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"Making a positive difference in the lives of young children"

Commission Meeting MINUTES

May 24, 2011 Mid-Year Strategic Planning

Department of Education @ 1135 Lincoln Street, **Assembly Room** - Red Bluff, CA 96080

Attendance: Commissioners Paula Brown Almond, Tony Cardenas, Larry Champion, Cynthia Cook, Beverly Grace, Valerie Lucero, Sister Patricia Manoli and George Russell, Charlene Reid

- Welcome/Agenda Review:** Valerie Lucero welcomed the group. Denise Snider reviewed the agenda.
- Intent of the California Children and Families Act:** Denise reviewed the Act and discussed the intent and how it guides our work.
- Mission/Vision & Core Values Review:** The Commissioners reviewed the mission/vision statement. Cynthia Cook suggested we change the language of #6 to put the child first to read "children with special needs and their families." The overarching goals were reviewed. Sr Pat commented that the first 5 values are truly values, however, the last three are more program goals and not really values. The Commission may want to review this. Denise lead the Commission in a discussion of the last approval of funding and where the action plan comes from.
- Action Plan Update:** Denise reviewed with the group the system of care. Michelle reported on some examples of collaboration and system integration including the new partnership with Department of Social Services to complete ASQ developmental assessments on all children with an open case, as well as the partnership with Tehama County Mental Health for Nurturing Parenting classes. Paula updated the group on the status of the Centralized Eligibility List. It will no longer be funded or required by the state. Our County has decided to have State Preschool classrooms keep site-specific eligibility lists for children desiring to attend that site. We will continue to collaborate with CCRE to have an informal Centralized Eligibility List for other subsidized programs so families will still only have one application for subsidized childcare needs. We are working of a release to share information between early childhood programs such as NCCDI and TCDE programs serving young children. Cynthia Cook gave us an update on Family Child Care Network and how the CEL will work for that program.

Action Plan review cont. Michelle reported on the need to improve the PATH 1 referral system and keep it as a valuable system in our community to reach families in need of help. We are in the beginning stages of looking at this system and seeing how it can be improved.

Sister Pat commented that she really appreciated how we are “changing the bath water instead of throwing the baby and all the water out”. Charlene commented that it is important to highlight the value of this systems work to others. George pointed out that the AOT is a great example of a way to communicate together to avoid duplication. Commisioners expressed their appreciation to review this information and refresh our collective memory. Paula let us know she will not be working June 28 and will not be in attendance at the meeting on that date.

5. Next Steps: The evaluation committee will meet to review core outcomes. Valerie Lucero adjourned the meeting at 3:06pm