



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

**District of Columbia Interagency Coordinating Council (DC ICC)
Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

1371 Harvard St. NW, President Board Room, Third Floor, Washington, DC 20009

Members in Attendance:

Colleen Sonosky (Medicaid Program), Cynthia McEwen (Parent), Howard Liebers (Private Insurance), Amy Cullen (Provider), Toby Long (Higher Education), Michele Gerstein (Parent), Judith Curry (Parent), Sharice Lane (Provider), Carleen Reid (Special Education), Nicole Lee-Mwandha (OSSE Representative on Homeless Populations), Denise Ballard (Foster Care Agency)

Members not in Attendance:

Quiana Mitchem (Provider), Royace Hagler (Early Head Start), Elizabeth Groginsky (Agency for Child Care), Lavdena Orr (Medicaid Payment)

OSSE Support Personnel:

Melanie Newkirk (DC ICC Liaison), Allan Phillips (Special Assistant Part C), Andres Alvarado (Director of Strong Start)

Call to Order:

- A. In the absence of a Chairperson, Carleen Reid called the meeting to order. The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m.
- B. Carleen Reid opened the floor for a vote to approve the meeting minutes from Sept. 6, 2018. Michele Gerstein moved to approve the meeting minutes and it was seconded by Judith Curry, with the correction that a foundation name needed to be corrected. The meeting minutes were approved.

Open Issues:

- A. The ICC voted on a new chairperson as Raeshawn Crosson resigned due to other commitments. Michele Gerstein was voted in as the new chairperson by unanimous vote of the committee members in attendance.
- B. The ICC agreed to create the schedule for 2019 ICC meetings during the ICC retreat scheduled in the afternoon.

Meeting Business:

- A. DC ICC bylaws were discussed at length. Edits were made to grammatical errors and term lengths for members were established. The ICC also agreed to broaden the categories of members eligible to serve in the vice chair and secretary roles. These roles were formerly designated as parent member roles. Due to a lack of parent members, the ICC determined that the only role solely available for a parent is the Chairperson.
- B. The ICC took nominations for the vice chair position. Sharice Lane nominated herself and was unanimously voted in.

- C. The ICC took nominations for the secretary position. Amy Cullen was nominated by Nicole Lee-Mwandha and unanimously voted in.
- D. The ICC discussed the need to continually recruit parents and that both the vice chair and secretary will step down if a parent is interested in fulfilling these roles.
- E. DC Early Intervention Program (DC EIP) Quarterly Updates
 - 1. Andres Alvarado (Director of Early Intervention) discussed accomplishments of Strong Start during the last fiscal year. Highlights included:
 - i. Transition to service coordinators coming in-house, forming teams by region, having the same service coordinator serve families from entry to exit. It was noted that the program has seen stronger retention in wards 7 and 8 with the new model.
 - ii. The playgroup expansion was discussed briefly. The chair noted that this should be further explored. At brief glance, it appears that fewer playgroups are offered throughout the city, thus fewer families are able to participate.
 - iii. ICC members asked Andres to consider presenting the IFSP process to the ICC to allow board members to have a better understanding of the process that families go through. It was also suggested that the ICC and Strong Start review data by region to better identify if different regions of the city require different supports.
 - 2. Announcement: Strong Start office continues to be relocated due to water damage at the Harvard Street location. Once the appropriate DC Agency has inspected the office space, Strong Start hopes to return in their Harvard Street location in February.
- F. Part C Updates
 - 1. Allan Phillips (Special Assistant, Part C) shared that DC ICC will complete a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis in the retreat set to follow this meeting.

Committee Quarterly Reports:

All committee reports were tabled so that the function of committees and the ICC as a whole could be discussed in the retreat directly following this meeting. It was discussed that the ICC would like to be more actionable. Several options were discussed including looking at hosting a town hall, conference and forming a parent café.

Public Comment:

- A. A parent asked about how Strong Start services are funded. She was specifically interested in how a child's insurance impacts their access to services.
- B. During the Part C update, Sharice Lane noted that many acronyms were used and suggested that the ICC may need to make a "cheat sheet" for new members and members of the public. It was also recommended that the Part C updates be presented verbally along with a handout with visuals.

Announcement:

Next quarterly meeting is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 25, 2019 from 12-1:30 p.m. The meeting location is 1050 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20002. The meeting will be held in the Eleanor Holmes Norton II room.

DC ICC member motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member seconded the motion and facilitator adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Chair Signature

Date