



**Policy Council Meeting**  
**Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**In person location:** East Valley Campus (EVC)  
 1001 W. Southern Ave. Suite 106, Mesa, AZ 85210  
 Conference Room 116  
**Virtual:** Microsoft Teams

**Minutes**

1. **Call to Order**  
Call to order by *Robert Sotomayor*, Policy Council Chair, at 5:32 PM
2. **Roll Call**  
*Mishianand Mack*, Policy Council Secretary, did roll call. 9 members in attendance in person and 4 virtual; quorum was established.

Policy Council 22-23	PRESENT In person or virtual	VOTING
<b>Early Head Start Center Base</b>		
Leah Gladden		
Maria Tesorero Ojeda		
Monica Gonzalez		
Shareli Romero		
Abril Anduaga	X	X
Sara Snyder	X	X
Nicolasa Castro	X	X
<b>Head Start Chandler-Gilbert</b>		
Carmen Martinez		
Marie Kouam		
Shemiah Johnson		
Leydy Quirazco	X virtual	X
Rosemary Hayes		
Marisol Romero		
Jamme Alexander	X	X
Monica Jacome		
<b>Head Start Tempe-Guadalupe-Scottsdale</b>		
Michele Rodriguez	X	X
Laura Peralta	X	X
Ariana Gonzalez		
Michelle Haworth		
Juan Carlos Jimenez	X	
<b>Head Start Center Base Mesa</b>		
Sofia Cordero	X	X
Allana Vokes		
Carmen Perez		
Robert Sotomayor	X	X
McKenzie Whitman		
Mishianand Mack	X	X
Kira-Marie Filippelli	X virtual	X
Dalila Hernandez		
Alma Chavez		
Alicia Espinoza		
Orlenys Malaver		
Juan Mejia		
Helen Diaz	X	X
<b>Community Representatives</b>		
Mayada Abdalla	X virtual	X
<b>Board of Supervisors</b>		
Cristina Arzaga-Williams	X virtual	
<b>TOTAL</b>	14	13
* 9 Members for a quorum		

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**Other attendees:**

Name	Role	Attendee	Role
Doug Alf- Virtual	Grant Accountant	Nancy Kessay	FCP Manager
Linda Roldan	ERSEA Assistant	Eve del Real-Virtual	Head Start Director
Jessica Figueroa	Family Support Specialist Supervisor	Desi Hightower	Inclusion Coordinator
Mitza Contreras	Head Start Nurse	Patricia Iniguez	Mental Health Associate
Maureen McCoy-Virtual	Nutritionist		

**3. Board of Supervisors Liaison Report**

Board of supervisors, Cristina Arzaga reports that the 2022 election certified candidates have five days to file lawsuits.

**4. Head Start Director Report**

The Head Start Director, Eve del Real, reports the importance of the upcoming holiday. We are reminded that the biggest gift to our children is us.

October 28, 2022, supervisor Galvin visited First Methodist church and read to the children. This is a busy time for the division so in January 2023 they will be bringing forth applications for approvals, such as providing longer days at sites and trying to provide full day. As a reminder, staff is needed and referrals for great candidates are appreciated.

December 8, 2022, there will be a job fair being held at the East Valley campus.

**5. Approvals**

- **Financial Statements- October 2022**  
Please see the attachment for detailed information
  - Doug Alf, Grant Account, reviewed the financial statements
  - Approval: Helen Diaz did first motion. Jamme Alexander seconded it. Approved by all members present, no opposes.
- **Policy Council Meeting Minutes - October 2022**  
Please see the attachment for detailed information
  - Approval: Sofia Cordero did first motion. Abril Anduaga seconded it. Approved by all members present, no opposes.

**6. Program Services Report**

*Please see the attachment for detailed information.*

- **Education and Child Development**  
November 23 was a success, a huge thank you to Gloria Reyes for organizing the event. Gratitude given to the Discount School Supply and Kaplan Early Learning for bringing their stores to the facility.
- **Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance (ERSEA)**  
Linda Roldan, ERSEA assistant, reports that attendance is declining. There will be a drop in December due to kids becoming sick.
- **Family Services, Community, and Partnerships.**  
Nancy Kessay, FCP Manager, reports that parents and staff will be attending the Parent and Family Engagement conference in Dallas, Texas December 12-15, 2022.
- **Health, Nutrition & Safety**  
Program Nurse, reports that the two main reasons why the numbers are still high for lead blood is (1) due to partnering with WIC and relying on their information. WIC offices have remained closed since Covid and are not yet back to accepting clients in the offices yet. Parents are not wanting their children to be poked twice. (2) she is not certified to do the blood draws yet but is in the process of doing so. Handouts were provided regarding Influenza Antiviral Drugs, RSV & Flu information.
- **Inclusion/Mental Health**  
Desi Hightower, Inclusion Coordinator & Patricia Iniguez, Mental Health Associate. Desi reports that a new tool of universal practices will start being used within the classroom. These are different gestures of how we would want to be greeted. Members practiced some of these gestures tonight to familiarize themselves. She is asking that parents start familiarizing themselves and practicing the gestures within the home with their children. Patricia reports that the conscious discipline tools of breathing techniques are still being used within the classrooms. She is encouraging us to utilize these tools within the home and with our children. The best time to practice is when the parent and child are not upset. She modeled the unicorn horn as an example to demonstrate one of the four tools.

**7. Policy Council Member's Reports**

- Parent representatives:
  - Sofia Cordero raises the question about why the children are not celebrating the holidays in the classroom. Juan Jimenez responded stating that it would be because of the different religions. Nancy Kessay went into more detail with advising that we want to be respectful of everyone's religion. Celebration of any holiday will not be done within the program due to the exclusion of any child or cultural religion.
  - Michelle Rodriguez is concerned of students returning to the classroom without waiting the 24-hour period of being ill or having fever. Her argument is not so much with the child but with the parent of the child. (Program nurse) replied to the question and advised us that parents should follow the proper protocol for when a child is sick and having to return to the classroom. They could go back to doing checks. However, the teacher is responsible for regulating and making the decision if a child should be sent back home. We cannot attack the kid or parent without enough information. Masks are no longer mandated and are an option for wear.
- Community partner agency -There are no reports.

**8. Call to the Public**

No response from the public.

**9. Adjournment**

Robert Sotomayor, Policy Council Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:46 PM.

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### Next meeting:

- **Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:30 pm** *In-Person at 1001 W. Southern Ave., Suite 106 Mesa, AZ 85210 conference room 116 and Online VIA Microsoft Teams.*
  - *All parents are invited to attend all Policy Council meetings.*