

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Santa Barbara, CA 93101
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Agenda Number:

Prepared on: 5/19/06
Department:
Budget Unit: 044
Agenda Date: 06/06/06
Placement: Departmental
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Susan Rose,
Supervisor, 2nd District

STAFF CONTACT: Rachel Couch
Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: Approval of Child Care Planning Council documents

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the countywide plan for early care education, entitled *The Santa Barbara County Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education, 2006-2015*, to be submitted by the Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council to the California Department of Education, and authorize the Chair to sign the Comprehensive Countywide Strategic Plan Report Form (Attachment A)
2. Approve the membership of the Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council for 2006-2007, as shown on the attached "Certification Statement Regarding Composition of Local Planning Council Membership" and authorize the Chair to execute the Certification Statement Regarding Composition of Local Planning Council Membership (Attachment B)

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 7: "A community that fosters the safety and well-being of families and children."

Executive Summary and Discussion:

Santa Barbara County's original Child Care Planning Council ("the Council" or "CCPC") was formed by the Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Schools in 1990 as a result of the 1990 Federal Omnibus Budget Act. The role of the Council was to develop a local plan and priorities for distribution of the

new Federal Child Care Block Grant funds. For its first few years, financial support for the Council's activities was provided entirely through in-kind services donated by the County Office of Education and Council members. Since 1994 the Council has received annual grants from the California Department of Education. Funds provided to the Council are administered by the Santa Barbara County Education Office.

Since the inception of the Council, members have worked to coordinate and plan the delivery of child care services in Santa Barbara County, serve as liaison between the State Department of Education, Child Development Division and the local community, and provide support and training to the Early Childhood Education Community.

Pursuant to the Statutes of 1997, AB 1542, which established California's welfare reform program (CalWORKs), a local Child Care Planning Council must be established in each county (Education Code Chapter 2.3, Sections 8499.3 and 8499). On April 28, 1998, your Board (in conjunction with the Office of the County Superintendent of Schools, which has joint authority over the Council) amended the functions, governance, structure, membership and bylaws of the existing Council to conform to the requirements of welfare reform as defined by AB 1542.

Recommendation 1: Countywide Plan for Early Care and Education

AB 1542 requires that Child Care Planning Councils prepare a comprehensive long-range county plan for early care and education services. The plan must be developed with input from the community, and the purpose of the plan is to mobilize public and private resources to address identified needs. The plan must be reviewed periodically and updated as needed.

Following the publication of the *Santa Barbara County: The Status of Early Care and Education, 2005*, a needs assessment of early care and education in Santa Barbara County, and the *Santa Barbara County Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education, 2000-2005: Accomplishments*, a progress report on the 2000-2005 countywide plan, the Child Care Planning Council embarked on the development of a long-range plan for early care and education for Santa Barbara County. The Council reviewed findings from the two reports completed in 2005, recent reports developed by related organizations and input from community groups, in the development of *The Santa Barbara County Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education, 2006-2015*. Council and community members from throughout the county participated in the definition of the two broad Desired Outcomes and the six goals identified in the plan. An Implementation Guide with specific objectives and associated strategies define how the Goals and Desired Outcomes are to be achieved, who will undertake the tasks and a timeline. Over the coming years the Council will take responsibility for reaching out to the community to inform key players about the plan and to engage them in the activities that will accomplish the goals.

William J. Cirone, County Superintendent of Schools, has indicated his approval of *The Santa Barbara County Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education, 2006-2015*, by signing **The Comprehensive Countywide Strategic Plan Report Form**, to be sent to the California Department of Education (see Attachment A). The approval of the Strategic Plan by your Board, as signified by the signature of the Chair on the California Department of Education Comprehensive Countywide Strategic Plan Report Form, is now requested.

Recommendation 2: Council Membership, 2006-2007

The membership of the Council is prescribed by law, and must be comprised of 20% consumers (i.e., parents of children currently or formerly in child care), 20% child care providers or representatives, 20% public agency representatives, 20% representatives of community agencies that advocate for child care, and 20% discretionary appointees. However, when a previously existing Council is designated by the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Supervisors to act as the local Child Care Planning Council (as occurred in Santa Barbara County) the membership may vary from these prescribed percentages so long as the Council "can achieve the

representation set forth” in the statute [Education Code Section 8499.3 (e)]. The Council continues to seek a balance in the five categories of membership defined by law, while also seeking to add members from under-represented populations in the county.

The California Department of Education requires that the County Education Office and the Board of Supervisors formally approve the membership of the CCPC. This approval is accomplished through signature by the County Superintendent of Schools and the Chair of the Board of Supervisors on a form entitled “**Certification Statement Regarding Composition of LPC Membership**” (See Attachment B). The current membership of the Council, as last approved by vote of the Council at its meeting of May 10, 2006, is shown on the attached Certification Statement. County Superintendent of Schools, William J. Cirone, has signed the Certification Statement giving his approval of the membership list. The signature of the Chair of the Board of Supervisors is now requested.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Local Child Care Planning Councils are mandated by Education Code Chapter 2.3, Sections 8499.3 and 8499. This action does not change County programs or service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

None to County Government.

Special Instructions:

After approval and passage by the Board, please send the following documents to the office of Supervisor Rose, Attn. Rachel Couch:

1. two (2) certified copies of the Minute Order
2. two (2) original signed “ Strategic Plan Report Forms”
3. two (2) original signed “Membership Certification Statements”

Concurrence:

County Counsel

Attachments:

- A. The countywide plan for early care and education, entitled *The Santa Barbara County Strategic Plan for Early Care and Education, 2006-2015* and the Strategic Plan Report Form (Attachment A)
- B. Membership Certification Statement (Attachment B)