

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

April 5, 2021, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Join via [Webex](#) | Meeting Number: 133 975 0077 | Meeting Password: VCfbFSKE882

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

Agenda

1:00 Welcome & Review of Racial Equity Definition & Priorities (5 min)

In Materials:

- Draft Minutes: February ELC Executive Committee Meeting
- [ELC Racial Equity One-pager](#) (definition, priorities, Race Forward Racial Equity Impact Assessment Questions)

1:05 Discussion: Follow-up from Special March Meeting (10 min)

Intended Outcome: Discuss the key themes and elevate any questions that may have arisen following the special March ELC Executive Committee meeting, “Building A More Effective ELC to Advance the State’s Early Childhood System”.

Presenters/Facilitators:

- Phyllis Glink & Jesse Ruiz, ELC Co-chairs

In Materials:

- Key Themes – Building a More Effective Early Learning Council

Key Questions:

- If we could only make three changes for how to build a more effective ELC, what should those changes be? What is the most important adjustment we can make?

1:15 Discussion: Illinois Early Learning Council Governing Principles (40 min)

Intended Outcome: Provide the ELC Executive Committee with an overview of the Illinois Early Learning Council Governing Principles. Discuss high-level feedback. (Please see key questions below.)

Presenters/Facilitators:

- Phyllis Glink & Jesse Ruiz, ELC Co-chairs

In Materials:

- DRAFT Illinois Early Learning Council Governing Principles

Key Questions:

- Does this document help us advance the values and goals of the Illinois Early Learning Council (racial equity, diverse representation, public/private partnership, leadership pathways, etc.)?

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.

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- Given the key takeaways from the “Building A More Effective ELC to Advance the State’s Early Childhood System” meeting in March, will the structure outlined in these Governing Principles allow us to be a more effective and responsive Early Learning Council?

1:55 Break (10 min)

Please stay logged in to the Webex, remain on mute, and turn off your camera during the break.

2:05 Discussion: Early Learning Council Committees (20 min)

Intended Outcome: To hear reflections and comments from ELC Executive Committee members in response to the high-level updates on the current work of the committees that relate to and help advance the Administration’s/State’s priorities.

Presenters/Facilitators:

- Phyllis Glink & Jesse Ruiz, ELC Co-chairs
- ELC Committee Co-chairs

In Materials:

- ELC Committee Update: All Families Served Subcommittee (in lieu of Access – no co-chairs)
- ELC Committee Update: Family Advisory Committee
- ELC Committee Update: Home Visiting Task Force
- ELC Committee Update: Integration & Alignment Committee
- ELC Committee Update: Quality Committee

Key Questions:

- What do ELC Committees need in order to update their work plans prior to the June ELC Executive Committee meeting?

2:25 Presentation/Discussion: Data Governance & Organization to Support Equity & Racial Justice Act (30 min)

Intended Outcome: Share with Executive Committee members work being done on the early childhood data system and its integration with the State data governance work, part of the data alignment efforts funded by the PDG B-5 and which will support Equity and Racial Justice Act. Discuss any questions or next steps.

Presenters/Facilitators:

- Ben Boer, Data Coordinator for Education and Workforce Data, Office of the Governor

In Materials:

- Informing Improvement and Powering Progress: Recommendations to the Illinois P-20 Council by the Education & Workforce Data Task Force on Building a P-20W Data System

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Key Questions:

- What are key questions that need to be answered regarding the early childhood education system in Illinois?
- How do we ensure we have high-quality data from all the different programs and are able to access it quickly and efficiently?
- What are the biggest obstacles to data use at the state and local level?
- How can data be used to support improved service provision, especially coming out of the COVID crisis?

2:55 Break (10 min)

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3:05 Breakout Sessions: Regional & Community Systems and Federal Funding Prioritization (45 min)

Intended Outcome: Gather input from ELC Executive Committee members and guests on three key topics: Regional & Community Systems for Illinois and Federal Funding Prioritization for the Workforce and Direct Service. *Attendees will select one breakout group to participate in during the session.*

- Framing the Breakout Sessions (15 min)
- Choose your own Breakout Group (20 min)
 - Breakout Group 1: Regional & Community Systems for Illinois
 - Breakout Group 2: Federal Funding Prioritization: Workforce
 - Breakout Group 3: Federal Funding Prioritization: Direct Service
- Share and Discuss: Breakout Groups (10 minutes)

In Materials:

- Federal Funding and Regional & Community Systems PowerPoint Slides
- High-Level Federal Funding Overview – GOECD
- Community Systems Development Subcommittee: Regional Infrastructure Feedback
- Breakout Session Questions

Key Questions:

- Please see “Breakout Session Questions” document in your packet.

3:50 Public Comments & Announcements

4:00 Closing Comments and Adjourn

Next Meeting:

Monday, June 7, 2021

1:00-4:00pm (subject to change)

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