Early Childhood Education & Development Committee
February 3, 2026, 1:00 – 2:30 pm
Virtual Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Al Whitesides, Beth Sherman, Carol Steen, Emily Nicholson, Heather Zanzig, Jennifer Horton, Jo Jamison, Maia Sloan, Martin Moore, Sara Lappe, Sarah Kabourek, Stacy Anderson

Staff in attendance: Rachael Sawyer, Samantha Kirk, Angelyn Johnson

Minutes

- Approval of minutes from January 6, 2026
    - Motion to approve by Al Whitesides. Seconded by Stacy Anderson. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

- There was no old business.

New Business

- Guest Speaker: Dan Wuori, Ph.D.
    - Dr. Wuori is a nationally recognized leader in early childhood education with more than 30 years of experience spanning classroom teaching, state policy leadership, and national advocacy. He is the founder of Early Childhood Policy Solutions and previously served as Senior Director of Early Learning at The Hunt Institute in North Carolina, where he helped shape early childhood policy nationwide. Dan is also the author of the acclaimed book *The Daycare Myth: What We Get Wrong About Early Care and Education (and What We Should Do About It)*, which challenges common misconceptions and offers actionable insights for improving early learning systems.

Announcements

- FY2027 Grant applications are due February 20 at noon.
- Angelyn recently sent scoring instructions to committee members.
- Deadline for committee members to complete scoring is March 31st at noon.
- Parent survey developed by engagement subgroup is ready to launch. It will open this week and will be open for approximately six weeks. Staff will send it to committee members to share within their networks.
- We need volunteers to be on camera next Monday or Tuesday to record a social media reel for the parent survey. Jo, Beth and Stacy volunteered.

Public Comment

- There were no public comments.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be March 3, 2026, 1:00-2:30 pm, 200 College St, Room 310.