



**TRANSITION
ADVISORY
GROUP**

**Universal Preschool
Meeting 3
August 12, 2021**

Agenda

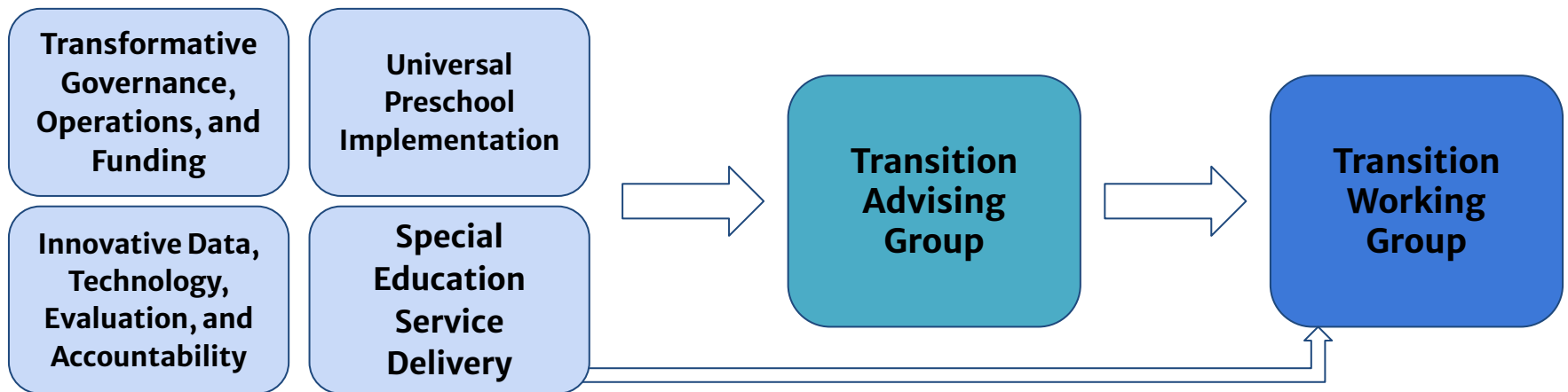
- Welcome
- Introduction
- Consider mission, vision, and guiding principles for new early childhood department
- Discuss logistics – Breakout format and GroupMap
- Group discussion and next steps

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

Introduction

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.

- Provider Experience - **Completed** on 08/03/2021
- Children and Family Experience - Upcoming on 8/24/2021
- Workforce Experience - Upcoming on 09/21/2021

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
- 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*

****See ECLC meeting [calendar](#) for updates.**

Stakeholder Feedback

The ECLC is committed to ensuring that feedback can be provided in a variety of ways. A feedback form has been created on the ECLC website and will be available throughout the process.

- [Share Feedback Here!](#)

You will receive a link to the feedback that has been received ahead of each meeting as part of the pre-read materials. Please take a few minutes to review and consider the feedback being shared ahead of each meeting.

- [View the Feedback that Has Been Shared Here!](#)

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.

* Which of these are you?

1 – parent, family member of a young child

2 – work directly with young children and families

3 – support individuals who raise or support young children and families

4 – create or manage systems that support child-/family-serving organizations

Please make sure to give space/voice to 1s and 2s in your groups

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

Brainstorm factors that should be considered when aligning or integrating the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) and the universal voluntary preschool program. With which other early childhood programs must a successful preschool program interact?

Innovative Opportunities when aligning CPP and UPK - Key Takeaways:

1. Mixed-delivery system that allows parent choice.
2. Continuation of efforts to align with K-12; building on CDE efforts to align preschool through 3rd grade.
3. Universal application that is easy for families to use.
4. A single system that reduces provider and family burden.
5. Prioritizing workforce social-emotional supports.

Factors to consider - Key Takeaways:

1. Blending and braiding of funding sources (CCCAP, Headstart, CPP, UPK).
2. Continuous quality improvement and alignment of quality standards.
3. Cost of high-quality, per-child spending that allows and reflects high-quality programming.
4. Seamless and easy eligibility for families and providers.
5. Maintaining funding for at-risk 3-year-olds within the new program.

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 infants and toddlers
- Meeting 8: Opportunities for unified enrollment
- Meeting 9: Ensuring supply of teachers and facilities
- Meeting 10 and 11: TBD

Breakout 1. Mind map - What local infrastructure exists to support UPK rollout?



Warm-up. An awesome birthday party for a preschooler.

Mind Map Steps

Start with the Main Topic. What we need for a great birthday party.

Brainstorm Topics. Create main branches to enter your topics such as “Games”, “Music”, “Food” and “Presents”. Do not worry about the order of the topics.

Create Sub-Topics. Elaborate on your topics by creating sub-topics. Make sure to use very short phrases or even single words.

Rearrange the Topics. If you need to rearrange the topics in your mind map, to structure the topics that you brainstormed.

Add Images and Formatting. Images and colors improve memory retention. You can use different colors and fonts and place images on branches.

Notes and Research. Take notes to your topics and attach comments to other ideas.

Mind Map Session



Mind Map – Map what infrastructure **currently** exists at the local level to support UPK rollout.

- Infrastructure brainstorm (15min)
- Review and add more (10min)
- Small group rating (5min)
- Whole group reflect (10min)

1. Guide

Makes sure the group stays on course and support meeting norms

2. Mapper

Captures group ideas on the map

3. Reporter

Shares small group discussion during the whole group debrief

Survey Says...

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





5 – minute break



Breakout 2. What are the gaps in infrastructure at the local level to support successful UPK rollout?

Brainstorm Session



Mind Map – **WHAT ELSE** is needed at the local level to support UPK rollout that does NOT currently exist?

- Brainstorm list (15min)

1. Guide

Makes sure the group stays on course and support meeting norms

2. Mapper

Captures group ideas on the map

3. Reporter

Shares small group discussion during the whole group debrief

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?



**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.

Upcoming Meetings for Universal Preschool

- 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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