

**Illinois Early Learning Council**  
**June 22, 2020, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

Join via [Webex](#)

Meeting Number: 133 513 3427

Meeting Password: K6SnqMpkD82

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

**Agenda**

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Phyllis Glink and Jesse Ruiz (10 min)
2. **Honoring Maria Whelan** (10 min)
3. **Voices from the Field** – Katie Day and Brandye Kizer (15 min)
4. **ELC Membership & Governance Update** – Phyllis Glink (5 min)
5. **Racial Equity Discussion: COVID-19 State Response** – Facilitated by Cristina Pacione-Zayas (60 min)
  - Background
    - Governor’s Early Childhood Funding Commission – Bethany Patten
    - ELC racial equity work and work plans
    - Disparities due to COVID-19
  - How do we build it back better?
  - How can the ELC and its committees be engaged in ways that will support the State as they develop their policies and procedures?
6. **Announcements & Public Comments** (10 min)
7. **Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:**

Monday, November 16, 2020  
11:00am - 2:00pm

Illinois Early Learning Council

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.

**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.