

AGENDA

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84607916263>

10:00 – 10:05

Welcome, Purpose, and Remarks

- Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2024, Update
 - o Chris Peusch, Executive Director, Maryland State Child Care Association (MSCCA) and Co-Chair, Office of Child Care Advisory Council

10:05 – 10:30

Council Member Reports/Updates

- New initiatives: State Board of Education
 - o Office of Child Care Advisory Council (OCCAC):
 - Review proposed regulations
 - Recommend policy priorities
- Identifying issues of importance to child care providers and consumers
- Beginning in 2025 and on an annual basis thereafter, the State Board plans to honor the Month of the Young Child during the April Board meetings by inviting early childhood stakeholders from across the state to share updates, celebrate progress, and discuss opportunities for improvement.
- The State Board's Education Transformation and Finance Committee will establish an Early Childhood Workgroup on Early Childhood Education and Care.
 - o Hannah Oakley, Deputy Director, Maryland State Board of Education

10:30 – 11:00

OCC Advisory Council Presentation

- Office of the Comptroller presentation of the State of the Economy Report, as it relates to child care in Maryland.
 - o Chris Swanson, Executive Director, C-Impact

- Dani DiPietro, Policy Research Director, Deputy Comptroller for Policy, Public Works & Investment, Comptroller of Maryland
- Ben Siegel, Deputy Comptroller for Policy, Public Works & Investment, Comptroller of Maryland
- Bill Hudson, Executive Director, Family Child Care Alliance

11:00-11:30

Councilmembers Legislative Session Updates

- Senator Mary Washington, OCC Councilmember
- Delegate Jessica Feldmark, OCC Councilmember
- Sherry Tsigounis, Licensing, Division of Early Childhood (DEC)
- Chris Peusch, Co-Chair OCC Advisory Council

11:30-11:45

Division of Early Childhood (Updates)

- Licensing
 - Sherry Tsigounis, Acting Director, Licensing, MSDE
- Child Care Scholarship
 - Shantia Spencer, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Scholarships, MSDE
- Quality Improvement Initiatives
 - Jena Smith, Co-Interim Assistant State Superintendent, Quality Improvement Initiatives, MSDE
- Early Learning & Instruction
 - Dr. Nykia Washington, Prekindergarten and Mixed Delivery Program Manager, Early Learning & Instruction, MSDE
- Family Support Services & Head Start Collaboration
 - Vanessa Jones, Director, Family Support Services & Head Start Collaboration, MSDE
- Communication and Engagement
 - Alexis Washington, Manager, Communications and Engagement, MSDE

11:45-12:00

Upcoming OCCAC Meeting

- Breakout rooms for deeper engagement with the Council on specific topics.