

Public Hearing for the 2016-2018 ECICC Biennial Report to the Governor

Friday, June 21, 2019 – 2:00p.m. CT

State Board Room, 6th floor, Nebraska State Office Building
301 Centennial Mall South - Lincoln, Nebraska

Sign-in sheet, agenda, and report copies were available outside of the room.

The meeting was opened at 2:00pm by ECICC member and NDE Administrator for the Office of Early Childhood, Melody Hobson. ECICC Secretary, Karen Hoffman, was present to take minutes.

Statement of Hearing Purpose

Melody Hobson shared the purpose of the hearing is to provide an opportunity for members of the public to provide input regarding the contents of “Common Ground: Collaboration and shared leadership in systems serving Nebraska’s youngest children” the Nebraska Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council (ECICC) Biennial Report to the Governor 2016-2018.

The report provides information about a number of early childhood programs and services with the status of services through federal Head Start/Early Head Start programs operating in the state and the status of the Nebraska Child Care Licensing system, including:

- Number and capacity of Licensed Child care /Preschool Programs
- Routine Inspections, and complaint Inspections

The body of the report focuses on high leverage areas and includes five recommendations for the Governor, legislature, and state agencies. These five recommendations are:

1. Quality
 - Train professionals in all early childhood programs in their knowledge and support of young children’s growth and development using the seven domains of Nebraska’s revised Early Learning Guidelines: Nebraska’s Birth to Five Learning and Development Standards;
2. Professional Development
 - Expand efforts of the Coach Collaborative Team to engage more programs and providers in the early childhood coach model;
3. Early Learning Standards
 - Support the use of the Revised Early Learning Standards more widely in all early childhood programs and services;
4. Early Childhood Data
 - Support the integration of data from multiple early childhood data systems to create meaningful tools to better-inform early childhood systems, services and policies in Nebraska;
5. Coordination and Collaboration
 - Enhance, align, and sustain strategies for a mixed-delivery system in early care and education across Nebraska.

Public Comment

Public comment was invited and time given for any late arrivals. There was no public comment.

Next Steps

The Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council will arrange a time to present this report and recommendations to Governor Ricketts, per state and federal requirements. This report will be made available to members of the Nebraska Unicameral and for download on the ECICC website.

The hearing adjourned at 2:10pm. Respectfully submitted, Karen Hoffman, ECICC Secretary.