

AGENDA

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Link: <https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us06web.zoom.us>

10:00 – 10:05

Welcome, Purpose, and Remarks

- Review and Accept Meeting Minutes (Posted Recording) from February 20, 2025
- Office of Child Care Advisory Council (OCCAC)
 - o Duties:
 - Advise and counsel the Division of Early Childhood (DEC);
 - Review regulations proposed by state agencies regulating child care to ensure coordination and consistency;
 - Review issues and problems relating to care of children and suggest priorities for consideration by DEC; and
 - Identify interdepartmental issues of importance to child care providers and users that should be addressed by DEC and other state agencies.
 - o Members: Term/Vacancies/New Representative (HB 1122)
 - 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

- DEC's New Assistant State Superintendent
 - o Sarah Neville-Morgan, Assistant State Superintendent, DEC, MSDE

Councilmember's Request

- Career Ladder Workgroup:

- The list of names and each participant's profession
- The schedule of meetings
- Clarification as to whether the meetings are open to the public
- Credentialing Program:
 - Updates regarding renewal of the program, which has secured funding for FY26, as time is of the essence!

Legislative Session Updates

- Senator Mary Washington, OCC Councilmember
- Delegate Jessica Feldmark, OCC Councilmember
- Chris Peusch, Co-Chair, OCC Advisory Council

10:30 – 10:45

OCC Advisory Council Presentation

- Montgomery Moving Forward (MMF): Cross-Sector Effort Supporting Development of a Robust and Prepared Early Child Care and Education Workforce
 - Joanne Hurt and Lynn Arndt, MMF Leadership Group, Early Childhood and Education Workforce

10:45 – 11:00

Division of Early Childhood (Updates)

- Licensing
 - Louis Valenti, Director, Licensing, MSDE
- Child Care Scholarship (CCS)
 - Rene' Williams, Director, Scholarship, MSDE
- Quality Improvement Initiatives
 - Jena Smith, Director, Quality Improvement Initiatives, MSDE
- Early Learning & Instruction
 - Nakeisha Savage, Director, Early Learning and 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

11:00 – 11:45

Breakout Sessions

- Breakout Session A: CCS Program
 - o CCS Highlights: Rene' Williams, Scholarship
 - o Open Forum:
 - True-Up process and 30-day reconciliation
 - Audits and Invoices
 - Sign-In/Sign Out Sheets
- Breakout Session B: Pre-K Expansion Grants
 - o Pre-K Highlights: Nykia Washington, Pre-Kindergarten and Mixed Delivery
 - o Open Forum:
 - Process (Qualtrics Format)
 - Guidance
 - Support

11:45 – 12:00

Recap and Upcoming OCCAC Meeting - August 21, 2025