

**Missouri Panel on School Readiness: Focus on Pre-Kindergarten Education (Pre-K Panel)**  
**July 22, 2008**  
**Capitol Plaza Hotel**  
**Jefferson City, MO**

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### **Key Decisions**

- To help guide its deliberations, the Pre-K Panel approved an amended Purpose Statement for state funded pre-kindergarten education.
- The Pre-K Panel approved a blueprint for formulating its recommendations to the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood.
- The Pre-K Panel agreed to an additional meeting date on September 8, 2008.

### **Meeting Notes**

#### **Welcome – Tom Watkins, Pre-K Panel Chair**

Tom welcomed the group to its second meeting. He gave an overview of the day's expectations, including decisions needed to prepare a draft of the panel's recommendations and a decision regarding another meeting if the panel requires more time to prepare its recommendations.

- The resignation of Rod Nunn was announced due to his transition from his current position.

#### **Update on Staff of the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood – Karen Bartz, Chair, Coordinating Board for Early Childhood**

Karen introduced the Coordinating Board's new staff person, Patty Nolte.

#### **Review of the Meeting Agenda – Stacie Goffin, Pre-K Panel Consultant and Facilitator**

Stacie reviewed materials in the panel briefing book. She provided a brief overview of the agenda, highlighting the meeting's five planned results:

- Increased awareness of members' perspectives relative to the three overarching questions being considered by the Pre-K Panel.
- Development of a "blueprint" to guide formulation of the panel's recommendations.
- Emergent recommendations.
- Identification of outstanding issues and questions.
- Determination of whether an additional panel meeting is needed.

#### **Review of Purpose Statement**

- The Pre-K Panel reviewed the Statement of Purpose (Purpose of Missouri's Publicly Financed Pre-K) approved as a working document at its May meeting. Members proposed revisions that affirm the purpose statement's function as a guidepost for the panel's work. The revised purpose statement now reads:

In order to maximize all resources, both human and capital, Missouri's publicly funded pre-kindergarten should ensure that all young children have access to high-quality early learning experiences that prepare them to succeed in school and in life.

## **A Blueprint for the Panel's Recommendations to the Coordinating Board**

The Pre-K Panel created a shared format/blueprint to ensure that each of its recommendations include the same elements. The blueprint speaks to the structure and content of the recommendations, and the composition of accompanying rationale statements.

## **Panel Members' Viewpoints on the Panel's Three Overarching Questions**

Prior to this meeting, each panel member was asked to respond to a set of questions related to the three overarching questions posed in their Charge by the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood:

- Who should be served by Missouri's publicly funded pre-k programs? (Access)
- Should Missouri's publicly funded pre-k programs be held accountable in some way? If so, how and for what? (Accountability)
- How should Missouri's publicly funded pre-k programs be delivered? (Delivery)

Members' posted responses were reviewed by all with the intent of (1) making sure all members' viewpoints were being expressed and made visible, (2) expanding the thinking of individual members, and (3) providing additional input to the recommendation-development process.

## **Composing Emergent Recommendations**

Working in small groups, members explored the essential elements of their proposed recommendations. The majority of the meeting was spent discussing these elements. These "big ideas" will serve as the basis for the panel's continued deliberations at its next meeting.

## **Deciding on the Need for an Additional Meeting**

Panel members decided to hold an additional meeting.

## **Pre-K Panel Next Steps – Stacie Goffin, Pre-K Panel Facilitator**

- Based on the panel's decision to convene an additional meeting, the next Pre-K Panel meeting will be held on September 8, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City.
- Meeting Notes will be distributed via e-mailed to panel members for review and approval within the next two weeks.
- The July 22nd Meeting Agenda and Meeting Notes, along with copies of the panel's briefing materials, will be placed on the Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network (MOCCRRN) web page (<http://www.mocccrn.org>). A link has been established with the Missouri AEYC website, and others are encouraged to link with the MOCCRRN site as well, so the panel's work can be as visible as possible. Individuals interested in linking with the MOCCRRN site should contact Robin Zellers ([robin@mocccrn.org](mailto:robin@mocccrn.org)).

## **Adjournment**

The Pre-K Panel meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.