

**FIRST 5 COMMISSION OF SAN DIEGO  
Technical and Professional Advisory Committee  
1495 Pacific Highway, Suite 201 MS A-211  
San Diego, CA 92101-2417  
(619) 230-6460**

**Members Present:**

Carol Skiljan, Chairwoman  
Karma Bass, Vice-Chair  
Aimee Zeitz  
Jim Farley  
Jo Ann Leone  
Lindsey Wade  
Martha Trevisan  
Nedra Bickel  
Philip Ziring  
Robert Yarris

**Members Excused**

Elizabeth Marucheau

**Staff Present:**

Grace Young  
Lynn Eldred  
Lauren Chin  
Eve Leon-Torres  
Steven Smith  
Shiri Hoffman, County Counsel

**Minutes for May 23, 2011**

**Call to Order**

Chairwoman Skiljan called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

**Approval of TPAC Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2011**

**ON MOTION OF TPAC member Farley, seconded by TPAC member Yarris, TPAC approved the minutes of March 21, 2011, as corrected to reflect that Nedra Bickel was present.**

**AYES: Skiljan, Bass, Zeitz, Farley, Leone, Wade, Trevisan, Bickel, Ziring, Yarris**

**ABSENT: Marucheau**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**NOES: None**

**Opportunity for Public Comments**

The following people spoke in support of the At-Risk Home Visiting Program:

- Annamarie Martinez, Palomar Pomerado Health
- Paula Guerra, Home Start Inc.
- Tara Dominguez, Case Manager, Healthy Development Services Care Coordination in North Inland Region
- Leticia Balderas, Care Coordinator, Healthy Development Services
- Laura Ruiz, Social Worker, Headstart/Palomar Pomerado Health
- Cindy Linder, Registered Nurse, Regional Coordinator for Healthy Developmental Services – North Inland Region
- Elyse Black, Registered Nurse, Palomar Pomerado Health
- Maria Lourdes Reyes, Physician, Project Concern International
- Marilyn Townsend, Registered Nurse, Palomar Pomerado Health
- Linda Guay, Registered Nurse, Palomar Pomerado Health
- Cindy Grossman, SANDAPP

**TPAC Member Recusal Reminder**

Chairwoman Skiljan reminded the TPAC members to recuse themselves from voting on any agenda item that has a real or perceived conflict of interest.

**1. Revision to TPAC Operating Rules and Procedures**

TPAC was asked to approve the proposed revision of the TPAC Operating Rules and Procedures which adds a new Section 5: Term of Office.

**ON MOTION OF TPAC member Farley, seconded by TPAC member Ziring, TPAC approved the revised version of the TPAC Operating Rules and Procedures.**

**AYES: Skiljan, Bass, Zeitz, Farley, Leone, Wade, Bickel, Ziring, Yarris**  
**ABSENT: Maruchau**  
**ABSTAIN: None**  
**NOES: None**

**2. Staff Update (item moved up from agenda item #3 by Chairwoman Skiljan)**

Chairwoman Skiljan gave a brief report on the May 9th Commission meeting. She reported that in response to AB99 the Commission reviewed three different scenarios and approved Scenario C which maintained most funding of existing services. The Quality Preschool Initiative was reduced approximately 9% from \$67.6 million to \$59.1 million over the next 4 years. The changes to Scenario C, requested by the Commission, include adding \$1.1 million for community water fluoridation and \$667,000 for CalSAFE. The cuts were made primarily to programs that had not yet started, including Targeted Home Visiting, Smoking Cessation and new Emerging Critical Needs projects. The Commission also decided not to participate in the First 5 California CARES Plus program at this time.

Chairwoman Skiljan also reported that the First 5 Executive Director position remains open.

**3. Quality Preschool Initiative**

TPAC received an update regarding the development of the Quality Preschool Initiative (QPI), along with information on best practices and key features of quality preschool.

Susan Muenchow, consultant with the American Institute for Research, presented background information regarding quality preschool. Ms. Muenchow also provided preliminary information on her findings from research on national and state best practices and interviews with key staff in First 5 counties who are participating in the First 5 California Power of Preschool programs. She also provided feedback from the San Diego Community Forum held earlier in May.

TPAC was asked to provide feedback and recommendations regarding the key components to be considered for the First 5 San Diego Quality Preschool Initiative. Additionally, TPAC was asked to provide feedback regarding three questions.

**Question #1:** What is the ranking (highest to lowest) of the 10 key components of Quality Preschool from 1 (highest) to 10 (lowest).

TPAC rated the following components of Quality Preschool as the best understood (by parents and the public):

1. Intensive education (small classes, low staff/child ratios, regular attendance, meals);
2. Adequate number of well trained qualified staff;
3. Adequate physical space and materials;
4. Curriculum or plan of activities;
5. Teachers who interact responsively with children to help develop their social, emotional, thinking and language skills.

TPAC rated the following components of Quality Preschool as the least understood (by parents and the public):

6. Commitment to quality improvement;
7. Program Directors who understand child development and know how to recruit, train and support staff;
8. Services provided in a culturally and linguistically responsive manner;
9. Compensation sufficient to limit turnover and promote continuity of care;
10. Family involvement.

**Question #2:** Which of the following approaches would be the most effective in sustaining Quality Preschool in San Diego? (Rank from 1 to 4).

TPAC rated the following from the most to the least likely, although overall the ratings were all ranked very closely:

1. Parent investment fees,

2. Business community scholarships (for children who don't qualify for public programs),
3. School district allocations of Title I funds to preschool,
4. A local ballot initiative.

TPAC commented that none of the options could sustain this type of program and questioned whether parental fees were feasible for all parents; whether school districts would designate Title I funds to specialized services due to current budget reductions; and whether the business community would support funding "student spaces" for the long-term.

The business community was identified to more likely fund capital related costs associated with QPI, rather than spaces.

**TPAC provided additional comments to be considered for QPI:**

Develop public-private partnerships to support these efforts (inclusive of school systems), developing stronger fields of outdoor education, and finding a way to expand programs to full-day for working parents.

**Question #3:** How can programs become more innovative in the use of technology to reach not only children, but also the parents and teachers?

Due to lack of time TPAC was asked to respond to Lauren Chin via e-mail regarding any feedback on this question. TPAC made one comment noting that the business community would most likely be interested in supporting this component of QPI.

**On the recommendation of Chairwoman Skiljan, TPAC found that:**

- The First 5 SD Quality Preschool Initiative should incorporate all of the ten key components identified as national/state best practice;
- The First 5 SD Quality Preschool Initiative should support all of the General Principle findings that they heard about today so First 5 San Diego can be in-line with the State First 5 Commission to participate in their programs and draw down funding;
- The First 5 SD Quality Preschool Initiative should continue to provide program components/services that have been identified as favorable practices in other counties providing Power of Preschool programs and further develop the components/services noted in the presentation as 'areas of improvement';
- Staff should consider feedback on sustaining this initiative in future years and incorporating the ideas on how to best use technology to support the ECE providers, parents and children.

**4. Future Agenda Items**

- Meeting dates and times relative to Commissions decision making;
- Discussing TPAC preference for some joint meetings with the Commission.

**5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. to reconvene on September 19, 2011.

Notes by: Rosa Lemus