



**TRANSITION
ADVISORY
GROUP**

**Universal Preschool
Meeting 2
July 29, 2021**

Agenda

- Welcome
- Introduction
- Consider mission, vision, and guiding principles for new early childhood department
- Discuss logistics – Breakout format and GroupMap
- Group discussion and next steps

* This meeting will be recorded via Zoom. Please prepare to mute your microphone if you are not actively speaking.

Introduction

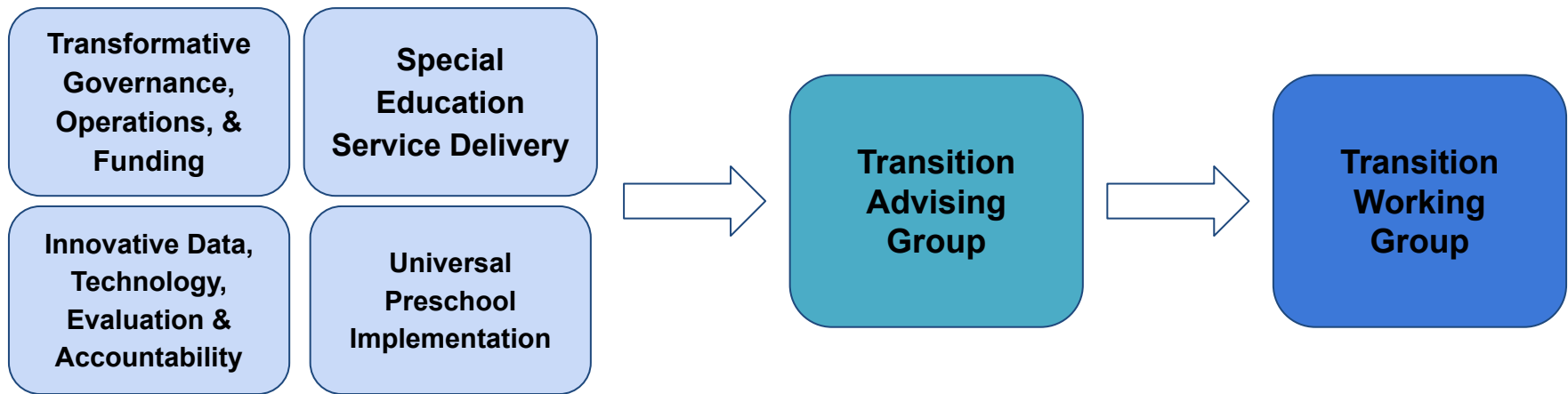
Background

HB21-1304 was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor in June 2021. The law requires:

- The creation of a new unified Colorado Department of Early Childhood on July 1, 2022.
 - *To create the new department, the bill requires a transition plan, written by the Transition Working Group (TWG), be submitted by November 1, 2021. The ECLC is to approve the transition plan within 14 days after receiving the plan from the Office of the Governor.*
- A planning process for Colorado's new universal, voluntary preschool program, which will be overseen by the new unified Department of Early Childhood. This new Colorado Department of Early Childhood will also be charged with the implementation of this program, beginning July 2023.

Subgroup Structure

The ECLC Transition Advisory Group is convening subgroups to offer insights that will guide the creation of a transition plan to the new unified department of early childhood. Each group will offer recommendations from their perspectives or in their areas of expertise.



Stipends may be available for parents and members of the early childhood workforce to participate fully in the meetings - please reach out to Kristina.Heyl@state.co.us for more information.

Listening Sessions

In addition to the TAG and its subgroups, the ECLC is also convening the following interactive user-centered listening sessions to ensure that the new department will meet the needs of those who are involved in and/or experience Colorado's current early childhood system.

- Children and Family Experience
- Provider Experience
- Workforce Experience

These listening sessions will offer critical insight into the user experience of existing programs and systems. They will be working in tandem with the subgroups to offer insight to the TAG.

** Additional information will be available soon!*

Other Ways to Engage

Stakeholder engagement is a critical component to this process. To offer updated information and gather feedback the ECLC will be managing the following resources for the public:

Updates

- Monthly Transition Plan [Newsletter](#)
- Monthly Town Halls (to be scheduled**)
- Transition [Website](#)

Opportunities to provide input

- Feedback [Form](#)
- Statewide Listening Tour (to be scheduled**)

Additionally, a human centered design project will be conducted with design sessions and prototype creations for what the future system should look like.

**For more information or to participate, please reach out to Rebecca Peterson, Gary Community Investments - rpeterson@garycommunity.org*

Meeting Norms

- Come prepared.
- Mute yourself when not speaking.
- Stay engaged (e.g., actively participate in breakout rooms).
- Be mindful of how much “air time” each member receives.
- Always assume good intent.
- All ideas are valued.

Expectations

Every meeting you should expect the following:

- Via e-mail:
 - Agenda for meeting
 - Suggested pre-reading
 - Online – ECLC transition subgroup webpages

- In meeting:
 - Subgroup Updates
 - Focused discussion around a specific part of the transition plan
 - Closing/next steps

What should be the outcomes/goals of the new universal, voluntary preschool program? What does successful implementation of this look like for families? For providers?

Goal of New Preschool Program

Collaboration and alignment with existing systems

Well-staffed programs and well compensated workforce

Public resources to support equitable access, opportunities, and whole-child supports

Mixed-delivery system that prioritizes parent choice

Evidence-based practices that support social emotional development, school readiness, and consistent quality

Family voice is valued – families have a role in decision making, boards, and committees

Successful Implementation

Programs meet the needs of families (work, scheduling, transportation, family dynamics, language, culture etc.)

Easy enrollment

Families become advocates in their communities for quality

UPK allows providers to have a business model that is balanced between preschool and infant/toddler

Streamlined process with reduced burden on providers and families

Less burnout for workforce and providers – more support and recognition for their role as educators

Review Guiding Principles and Mission/Vision

ECLC Guiding Principles

The ECLC is committed to the following guiding principles in the development of the transition plan and universal, voluntary preschool recommendations:



Colorado's Department of Early Childhood

Vision

All Colorado children, families and early childhood professionals are valued, healthy and thriving.

Mission

The Colorado Department of Early Childhood champions a comprehensive, community-informed, effective, high quality and equitable early childhood system that supports the care, education and well-being of all Colorado's young children, their families and early childhood professionals in all settings.

Universal Preschool Implementation Subgroup

The Universal Preschool Implementation Subgroup will identify strategies to align the state's preschool programs into a new statewide, universal, high-quality, voluntary preschool program in a mixed-delivery system.

This group will be tasked with discussing the following topics:

- Meeting 1: Program outcomes/goals
- Meeting 2: Factors for aligning with CPP/other EC programs
- Meeting 3: Local infrastructure needed for implementation
- Meeting 4: Balancing universal access with targeted needs
- Meeting 5: Encouraging mixed delivery
- Meeting 6: Managing blending/braiding of funds
- Meeting 7: Meeting needs of children with special needs
- Meeting 8: Opportunities for unified enrollment
- Meeting 9: Ensuring supply of teachers and facilities
- Meeting 10 and 11: TBD

Breakout 1. With which EC programs must a successful UPK program interact?

Breakout 1: Brainstorming Process


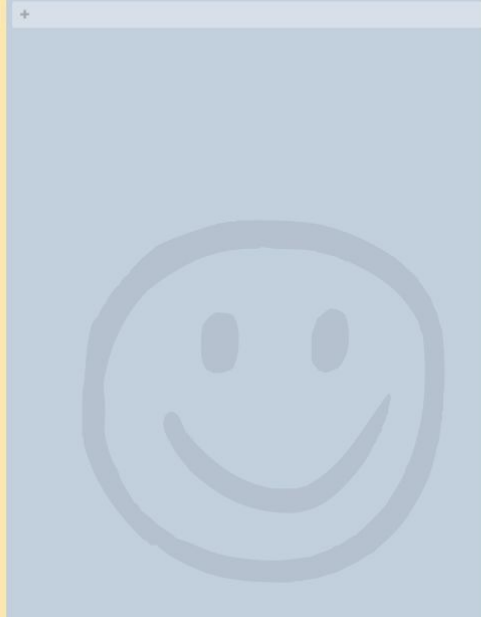




1. Assign a single “Mapper” for your group

- Brainstorm (20min) – List programs to support implementation of a successful UPK.
- Use the “thumbs up” button to like ideas

2. We will return to whole group for 15min to reflect and rate.

Brainstorm Programs Add your ideas for what existing EC programs must a successful UPK program interact with. Everyone can add Brainstorming collaboratively.

What existing EC programs are needed to support a successful UPK workforce? :	What existing EC programs are needed to support successful child outcomes under UPK? :	What existing EC programs are needed to support families participating in UPK? :	What existing EC programs are needed to support providers under UPK? :
			

Whole Group: Reflect and Rate

Rate

- How much do you agree with this idea?
1 (low) - 10 (high)

Survey Says

Q1 How would you rate this list of programs in terms of completeness?



Reminder: Maps stay open for 1 hour past meeting close.



5 – minute break



**Breakout 2. What factors should be considered when aligning or integrating
CPP and UPK?**

Breakout 2: Brainstorming Process

Assign a single “Mapper” for your group

1. Brainstorm (20min) – populate the Map
 - Use the “thumbs up” button to like an idea
2. Categorize ideas (5min)
3. We will return to whole group (15min) to reflect and rate.



A screenshot of a web-based brainstorming application. The interface is split into two main panels. The left panel has a light green background and a large, faint question mark icon inside a head silhouette. The right panel has a light purple background and a large, faint lightbulb icon. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a menu icon, a 'Brainstorm' dropdown, and a breadcrumb trail: 'Rate agreement -> Results -> Survey'. Below this, a subtitle reads '2. Let's brainstorm what factors should be considered when aligning or integrating CPP and UPK'. On the right side of the navigation bar, there are icons for 'CHAT', 'PARTICIPANTS 1/2/21', and a green 'INVITE' button. The main content area of each panel contains a question: 'What factors should be considered for aligning or integrating CPP and UPK?' on the left, and 'What do you see as an innovative opportunity when considering aligning or integrating CPP and UPK?' on the right. A small '+' icon is visible in the top left of each panel's content area.

Whole Group: Reflect and Rate

Rate

- How much do you agree with this idea?
1 (low) - 10 (high)

Survey Says...

Q1 How would you rate the list of factors for consideration when aligning/integrating UPK and CPP?



Reminder: Maps stay open for 1 hour past meeting close.

**Closing/
Next Steps**

Next Steps



If you would like to receive meeting materials, including meeting dates, emails and agendas, please subscribe to the Newsletter and update your subscription profile to include information on this subgroup.

Participants of each subgroup are **highly encouraged to attend all meetings of that group** and should be prepared to review approximately 1 hour of materials prior to the meetings.

Meetings for Universal Preschool

- ~~Meeting 1, July 22~~
- ~~Meeting 2, July 29~~
- Meeting 3, August 12
- Meeting 4, August 19
- Meeting 5, September 2
- Meeting 6, September 9
- Meeting 7, September 30
- Meeting 8, October 7
- Meeting 9, November 4
- Meeting 10, November 11
- Meeting 11, December 9

Contact us:

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- Marzano – carrie.germeroth@marzanoresearch.com
- ECLC - kristina.heyl@state.co.us