



Policy Roundtable for Child Care
Wednesday, November 14, 2012
10:00 a.m. – Noon
Conference Room 743
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles



Meeting Agenda

- | | | | |
|-------|------|---|--|
| 10:00 | I. | Welcome and Introductions | Dora Jacildo
Vice Chair |
| | A. | Comments from the Vice Chair | |
| | B. | Review of Minutes October 10, 2012 | <i>Action
Item</i> |
| 10:20 | II. | Election Results | Adam Sonenshein
Michele Sartell |
| | A. | Overall Results | |
| | B. | California Propositions | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposition 30• Proposition 38 | |
| 10:50 | III. | Planning for Educare in Los Angeles County | Kim Pattillo Brownson
The Advancement Project |
| | A. | Overview of Educare | |
| | B. | Educare Planning in Los Angeles County | Sonia Campos Rivera
Los Angeles Area Chamber
of Commerce |
| 11:20 | IV. | Providing Input to the City of Los Angeles Consolidated Plan | Rita Moreno
Los Angeles City
Commission for Community
& Family Services |
| | A. | Housing and development needs | |
| | B. | Transit oriented development | |
| | C. | Services for persons experiencing homelessness | |
| 11:50 | V. | Announcements and Public Comment | Members and Guests |
| 12:00 | VI. | Call to Adjourn | Dora Jacildo |

Mission Statement

The Los Angeles County Policy Roundtable for Child Care builds and strengthens early care and education by providing recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on policy, systems, and infrastructure improvement.

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Policy Roundtable for Child Care

222 South Hill Street, Fifth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 974-4103 • Fax: (213) 217-5106 • www.childcare.lacounty.gov

MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2012

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Conference Room 743

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

500 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, California

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Jacquelyn McCroskey, Chair of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable), opened the meeting at 10:06 a.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

A. Comments from the Chair

- Dr. McCroskey reported on her testimony to the Assembly Select Committee on High Quality Early Childhood Education hosted by Assembly Member Susan Bonilla and joined by Assembly Member Holly Mitchell. This was the first of a series of three hearings; the next hearing is scheduled for November 9, 2012. The California Department of Education (CDE) has been invited to present on their plans for practical changes and streamlined administration.

Dr. McCroskey relayed the major point of the hearing was to focus proactively on what can be done to preserve quality and access to services rather than on the cuts that have been made to date. She added that during the last budget cycle, no allowance was made for a balanced approach to budget solutions. Dr. McCroskey summarized the afternoon during which there was testimony on the impact of the cuts on programs and the families they serve in Contra Costa County, followed by the Legislative Analyst's Report summarizing the policy and budget changes.

Dr. McCroskey referred members and guests to their meeting packets for a copy of her testimony, which summarizes the added value of the Roundtable and its role in embedding early care and education in other services targeted to children and families. She offered four recommendations relating to collaboration, data collection and analysis, early brain development informing the work of children under the supervision of child protective services, and the relationship between quality rating processes and measurable outcomes. Assembly Member Bonilla responded with interest to the idea of performance-based over compliance-based accountability. Assembly Member Mitchell relayed a message she is hearing in the legislature that there is no longer a need for licensing, cautioning the audience to be mindful of proposals such as this one and be ready to respond effectively.

- Dr. McCroskey referred members and guests to their meeting packets for three items addressing the federal budget debates underway that should be of interest given the

potential impacts on the early care and education system. She asked Ms. Michele Sartell, staff with the Office of Child Care, to comment briefly on the items as follows:

- 1) The Center for Law and Social Policy has prepared a fact sheet on how sequestration, if Congress cannot come up with a better solution for a balanced budget, will impact early care and education programs.
- 2) The National Women's Law Center has issued a roadmap containing the timeline for budget negotiations and the choices lawmakers will face with respect to tax cuts and sequestration. The fact sheet also provides definitions of key terms, such as sequestration and the difference between discretionary and mandatory programs.
- 3) Sections from a report by Senator Tom Harkin summarizing the potential impact of sequestration on the non-defense side of the budget. The sections included in the packet are those most relevant to the Roundtable's interests, that is comparing current funding against funding if sequestration takes place by State for Head Start, the Child Care and Development Block Grant, Title I Grants, 21st Center Community Learning Centers, IDEA Preschool Grants and Grants for Infants and Toddlers.

Dr. McCroskey urged members and guests to pay close attention to this process and at a future meeting receive a report on the federal budget options being considered. Mr. Duane Dennis asked that the report include a look at the proposal for the Child Care and Development Block Grant that would strengthen the requirements for quality in relationship to subsidy spaces.

- Dr. McCroskey referred members and guests to their meeting packets for a couple of other policy items:
 - The Memo to the Intergovernmental Relations and External Affairs Branch with the Roundtable's recommended items for the County's State Legislative Platform. The Public Policy Platform as approved by the Roundtable is attached.
 - A fact sheet on the potential local impact of the ballot initiative - Proposition 38, *Our Children, Our Futures* – if passed by the voters in November.

B. Review of Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2012

Mr. Dennis moved to approve the minutes; Dr. Sharoni Little seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

II. UPDATING THE POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE ORDINANCE

Dr. McCroskey referred members to their meeting packets for the document with the draft recommended changes to the Roundtable ordinance. Dr. McCroskey reminded members on why they are engaging in this process. Approximately one year ago, the Roundtable adopted by-law changes that updated the mission statement and allowed for some members to have alternates. After taking these actions, the Office of Child Care was informed by County Counsel that the Roundtable's ordinance should also be updated.

Recently, there have been a number of conversations about language reflecting more accurately the growth in the field. Dr. McCroskey noted that in difficult budget times there is more of a focus on the basic premises and purposes of early care and education services in that whether it should support working parents, the development of children or both.

Dr. McCroskey mentioned the first issue – addressing the name of the Roundtable. Early care and education is intended to be inclusive and not affiliated with any one funding stream. However, the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has raised concerns with this terminology. (Dr. McCroskey noted that Mr. Nurhan Pirim, the DPSS representative to the Roundtable, was unable to attend, therefore decisions would be postponed to a future meeting to ensure that he could weigh in on behalf of the department.) Ms. Malaske-Samu relayed that in conversations with Mr. Pirim, he requested that the Roundtable define “early care and education”. Ms. Malaske-Samu also consulted County Counsel who responded with the following: 1) he is not aware of any precedent that would preclude the Roundtable from using early care and education as the global terminology and inclusive of child care and child development; 2) once the Roundtable arrives at consensus on the recommendations for changing the ordinance, a letter outlining the request to change the ordinance will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors, and then the recommended changes will be forwarded to County Counsel for legal review and put into the ordinance. The ordinance will then return to the Board for final approval.

Dr. McCroskey mentioned that the Roundtable could decide to retain the existing name and language in the ordinance, changing only the attendance and member alternates policy. Mr. Dennis suggested that there is value added in using early care and education over child care. He noted that the national scene has adopted early care and education as the nomenclature. Ms. Malaske-Samu continued by stating that for some, child care sounds custodial and lacks reference to children’s early learning. She noted that the field is at a point of deeper understanding of early brain development in young children supporting the important component of education in the early years. Early care and education addresses the continuum of services without omitting the component of nurturing care, which is very important to children’s development. Her only concern is that the name is a mouthful.

Other members and guests added their thoughts to the discussion. Ms. Andrea Joseph, alternate for Ms. Karla Howell commented that advocacy challenges are greater due to the very narrow definition of child care by the state administration. Ms. Ellen Cervantes supported the holistic approach of early care and education, especially with County departments represented at the table. She agrees that “care” is an important element. Additional comments included: whether the tagline, “Strengthening Children, Families and Communities” is necessary; if “policy” needs to be in the name since it is addressed in the mission statement; a suggestion to change the name to “Commission for Early Care and Education”; or rather than early care and education, use the term “child care and education”.

Mr. Dennis urged having a conversation with Ms. Sheryl Spiller, Director of DPSS, regarding her department’s stance in relationship to child care and early education. Mr. Dennis continued by stating that DPSS is focused on welfare to work, which means getting poor women to work. He suggested that the conversation needs to address the efforts occurring around quality and in particular the benefits associated with helping poor families access quality. A fundamental question for Ms. Spiller as suggested by Mr. Dennis: “is DPSS an entity that only sees child care as getting parents to work?” Dr. McCroskey noted the fiscal threats to CalWORKs and the challenges faced by DPSS in answering the question. Mr. Dennis replied by suggesting that the conversation needs to be addressed at the higher level of administration as it is a policy decision within the department. On the other hand, he continued, the Department of Children and Family Services would embrace early care and education as a means for strengthening families.

In closing, Ms. Malaske-Samu asked members to review the suggested changes and provide feedback. There is pressure to resolve the ordinance as the Roundtable is still in the midst of its sunset review.

III. CHILD CARE QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEMS

Ms. Helen Chavez and her team have been working diligently to revitalize the Steps to Excellence Program (STEP) and to launch the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge (RTT/ELC) Grant. The actual funding documents for RTT have arrived and later in the day, the Office of Child Care will be presenting on RTT/ELC to the Board deputies in preparation for the Board meeting scheduled for October 30, 2012.

A. Steps to Excellence Program (STEP)

Ms. Chavez stated that STEP put the Office of Child Care and the Roundtable on the map in the County and the State as having a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS). As background, STEP was launched in 2007 and began rating programs in 2009. STEP was largely on hold during 2010 due to staff transition. During that time, approximately 120 early care and education programs were stuck in STEP's the participation pipeline, left without the ability to receive a quality improvement grant or rating, and experiencing minimal communication about their status in STEP. As a project of the Early Care and Education Workforce Consortium funded by First 5 LA and administered by Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP), STEP has been reinvigorated with funding that is secure through August 2016.

The first order of business has been contacting the programs in the STEP pipeline to reinstate their participation and providing them enhanced case management and coaching support. Unfortunately, approximately half of those programs have dropped out. Ms. Chavez mentioned that in this economic climate where subsidized programs have absorbed numerous cuts and fee-based programs are struggling to maintain enrollment, administrators are focused on basic operating issues. She stressed that "enhanced quality" requires additional resources. While a \$5000 grant is helpful, it is small in the context of larger operational challenges.

Ms. Chavez reported that STEP is now implementing a case management approach. Ms. Mariela Balam has joined the STEP team as the outreach coordinator and is effectively working on nurturing relationships with participating programs. Currently, 60 programs are moving through the process. Of these, 19 have received an initial STEP quality rating, and 30 have received a preliminary quality rating.

STEP has added five communities representing each of the Supervisorial districts – Boyle Heights, Lancaster, San Fernando, Torrance, and Watts/Willowbrook – demonstrating a geographic and economic spread and taking advantage of some existing initiatives, such as Best Start. Ms. Chavez noted that STEP is universal with parameters limiting it to licensed programs (centers and family child care homes) serving children from birth to five in targeted communities. STEP is working in partnership with the local Child Care Resource and Referral (R&R) Agencies as they are most familiar and have existing relationships with the communities.

The second big task is reconnecting with the approximately 300 child care programs that have been rated during STEP's pilot period, between 2009 and June 2011. When STEP was initially implemented, the participating programs were asked to help test the system. As such, they were offered a onetime grant and one quality rating. Ms. Chavez stated that STEP will return to this group with an offer of a fiscal incentive (to be defined based on assessed demand) and a

quality rating every two years. The plan is to issue a mailer and contact the programs directly to learn who is interested in a second rating. Of interest to the Roundtable will be whether there are any changes in the ratings. Ms. Chavez reflected that when STEP was initiated and programs rated, there was an even distribution between family child care homes and centers. Family child care homes average ratings were “2”s while center ratings averaged “3”s. Most of the participating centers held contracts with the CDE/Child Development Division (CDD); because a rating of “3” more or less aligns with the Title 5 requirements, STEP shows that it was working as intended.

Outreach to the existing programs to renew has started with focus groups. Ten randomly selected family child care providers in Long Beach indicated that their interest in renewing their rating is paired with their desire to take advantage of professional development opportunities. They expressed their appreciation for the financial incentive, however responded that a more modest grant between \$500 and \$1000 would be sufficient as long it was paired with ongoing professional development support and opportunities to advance their education.

Another new phase of STEP is helping programs market their results. During the pilot, the rating ended with the provision of a report outlining their ratings and certificate listing their ratings in the six areas to post. Ms. Chavez met with the County’s restaurant rating director who told her that they had to sell restaurants on the benefits of their ratings. Restaurants rated in the first couple of years had more people visit their businesses. Ms. Chavez relayed that the participating programs need to learn how to use their ratings strategically, even programs with rating of “1” can be empowered. As example, Ms. Chavez told of a Cambodian provider in Long Beach with a rating of “2”. The mere act of being rated empowered this family child care provider to serve families from other ethnic and cultural groups. Previously, she had been targeting her business only to Cambodian families. Participation in STEP increased her sense of professionalism and self-confidence. Ms. Chavez is exploring developing a marketing strategy by hopefully enlisting help from an intern possibly from the graduate program in communications at the University of Southern California or the University of California Los Angeles Anderson School of Management.

In addition to developing a marketing strategy for programs, Ms. Chavez suggested that a marketing strategy to reach parents is needed to create awareness and visibility. She commented that care in this effort is needed since STEP is being implemented in targeted communities.

Ms. Chavez next commented on the evolution of the program design. STEP is collaborating closely with the R&Rs for coaching support for family child care homes and privately-funded centers. These STEP participants are all automatically referred to the R&R Gateways coaching program once staff confirm that they meet STEP’s licensing standards. Ms. Chavez noted that the coaching component of STEP is presented as a core STEP service, yet a program may ultimately opt out. Consequently, programs that are currently participating in STEP are reporting that they feel much more supported. Also, STEP has newly incorporated a preliminary rating into its program design. All programs receive a preliminary assessment of their learning environments and teacher/child interactions about three months into their participation. This data then informs participants’ quality improvement plans and grant applications. It is used strictly for quality improvement purposes, and is not published.

Ms. Ellen Cervantes mentioned that by law the R&Rs are not allowed to provide referrals to specific programs; however, she is exploring a legal way to let parents know that programs have been rated by STEP. Parents want recommendations, not just referrals. Mr. Dennis added a suggestion to explore tying compensation to the quality ratings, noting that RTT is a federally

funded program. Questions were raised with respect to tying reimbursement to quality, including whether the reimbursement would apply only to subsidized programs. Mr. Dennis mentioned that other states have found a way to be inclusive of all programs regardless of funding stream. Another comment was offered regarding the unintended consequence of widening the gap between programs with resources receiving more and those without receiving less. Mr. Dennis emphasized that the reference is Quality Rating INVESTMENT system, whereas states make sure they invest in programs in poorest communities with coaching and supports to raise scores.

B. Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge Grant (RTT/ELC)

Ms. Chavez stated that the biggest difference between STEP and the RTT/ELC is that the latter is restricted to licensed child care programs serving “high need” children, defined by the federal government as children who are dual language learners, low-income, have special needs, or are under the supervision of child welfare services. In all, 16 counties are represented in RTT/ELC. All counties, collectively referred to as RTT-ELC Consortia, must use the same set of quality indicators and measures. Over the past 9 months, the Consortia have been meeting regularly to select the common indicators and reach consensus. This work was largely based on the work of the CDD’s Early Learning Quality Improvement System (ELQIS) Committee, but a significant number of changes have been made to further differentiate quality levels. RTT/ELC’s emerging quality framework presently evaluates adult/child interactions through the use of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), group size and staff to child ratios, program director and lead teacher qualifications (although assistants are not evaluated), child assessment and screening practices, and the learning environment using the Environment Rating Scales developed by Thelma Harms. RTT/ELC’s first goal is to determine whether it is validly evaluating child care quality across different child care settings.

Ms. Chavez also reported that two organizations in Los Angeles County are funded to implement RTT/ELC – the Office of Child Care and LAUP. Locally, LAUP and the Office of Child Care submitted separate action plans but have agreed to coordinate outreach and marketing efforts. Both entities have also agreed to transition child care programs that are participating in STEP and in LAUP’s tiered reimbursement network into RTT/ELC by 2015-16 so that there is one Countywide QRIS for families with children ages birth to five. The Office of Child Care aims to rate up to 175 programs in communities to be defined. A partnership with the DCFS will result in ratings of programs contracted to provide early care and education with Alternative Payment Program funds. Programs will receive an initial rating, receive supports for quality improvements, and then receive a second rating about a year and half later to determine if quality levels have increased.

One of the more significant differences between the two systems - STEP is universal whereas RTT/ELC is limited to programs serving the highest need children. While the vision is for a universal system, RTT/ELC could result in narrowing the scope of program participation unless a separate funding stream is leveraged to maintain universality. Ms. Malaske-Samu commented that the current priority is validating the RTT/ELC tool; STEP has been validated.

Members and guests, in summary, raised the following comments, concerns and questions:

- How does the rating honestly capture the quality of the program serving very high need children with individually unique needs, such as children in the child welfare system or members of families experiencing homelessness?

- Challenges will exist creating messaging if in the long term the plan is to transition STEP into RTT/ELC.
- What is the status of developing health and wellness indicators as part of the environmental scan in STEP? In RTT/ELC?
- Research exists on working with children who have experienced trauma.

Ms. Chavez briefly reported on the implementation model for RTT/ELC as similar to STEP. The Office of Child Care will partner with the R&Rs for coaching and the UCLA Center for Improving Child Care Quality will conduct the on-site visits and evaluation. In addition to rating programs funded with DCFS AP Program funds, Volunteers of America of Greater Los Angeles has committed 40 of their subsidized center-based programs located throughout county to participate.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

- ZERO TO THREE – National Training Institute will be held in Downtown Los Angeles from November 28 through December 1, 2012. For more information, visit <http://www.zttntconference.org>.
- The November meeting will include a presentation on plans to develop an Educare program in Los Angeles.
- The December meeting will feature a discussion of Transitional Kindergarten.
- Child Care Aware has hired Dr. Lynette Fraga as its new Executive Director. In July, Child Care Aware published the research paper, *Why Aren't We Outraged? Children Dying in Child Care Across America* available at http://www.naccrra.org/sites/default/files/default_site_pages/2012/why_arent_we_outraged_july_22.pdf.
- First 5 LA is pending an imminent appointment of a new Executive Director.

V. CALL TO ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Ms. Jeannette Aguirre-Carrillo
Ms. Maria Calix
Mr. Duane Dennis
Dr. Robert Gilchick
Ms. Dora Jacildo
Ms. Andrea Joseph for Karla Howell
Dr. Sharoni Little
Ms. Kathy Malaske-Samu

Dr. Jacquelyn McCroskey
Ms. Stacy Miller
Ms. Terri Chew Nishimura
Ms. Nina Sorkin
Ms. Esther Torrez
Ms. Keesha Woods
Ms. Mika Yamamoto

68 percent of members were in attendance

Guests:

Ms. Patricia Carbajal, Intergovernmental Relations and External Affairs/CEO
Ms. Ellen Cervantes, Child Care Resource Center
Ms. Tessa Charnofsky, First 5 LA
Ms. Maureen Diekmann, Los Angeles Unified School District, Early Childhood Education
Ms. Lorena Gallardo Gomez, Department of Public Social Services
Ms. Elesha Kingshott, ZERO TO THREE
Ms. Terry Ogawa, Center for the Study of Social Policy
Ms. Diana Ramirez, Be Well Psychotherapy
Mr. Steve Sturm, Department of Children and Family Services
Ms. Grace Crossette-Thambiah, Second Supervisorial District
Ms. Nadia Varela, Department of Public Social Services
Ms. Angela Vasquez, Advancement Project
Dr. Randi Wolfe, Tikkun Consulting

Staff:

Ms. Helen Chavez
Ms. Michele Sartell

Democrats get supermajority in Legislature

Marisa Lagos

Updated 9:28 a.m., Wednesday, November 7, 2012

(11-07) 09:25 PST SACRAMENTO -- California Democrats appear to have picked up a supermajority in both houses of the state Legislature Tuesday night, a surprise outcome that gives the party the ability to unilaterally raise taxes and leaves Republicans essentially irrelevant in Sacramento.

Democrats were long expected to gain a two-thirds advantage in the Senate, but Assembly Speaker John Pérez had downplayed expectations that the party could win a supermajority in the lower house. The party's apparent capture of 54 seats in the 80-member Assembly and 27 in the 40-member Senate would mark the first time in nearly 80 years that one party controlled two-thirds of both houses, according to Senate President pro tem Darrell Steinberg.

While several legislative races in swing districts are still close - including an Assembly race in the Central Valley and another in Orange County - both Pérez and Steinberg said Wednesday that they are confident Democrats' slim leads will hold.

But Paul Mitchell, a political expert whose Sacramento-based firm, Redistricting Partners, provides campaigns on both sides of the aisle with voter information, said it's unclear how many provisional and absentee ballots are still outstanding and that either of the Assembly races could still turn for Republicans. He cited in particular the Assembly race between Democrat Rudy Salas and Republican Pedro Rios in a district that spans Kings and Kern counties; Salas was leading this morning by just 300 votes.

A two-thirds majority would not only hand Democrats strong control of the executive and legislative branches, but give them far more power, including the ability to override vetoes by Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown, bypass legislative rules and deadlines and put constitutional reforms before voters.

When combined with the passage of Proposition 30, the governor's budget-balancing tax measure, the results offer lawmakers "a great opportunity to begin a new chapter in California," Steinberg said. He called a supermajority "a tremendous responsibility," and one that is "humbling to have."

"California is back on track ... we have come through this very tough period. When I started the deficit was \$42 billion," he said. "Now we've made the awful cuts, and the voters have given us not only the tools to say no more cuts, but also to begin to focus on some positive agendas ... It will be very different to govern without a constant crisis."

The win for Democrats comes the first year that two major changes to election rules, both approved by voters, took effect in California: A new primary system, which allowed the top two voter-getters to proceed to the general election, regardless of their party; and the creation of an independent citizens' commission to redraw Legislative and Congressional district lines, a change that made many races more competitive.

Democrats believe that a third change, the implementation of online voter registration - the system was rolled out in late September - was key for Democratic victories.

Both Steinberg and Pérez, however, pledged to continue to work with the GOP.

"The way one should govern is trying to bring everyone together," Pérez said. "Absolutely there is still a role for Republicans to express themselves through minority offices, through committees, etc."

Democratic consultant Steve Magivilio said Fullerton Mayor Sharon Quirk-Silva's apparent upset victory over incumbent GOP Assemblyman Chris Norby in Orange County put Democrats over the top in the lower house. She led by just over 1,000 votes early Wednesday.

"We had a good candidate and we just did very good, focused on communication with voters and we had a massive get out the vote effort," Pérez said of the Orange County district, adding that Democrats made a big push there in the final days of the campaign.

Democrats won big victories in the state Senate, including a decisive win by Assemblyman Bill Monning, D-Carmel, over his Republican challenger, Larry Beaman. Agoura Hills Democratic Sen. Fran Pavley was also holding onto her Los Angeles County seat, holding a 14,000 vote lead over Republican Todd Zink, a deputy district attorney in the county. And Democrat Richard Roth was leading GOP Assemblyman Jeff Miller by more than 11,000 votes in a Riverside County senate district.

But in races that epitomize the changes instituted by the top-two primary and redistricting reforms, the speaker was losing his fight to keep at least one Democratic incumbent, and possibly two, in races that pitted sitting assembly members against challengers from the same party.

In Marin County, Assemblyman Michael Allen, D-Santa Rafael, was losing this morning to San Rafael Councilman Marc Levine, also a Democrat, in a race that attracted massive spending. And Assemblywoman Betsey Butler, D-Los Angeles, was down by 263 votes Wednesday morning in her race against Democratic Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom.

Pérez called Levine's apparent victory "a disappointing result."

"That is a loss, in my opinion, in terms of a great legislator and a great human being," he said.

San Francisco Chronicle staff writer Wyatt Buchanan contributed to this report.

Marisa Lagos is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. E-mail: mlagos@sfchronicle.com

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Jerry Brown plans to restrain Democratic desires at the Capitol

dsiders@sacbee.com

Published Friday, Nov. 09, 2012

The din of election night parties spilled into morning as California Democrats soaked in their victories, but the politician who had perhaps the most to celebrate – Gov. Jerry Brown – had gone home.

He was preparing to address the media, consulting a Bible and measuring his words.

"I've been around this business a long time," Brown said on "CBS This Morning" on Wednesday, "and I know that whatever happens one night, there's always another challenge the next day."

Overnight, Brown, who had just succeeded in passing his ballot initiative to raise taxes, had somehow also become the most conservative force of any consequence at the Capitol, a difficult position for a Democratic governor.

Democrats were poised to gain supermajorities in both the Assembly and Senate for the first time in more than 100 years. If they gain that advantage, Brown will have to rely on legislative Democrats to approve his policies while laboring to restrain the more liberal tendencies of his own party.

"Every Democrat in the Legislature ought to be thankful that Jerry Brown decided to pick this fight against all odds, and he fought it and won," former Senate Republican leader Jim Brulte said of Brown's tax initiative, Proposition 30. "That said, the half-life of gratitude in Sacramento is about a week."

Immediately after the election, Art Pulaski, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, said Californians "need to take a hard look" at corporate tax breaks. Joshua Pechthalt, president of the California Federation of Teachers, said passage of Brown's tax measure was "only Step 1."

"California public education continues to be underfunded," Pechthalt said.

Brown moved after the election to temper Democratic expectations. Asked at a news conference if electoral victories would inspire Democrats "to push their agenda," Brown said he had reviewed the book of Genesis in preparation for the question. He suggested the state must save in abundant years to prepare for times of famine.

"I don't underestimate the struggle over the next couple years to keep on a very calm, clear and sustainable glide path," he said.

The potential for conflict is great. Brown upset Democrats when he vetoed a budget package last year, and this year when he vetoed several labor-backed bills, including a measure to provide overtime and other benefits to domestic workers.

With a two-thirds majority in the Legislature, Democratic lawmakers could override future vetoes, something that has not been done in California since Brown was governor before, in 1979.

"I have more experience with veto overrides than any other governor," Brown said when asked about the potential this week, "and I can handle the problem without too much difficulty."

Veto overrides are exceedingly rare, even for Brown, and a spate of them is unlikely. In the long run, it is in the Democratic Legislature's own interest to have a powerful Democratic governor. In the short run, the Legislature is likely to be cautious of Brown's political strength.

"If the Legislature wants to exercise its newfound muscle with the two-thirds, it's going to have to do so with his blessing," said Thad Kousser, a political science professor at the University of California, San Diego.

The challenge for Brown, Kousser said, will be to avoid disappointing lawmakers so frequently that they abandon his policy goals. Brown's agenda includes changes to the state education funding formula, a massive water project and high-speed rail.

"If he becomes this governor who's constantly saying 'no' to the Legislature," Kousser said, "he's going to lose the ability to move his own agenda."

Brown's relationship with Democratic lawmakers was at times strained when he was governor before, from 1975 to 1983. But he has worked relatively well with Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg and Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez.

Brown said "our relationship has deepened" in recent months. Pérez, D-Los Angeles, said a two-thirds majority will not change his relationship with Brown, and Steinberg, D-Sacramento, said his rapport with the governor is excellent.

"We will have disagreements," Steinberg said. "But we're on the same side here, and we have the same goal, which is to help California begin a new chapter where we're building, not just hanging on and dealing with crisis year after year after year."

Following Brown's victory on Tuesday, liberal activists who helped him win trumpeted their involvement in the campaign, and his supporters thumbed their noses at the many politicians and political observers who criticized Brown's campaign while it was being run.

Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom had criticized Brown's campaign rhetoric as misleading in a recent radio interview.

On Twitter on election night, Gil Duran, Brown's press secretary, sent Newsom a clip of Elvis Presley singing, "Are You Lonesome Tonight?"

Brown himself was subdued. He has a budget proposal to prepare by January, and spending requests to field.

He recalled studying Zen meditation in Japan in the 1980s.

"Each night before going to bed, I would say with the other meditators, 'Desires are endless. I vow to cut them down.' "

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Call David Siders, Bee Capitol Bureau, (916) 321-1215. Follow him on Twitter @davidsiders. Jim Sanders of The Bee Capitol Bureau contributed to this report.

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Educare: An Introduction

Presented by Sonia Campos-Rivera and Kim Pattillo Brownson
August 2012



Educare Learning Network 2012 Vision Statement

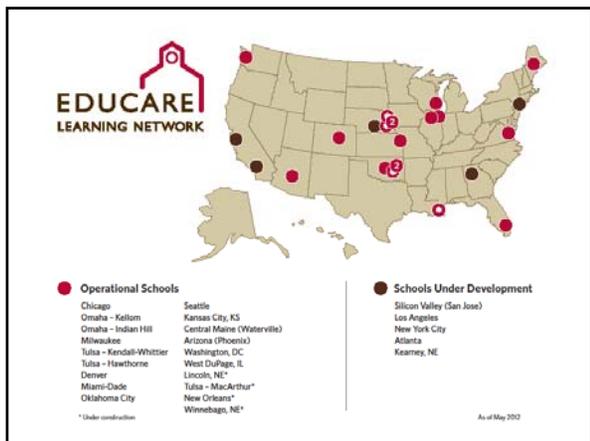
The Educare Learning Network will demonstrate that research-based early childhood education prevents the persistent achievement gap for our nation's most at-risk young children. The Network's evidence, practice expertise and dynamic partnerships will help ensure that all children and families, especially those at greatest risk, will have access to effective early learning, and that the first five years will be an integral part of the nation's education system.



Educare: A Brief History

- Opened in 2000 on Chicago's south side
- Not originally conceived as a national model
- Based on research & best practices for what at-risk young children need to succeed in school
- Interest from the Buffett Early Childhood Fund
- A Network is born





13 Core Features of the Educare Model

- Provide full-day, full-year services
- Use data collection and analysis to drive quality and ensure student success
- Maintain Small Class Size & High Staff/Child Ratios
 - 3:8 for 0-3
 - 3:17 for 3-5
- Maintain High Staff Qualifications & Intensive Staff Development
- On-site Family Support & Strong Parent Engagement
- Provide Continuity of Care to help children develop secure relationships
- Implement Reflective Practice & Supervision
- Interdisciplinary Work
- Language & Literacy
- Social-Emotional Development
- Numeracy & Problem-Solving
- Integrating the Arts
- Start Early: Emphasize Prenatal Services

Rationale for the Core Features

- They are research-based – this is what the science tells us is needed to produce positive educational outcomes
- Staffing structure and continuous program improvement ensure child development and language acquisition
- Instructional support ensures child educational outcomes



How is Educare Different?



- BA level lead teachers
- Three teachers for every eight children in birth-3 classrooms (3:8) and three teachers for every 17 children in preschool classes (3:17)
- Rigor of implementation
- Continuity of care
- Data driven
- Masters degreed teacher-coaches/family support
- Public – Private partnership, transparent data outcome sharing and funder responsibility



Public-Private Partnerships



Core Partners and Roles:

- **Anchor Philanthropist** – provides an initial investment of “seed money;” leads the capital campaign to build the school; engages the private sector to invest in the Educare project; engages in strategies to fill the “quality/policy gap;” and shares governance with other partners.
- **Program Provider** – contributes to Educare annual operating budget through Head Start/Early Head Start slots and other operational funds or applies for new slots if available; participates in capital campaign; works to implement the core components of the Educare model; and shares governance.
- **School Superintendent** – donates land for the school; provides operating dollars and support; and shares governance.
- Other local and community partners as appropriate



“Public-private partnerships like Educare are the only way we’re going to get there... Educare is a better way to do [early education], and it’s starting to become a real national model.”

- **Arne Duncan, Secretary, U.S. Department of Education**

Educare as a Platform for Change 
EDUCARE

- Demonstrate the power of diverse public-private partnerships as a new way of doing business
- Lead programmatic changes that can radiate quality out into the field & community
- Provide evidence that demonstrates how to prevent the achievement gap
- Leverage Educare for larger early childhood policy & systems change
- Serve as a showroom for quality

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EDUCARE

www.educareschools.org



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA

October 31, 2012

To All Interested Parties:

Re: **Consultation on the City of Los Angeles Housing and Community Development Five-Year (2013-17) Consolidated Plan**

Dear Colleague:

Every five years, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the City of Los Angeles to submit a plan (known as the Consolidated Plan) that serves as a blueprint for how the City will revitalize low income neighborhoods and build sustainable communities over the next five years. Development of the Consolidated Plan requires consulting and collaborating with other public and private entities to better align and coordinate community development programs with other plans, programs, and resources to achieve greater impact.

The five-year Consolidated Plan (Con Plan) outlines the City's strategy for using the four grants that the City receives from HUD:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Grant (HOPWA)

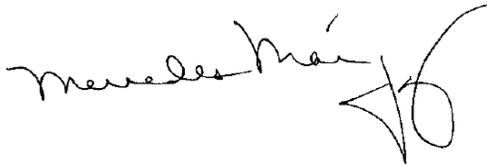
The Con Plan includes an assessment of our affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, as well as data-driven, place-based decisions. The consolidated planning process serves as the framework for a community-wide dialogue to identify housing and community development priorities that align and focus funding from the four grant programs.

Over the next five years, we intend to leverage transportation funds coming to the City with our housing and community development efforts. Through Measure R, passed in 2008, and the federal transportation bill known as *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act* (MAP-21), we have an opportunity to integrate transportation funding with our HUD investments along transit corridors to maximize impact in low income neighborhoods.

We need your assistance in evaluating the direction of program and project priorities over the five years of the next Con Plan. We ask for your suggestions and comments on the attached form.

We know how busy everyone is, but would really like to include your input in our tight planning time frame. Please submit your response to cdd.planning@lacity.org or Planning Section, Community Development Department, 1200 W. 7th St., 6th floor, Los Angeles, 90017 by **November 7, 2012**. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Hanks at (213) 744-7377 or via email at Robert.Hanks@lacity.org. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mercedes Márquez" followed by a stylized flourish.

MERCEDES MÁRQUEZ
Deputy Mayor for Housing

MM:JO



Policy Roundtable for Child Care

222 South Hill Street, Fifth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 974-4103 • Fax: (213) 217-5106 • www.childcare.lacounty.gov

November 1, 2012

Ms. Kim Belshé
Executive Director
First 5 LA
750 North Alameda Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, California 90012

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN UPCOMING MEETING OF THE POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR CHILD CARE – JANUARY 9, 2013

Dear Ms. Belshé:

On behalf of the Policy Roundtable for Child Care (Roundtable), congratulations on your appointment as Executive Director of First 5 LA! The Roundtable is eager to learn about your vision for the future of the organization, your goals for promoting the overall well-being of young children and their families, and how the organizations represented by your Ex Officio Commissioners can work most productively with you to support children and families throughout Los Angeles County. We understand that there will be many calls on your time during the first weeks and months of your new job and would very much appreciate it if you could make time for a 30-minute presentation and exchange with the Roundtable any time during our January meeting. This Roundtable meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 9, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration located at 500 West Temple Street, Room 743, Los Angeles, CA 90012. We'd be happy to adapt the time of your presentation to best meet your availability.

The Roundtable, staffed by the Office of Child Care located within the Service Integration Branch of the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office, represents the collective expertise and wisdom of community leaders in early childhood, education, business, economics and research and County departments representing child welfare, mental health, probation, public health, and parks and recreation. As a County Board of Supervisors appointed 25-member Commission, its primary mission is to build and strengthen early care and education by providing recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on policy, systems, and infrastructure improvement.

Jeannette Aguirre
Nora Armenta
María Calix
Sam Chan, Ph.D.
Fran Chasen
Duane C. Dennis

Robert Gilchick, M.D., M.P.H.
Michael Gray
Karla Pleitez Howell
Carollee Howes, Ph.D.
Dora Jacildo
Sharoni D. Little, Ph.D.



Kathleen Malaske-Samu
Jacquelyn McCroskey, D.S.W.
Stacy Miller
Terri Chew Nishimura, MA, OTR/L
Nurhan Pirim
Connie Russell

Adam Sonenshein
Nina Sorkin
Esther A. Torrez
Keesha Woods
Mika Yamamoto
Ruth M. Yoon

Letter to Kim Belshé

November 1, 2012

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We sincerely hope that you will be able to accept this invitation to the January meeting, but will certainly be open to an alternative date. To RSVP or propose an alternative date – the Roundtable meets the second Wednesday of each month – please contact Michele Sartell, staff to the Roundtable, by e-mail at msartell@ceo.lacounty.gov or by telephone at (213) 974-5187. We look forward to meeting you soon and working collaboratively on a broad range of key issues. For your information and to provide a little background on the work of the Roundtable, we have also enclosed the 2011 Policy Framework developed by the Roundtable and approved by the Board of Supervisors on March 29, 2011.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,


Jacquelyn McCroskey, D.S.W.
Chair


Duane Dennis
Roundtable Representative to the First 5 LA Commission

Enclosure,