



STATE OF GEORGIA
Children's Cabinet

Full Children's Cabinet Meeting

November 4, 2021

Zoom Meeting

8 AM to 10 AM

MEETING SUMMARY

CABINET MEMBERS	AGENCY
JOY HAWKINS	Governor's Office of Student Achievement
GREG DOZIER	Technical College System of Georgia
JUDY FITZGERALD	Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
JAY NEAL	Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
CAYLEE NOGGLE	Department of Community Health
TYRONE OLIVER	Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
MINDY BINDERMAN	Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students
AMANDA BURT	United Way of Northwest Georgia
KATIE DEMPSEY	Georgia House of Representatives
TRISTAN DENLEY	University System of Georgia
ERICA FENER-SITKOFF	Voices for Georgia's Children
JOANNA HILL	Bright Promises Children's Center
MICHELLE SMITH LANK	Kids World Learning Center
ALLISON SETTERLIND	Georgia Head Start State Collaboration Office
GAYE SMITH	Georgia Family Connection Partnership
MARTHA ANN TODD	Technical College System of Georgia
RICHARD WARD	Georgia Chapter – American Academy of Pediatrics
JUANITA YANCEY	Georgia Head Start Association

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES	AGENCY
CHRIS HEMPFLING	Office of General Council, DFCS
JEN CERRERAS	Deputy Director, Office of the Child Advocate
SUSAN ADAMS	Deputy Commissioner, DECAL
LAURA LUCAS	IECHMH Coordinator, DECAL
ADMINISTRATION	AGENCY
DAVID TANNER	Carl Vinson Institute of Government
MELINDA MOORE	Carl Vinson Institute of Government
JANA WOODIWISS	Carl Vinson Institute of Government
LIZ YOUNG	Government Relations and Special Projects, DECAL

CALL TO ORDER

At 8:04am, Executive Director and Co-Chair Joy Hawkins from the Governor’s Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Cabinet Co-chair, Joy Hawkins, asked for a motion to accept the day’s agenda. Commissioner Tyrone Oliver with the Department of Juvenile Justice moved to accept, and Commissioner Greg Dozier from the Technical College System of Georgia seconded. The Full Cabinet accepted the agenda unanimously.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE AND FULL MEETING SCHEDULE

Co-Chair Joy Hawkins asked for a motion for the Executive Cabinet to accept the revised Executive Cabinet meeting schedule. Commissioner Caylee Noggle with the Department of Community Health moved to accept and Commissioner Tyrone Oliver with the Department of Juvenile Justice seconded. The Full Cabinet accepted the meeting dates unanimously.

Co-Chair Joy Hawkins asked for a motion for the Full Cabinet to accept the Full Cabinet meeting schedule. Commissioner Tyrone Oliver with the Department of Juvenile Justice moved to accept and Executive Director Mindy Binderman with Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students seconded. The Full Cabinet accepted the meeting dates unanimously.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Children’s Cabinet co-chair Joy Hawkins welcomed the Full Cabinet. New members recognized included:

- Commissioner Caylee Noggle, Department of Community Health

Executive Director Hawkins discussed coordination of the Children’s Cabinet priorities with other cross-agency councils, such as the Literacy Council, 2Gen Leadership Council, Preschool Development Grant Cross Agency Child Council, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Taskforce. It was discussed that these

cross-agency councils are all examples of how the Cabinet is a opportunity to share the work of these Councils as they relate to Cabinet priorities.

The Cabinet was then invited to share any member agency updates.

AGENCY UPDATES

Kids World Georgia is 1 of 8 to receive the Quality Rated Language and Literacy endorsement in Georgia. The Board of Directors for Pediatric Disabilities Resource Center nonprofit in Statesboro is working on a training for all Pre-K teachers to recognize the signs of autism.

The University System of Georgia reports that graduation rates have gone up.

Representative Katie Dempsey discussed the House Study Committee on Childhood Lead Exposure.

Bright Promises Children's Center leadership has been appointed to the Board of Early Care and Learning by Governor Kemp.

INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH TASKFORCE PRESENTATION

Laura Lucas, the IECMH Coordinator with the Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) provided an overview and progress report on the IECMH Taskforce, followed by a discussion of accomplishments from the following panelists:

1. Twanna L. Nelson, Deputy Director, Maternal and Child Health Division of Health Promotion, Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH)
2. Callan Wells, MS, Health Policy Manager, GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students
3. Wendy White Tiegreen, MSW, Director, Office of Medicaid Coordination and Health System Innovation, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 UPDATE

Katie Smith with the Department of Public Health provided an update on COVID-19 in Georgia for the Cabinet. Georgia is seeing consistent declines across all indicators, including deaths. There is a decrease in cases among school-age children. Vaccinations for children will be provided by the health departments. Booster shots are currently only available for immunocompromised individuals, but you can now mix and match vaccine manufacturers. DPH's current focus is increasing vaccinations.

INPUT ON LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

David Tanner with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government presented an update on the development of a 2Gen Leadership Program for agency leadership. Full Cabinet members provided feedback and voiced their support for the 2Gen Leadership Program.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (9:45 am)

Jen Carreras, Deputy Director with the Office of the Child Advocate shared that The Summit conference will be held November 17-19, 2021 and have an excess of scholarships for free registration.

The meeting was adjourned by Executive Director Hawkins at 9:52am.