome & Introductions** – Phyllis Glink & Jesse Ruiz (5 minutes)
2. **Early Childhood Funding Commission Recommendations & Role of the Early Learning Council** – Jesse Ruiz, Theresa Hawley & Bethany Patten (40 minutes)
3. **PDG B-5 Year 1 Update & Year 2 Proposal** – Jamilah R. Jor’dan (25 minutes)
4. **Implementing the PN3 Agenda & Alignment with State ECEC Initiatives** – Simone Santiago, Artiya Nash & Karen Berman (25 minutes)
5. **Break** (10 minutes)
6. **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Work of the Governor’s Office & Next Steps for the ELC** – Jamilah R. Jor’dan & Jesse Ruiz (10 minutes)
7. **Racial Healing Circles** – Jamilah R. Jor’dan, Cristina Pacione-Zayas, Karen Berman & Maggie Koller (10 minutes)
8. **KIDS Data Discussion** – Brenda Dixon & Elliot Regenstein (30 minutes)
9. **Questions: Follow-up from August Meeting, Committee Reports & State Agency Updates** (15 minutes)
10. **Q&A & Public Comments** (10 minutes)
11. **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

Monday, December 7, 2020

1:00-4:00pm

Racial Equity Definition: A racially equitable society values and embraces all racial/ethnic identities. In such a society, one’s racial/ethnic identity (particularly Black, Latino, Indigenous, and Asian) is not a factor in an individual’s ability to prosper. An early learning system that is racially equitable is driven by data and ensures that:

- Every young child and family regardless of race, ethnicity, and social circumstance has everything s/he/they need to develop optimally;
- Resources, opportunities, rewards, and burdens are fairly distributed across groups and communities so that those with the greatest challenges are adequately supported and not further disadvantaged; and
- Systems and policies are designed, reframed, or eliminated to promote greater justice for children and families.

Racial Equity Priorities:

- 1) Align and standardize race/ethnicity data collection and reporting;
- 2) Evaluate and identify whether processes for distributing resources exacerbate racial disparities, including agency contracting;
- 3) Address race/ethnicity disparities in terms of workforce compensation and advancement;
- 4) Eliminate racial/ethnic disparities for children participating in all programs that contribute to school readiness and life success by addressing racial disparities in enrollment in preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds and in prenatal to age 3 services.