

**PIECES Advisory Council  
Family Enrichment Center  
January 9, 2004**

**Present:** Kim Azonevich, Mary Francis Bleidt, Randy Bridgette, Phil Edwards, Joan Faris, Becky Gooch-Erbacher, Margie Hale, Bill Huebner, Ginger Huffman, Cathy Jones, Sandy Murphy, Mary Ann Osborne, Helen Post-Brown, Mary Quick, Michelle Rollyson, Kay Tilton Sally Byard, Fred Boothe, Frank Caputo, Melanie Clark, Judy Curry, Beth Hall, Joan Skaggs, Ann Nutt

<b>KEY POINTS DISCUSSED</b>	<b>KEY DECISIONS MADE</b>
<p><b>Welcome</b> <b>Introductions</b> <b>Approval of Minutes</b> (handout)</p> <p><b>Additions to Agenda</b></p>	<p>Bill Huebner made the motion to accept the minutes as read. Mary Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried. There were no additions to the agenda.</p>
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>	<p>No public comment.</p>
<p><b>Nominating Committee Report</b> The following new members have been identified by the Nominating Committee: CCR &amp; R- <i>Kim Azonevich</i> County Schools - <i>Kay Carpenter and John Stallings</i> WV DHHR CSM - <i>Mary Ann Dean</i> Head Start - <i>Barbara Myers &amp; Becky Gooch-Erbacher</i> WV CCU- <i>Mary Quick</i> Advocates- <i>Evelyn Dortch</i> WVDHHR -ECE Division- <i>Kay Tilton</i> WVDE - <i>Dr. Cathy Jones</i> Health Partners- <i>Phil Edwards and Joan Faris</i> Senior Services - <i>Scott McClanahan</i> Communications- <i>Michelle Rollyson</i></p> <p>Work is continuing on representation for Faith-based; Unions (WV AFT and WVEA); private foundation; and Legislature.</p> <p>The Nominating Committee discussed the need to keep an awareness of diverse membership when appropriate and when identifying organization representation. A targeted spot was not considered appropriate.</p> <p>The suggestion was made to send a letter of</p>	<p>New members were approved by acclamation. New members present were welcomed.</p> <p>Work will continue on final spaces and an update provided.</p> <p>Ann to draft a letter.</p>

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appreciation to members who served in the past year.	
<p><b>New Member Orientation</b> - New members will need an orientation to learn about what the council's role is and what their role is as a council member. Cathy suggested using video conferencing or conference calls due to the distance some members have to drive.</p>	Ann will schedule opportunities for an orientation.
<p><b>Systems Development</b> - Kay reviewed the need for Council to shift focus to the birth to five system and ways to connect resources and identify gaps. Ann reviewed the West Virginia Early Childhood Birth through Five Systems Chart (handout). Ann requested council members to look at the chart carefully, and email missing components.</p>	Council members email Ann additions prior to next meeting. More in depth discussion regarding the system to be planned for next meeting.
<p><b>Pre-k Update</b> - Cathy reported that two policies that relate to Pre-k are on comment now. The (ELSF) Early Learning Standards Framework (Policy 2520.15) is the Content Standards and Objectives for Pre-k. The comment period for this policy ends on Sunday, January 11, 2004. Of the comment thus far, the biggest issue is what needs to happen in a classroom for four year olds. How to set up the classroom for learning, not teaching.</p> <p>The second policy that is on comment related to Pre-k is Policy 2510. This policy is how school systems manage classes. The policy now includes Pre-k.</p> <p><b>Regional TA Sessions</b> - Cathy reported that the Technical Assistance Steering Team conducted four Regional TA Sessions at different locations around the state in December.</p> <p><b>On Site TA</b> - Cathy reported that the TA Steering Team had been visiting counties around the state that are working on the School Year 04/05 plan. These plans are due by February 27, 2004. Cathy reported that this</p>	Efforts should be focused on how to communicate how intentional and purposeful learning can be incorporated into developmentally appropriate practice/ curriculum.

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<p>year’s plan could affect the counties school aid funding for four year old children, if the county’s plan is not approved. Cathy also reminded the council that this plan is different than other plans the county school board submits. If their plan is not approved, they appeal the decision in circuit court. That is in the law. The team reported that they are seeing movement towards collaboration. The biggest problem is that the programs have to come under sometimes three regulations that do not always match.</p> <p><b>Site Visits</b> - Cathy reported that the TA team had also been doing site visits to counties that collaborations already exist. The visits will continue through February (Handout).</p>	<p>Kay reported that the Regulations and Standards Committee is going to try to work on this issue.</p>
<p><b>Annual Report</b> A draft annual report was distributed to members. This is only a draft of content; the report will still need formatting. Comments are needed on content and understandability.</p> <p>The report would be distributed to Legislators, the State Board of Education, national organizations as well as others.</p>	<p>Ann will need comments on the Annual Report by Friday, January 16, 2004.</p> <p>For this report, it was agreed to continue to use the PIECES logo.</p>
<p><b>State Investments in Child Care</b> (handout) Kay reported on a state-by-state analysis that the Children’s Defense Fund completed in March 2003:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 states have a waiting list or have frozen intake for child care subsidy</li> <li>• One state delayed implementing new rules.</li> <li>• Only nine states had no reductions one year ago.</li> </ul> <p>Kay has asked Judy Curry to head a task force to look at the current rate structure in West Virginia.</p>	<p>Recommendations for the task force were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents/grandparents/ guardians</li> <li>• Care providers</li> <li>• State agencies</li> </ul>
<p><b>Child Well-Being Survey</b> - (handout) Joan Faris reported that the Child Well-Being Committee had created a survey that was done at the new child care center regulations</p>	

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<p>meeting around the state. The survey provides information that could support some development of training or consulting opportunities.</p> <p>Phil reported that he has a list of oral health specialist throughout the state to share with the Resource &amp; Referral agencies.</p>	<p>Follow up with Phil regarding Children's Dentistry Project</p>
<p><b>Committee Co-Chairs</b> - Kay reported that the Child Well-Being Committee needed a co-chair.</p> <p>The Public Awareness Committee also needs the appointment of a new co-chair.</p>	<p>Bill made the motion that Randy Bridgette be the new co-chair of the Child Well-Being Committee.</p> <p>Cathy seconded the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p> <p>Phil made the motion that Michelle Rollyson be named the new co-chair of the Public Awareness Committee.</p> <p>Cathy seconded the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
<p><b>Public Awareness</b> - Margie reported that the committee is still working on a logo and tag line.</p> <p>Ann read the draft consistent message. The logo needs to reflect the intent of the message. Logos to date were shared with the Council.</p>	<p>Future designs for review will be placed on the website for response.</p>
<p><b>Children's Day at the Legislature</b></p> <p>Cathy Suggested that PIECES have a presence at Children's Day at the Legislature.</p>	<p>PIECES table should have available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy 2525</li> <li>• ELSF</li> <li>• Annual Report</li> </ul>
<p><b>Regulations and Standards Committee</b> -</p> <p>Beth Hall presented a chart (handout) of policies/ guidance documents/ regulations comparison regarding transportation of preschool children.</p> <p>Beth presented a draft recommendation from the Regulations &amp; Standards Committee on the Transportation issue (handout).</p> <p>The next Regulations and Standards Committee meeting will be January 20, 2004 at the Flatwoods DHHR office. This meeting will be to address the issues with the child care center regulations.</p>	<p>Cathy made the motion that this committee have three co-chairs to represent the three agencies involved (Child Care, Head Start, Public School).</p> <p>Mary Francis seconded the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p> <p>Beth and Pat Gracey are currently co-chairs and represent child care and Head Start.</p> <p>Cathy will work on finding someone to represent public schools.</p>

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<b>Next Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative Update</li> <li>• County Plan Approval</li> <li>• Systems Development</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjourn</b>	Meeting adjourned.