



**Policy Council Meeting Minutes**  
Virtual Meeting



**Date:** 5/19/2021

**Time Convened:** 6:06 PM

**Time Terminated:** 7:56 PM

**Recorder:** Imelda Prieto Martinez

TOPIC	RECOMMENDATION / SUMMARY
Review Desired Outcomes and Meeting Rules	Jasmine Cisneros, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. Matthew Carlson, Vice-Chair, reviewed the desired outcomes and meeting ground rules.
Public Comment	None
Correspondence	None
Staff Recognition	<p>The following staff was recognized for going above and beyond in their work with the children and the families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consuelo Hanson, Teacher at Lavonia Allen, and Monica Barajas, Family Support Specialist at Aspiranet, were presented with a certificate and a book to acknowledge their dedication to the children and families.</li> </ul>
Ice Breaker	Policy Council Representatives participated in an icebreaker activity to open communication and build connections among members. They were prompted to "Share your favorite Nursery Rhyme."
<b>Administrative Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSB Interim Director</li> <li>• Interim Division Manager</li> <li>• Fiscal</li> </ul>	<p>Katharine Mason, CSB Interim Director, welcomed Policy Council representatives and thanked them for attending.</p> <p>Administrative updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recommendation for the new Executive Director was included in your packet for reference; we will ask for your approval of his appointment at this meeting. Interviews for the Fiscal Officer are in process.</li> <li>• On Thursday, May 13, Monica Carlisle, a new CAO Analyst assigned to CSB, visited our Rodeo childcare center. The purpose of this visit was to orient and familiarize Ms. Carlisle with CSB's Head Start &amp; Early Head Start programs, staffing models, parent engagement, and Head Start governance.</li> <li>• American Rescue Plan Head Start one-time relief funds application is in process. We anticipate receiving \$2,302,066. If awarded, these funds will be allocated to our federal childcare Partners and Delegate agency in accordance with their slots.</li> <li>• CSB has officially requested pre-approval for the Central Kitchen relocation and renovation project from the Regional Office of Head Start via the federal 1303 application process. This project can commence once Head Start approval is obtained.</li> </ul> <p>Amy Wells, Interim Division Manager, provided an overview of the Las Deltas Children Center relocation. CSB has decided to relocate the children from Las Deltas Children Center to our Crescent Park facility due to concerns of health and safety, demolition and construction, and taking into account community assessment data. All Las Deltas teaching/site staff will continue to work in the role as they are currently doing. No jobs will be lost or eliminated in the relocation, and no family will lose services due to the relocation. Children currently enrolled at Las Deltas who remain age-eligible will continue receiving services at the Crescent Park location. Priority placement at these other centers will be granted if Crescent Park is not the desired location for families: Verde, Contra Costa College, YMCA 8<sup>th</sup> Street, or YMCA CDC.</p>

Enrollment and attendance statistics for the month of April as follows:

- The month's enrollment was 62.10% for Head Start, 90.03% for Early Head Start, and 75.0% for Early Head Start Child Care Partnership #2.
- The month's attendance was 79.06% for Head Start, 85.13% for Early Head Start, and 82.82% for Early Head Start Child Care Partnership #2.

Program updates:

- Classroom Operations
  - County tier system update-Remain in Orange tier; continue with gradual increases to in-class capacity
  - More increases when in yellow tier-stay on this course for a bit
- Self-Assessment-Led by Amanda Cleveland
  - Program Management & Governance, Education, Health and Safety, and Community Engagement.
  - Led by Comprehensive Services Assistant Managers
  - Sites assessed include: FBHS, Crossroads, GMIII, FCC, Verde, Los Arboles, Aspiranet, Balboa
- Teacher Appreciation Week-Last week, we celebrated our wonderful teachers and the wonderful support they provide to our children and families each day! We celebrated at varying levels-decorating break rooms, snacks for staff, cards, letters, and videos.
- CSB Health Manage is focusing on sending COVID vaccine information to families and staff to keep them informed on accessing the vaccine and debunk myths that may prevent access to the vaccine.
- Teaching staff, Site Supervisors, and Comprehensive Services staff attended a half-day training on Thursday, April 22, 2021 focusing on anti-bias and equity in early childhood. The training included opportunities to engage in brave and difficult conversations, reflect on personal biases and how they may impact our work and personal lives. Strategies learned also included a framework for anti-bias teaching, which includes listening carefully, making topics accessible to children, and appropriately sharing anti-bias learning with children and families.
- CSB was proud to partner with local Girl Scout Troop 31769 to support the completion of their silver award bookshelf project! The bookshelf is proudly displayed at our Civic office and is inviting to children and families with the many books and educational toys lining the shelves.
- Parents received information on keeping children safe. The information contains safety tips for drop-off and pick-up at the centers and while outdoors.

Sarah Reich, ASAIII, presented the following financial reports on behalf of Haydee Ilan:

- **2020-2021 Head Start Program: March 2021** year-to-date cash expenditures were \$2,409,576 YTD, representing 14% of the program budget.
- **2020-2021 Early Head Start Program: March 2021** year-to-date cash expenditures were \$494,790 YTD, representing 13% of the program budget.
- **2020-2021 Early Head Start – CC Partnership: March 2021** year-to-date cash expenditures were \$2,317,127 YTD, representing 46% of the program budget.
- **Credit Card expenditures** for all programs, including Head Start and Early Head Start, for **March 2021** were \$14,591.97.

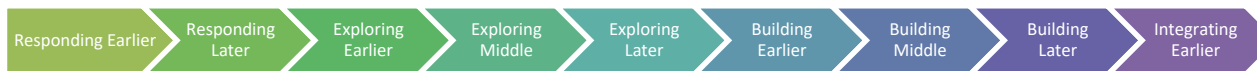
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Child and Adult Care Food Program: March 2021</b>, total meals served, including breakfast, lunch, and supplements, were 11,739.</li> </ul>																																																					
<b>Subcommittee Updates</b>	<b>Fiscal:</b> Myriah Herrington reported that during their subcommittee meeting, they discussed the Fiscal reports in detail. <b>Program Services:</b> Matthew Carlson reported that during their subcommittee meeting, they discussed the closure of Las Deltas, changes to the Policies and Procedure, and the Planning Calendar.																																																					
<b>Action:</b> Consider approval of the CSB Executive Director	Kathy Gallagher, EHSD Director, introduced Aaron Alarcon-Bowen as a recommendation for CSB Executive Director and shared some details of his education and experience. Mr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen addressed the participants with an anecdote of why the Head Start program is important to him and is excited to start working with CSB.  <b>A motion to approve the CSB Executive Director was made by Matthew Carlson and seconded by Melanie Graves. The motion passed.</b> <table border="1" data-bbox="375 532 1944 933"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Ayes</th> <th>Nays</th> <th>Abstentions</th> <th>Not Present</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Carmina Hernandez</td> <td>Jamyisha Portis</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Dana Von Austin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deanna Carmona</td> <td>Joel Nickelson-Shanks</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Denae Johnson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Delia Zarges</td> <td>Karen Medrano</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Jason Streffery</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deniedre Henry</td> <td>Laura Brum</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Kara Simmons</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Desirae Jordan</td> <td>Maria Palestino</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Maria Chaves (Arrived after roll call)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Devlyn Sewell</td> <td>Matthew Carlson</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Melrelease Epperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Folakemi Omole</td> <td>Melanie Graves</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Nivette Moore-Abalo (Arrived after roll call)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irais Vargas</td> <td>Myriah Herrington</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jasmine Cisneros</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Ayes		Nays	Abstentions	Not Present	Carmina Hernandez	Jamyisha Portis			Dana Von Austin	Deanna Carmona	Joel Nickelson-Shanks			Denae Johnson	Delia Zarges	Karen Medrano			Jason Streffery	Deniedre Henry	Laura Brum			Kara Simmons	Desirae Jordan	Maria Palestino			Maria Chaves (Arrived after roll call)	Devlyn Sewell	Matthew Carlson			Melrelease Epperson	Folakemi Omole	Melanie Graves			Nivette Moore-Abalo (Arrived after roll call)	Irais Vargas	Myriah Herrington				Jasmine Cisneros				
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<b>Action:</b> Consider Approval of April 21, 2021, Policy Council Minutes	The minutes of April 21, 2021, Policy Council meeting were reviewed and no corrections were noted.  <b>A motion to approve the minutes from April 21, 2021, Policy Council meetings was made by Matthew Carlson and seconded by Melanie Graves. The motion passed.</b> <table border="1" data-bbox="375 1057 1944 1453"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Ayes</th> <th>Nays</th> <th>Abstentions</th> <th>Not Present</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Carmina Hernandez</td> <td>Jamyisha Portis</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Dana Von Austin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deanna Carmona</td> <td>Joel Nickelson-Shanks</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Denae Johnson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Delia Zarges</td> <td>Karen Medrano</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Jason Streffery</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deniedre Henry</td> <td>Laura Brum</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Kara Simmons</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Desirae Jordan</td> <td>Maria Palestino</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Maria Chaves (Arrived after roll call)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Devlyn Sewell</td> <td>Matthew Carlson</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Melrelease Epperson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Folakemi Omole</td> <td>Melanie Graves</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irais Vargas</td> <td>Myriah Herrington</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jasmine Cisneros</td> <td>Nivette Moore-Abalo</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Ayes		Nays	Abstentions	Not Present	Carmina Hernandez	Jamyisha Portis			Dana Von Austin	Deanna Carmona	Joel Nickelson-Shanks			Denae Johnson	Delia Zarges	Karen Medrano			Jason Streffery	Deniedre Henry	Laura Brum			Kara Simmons	Desirae Jordan	Maria Palestino			Maria Chaves (Arrived after roll call)	Devlyn Sewell	Matthew Carlson			Melrelease Epperson	Folakemi Omole	Melanie Graves				Irais Vargas	Myriah Herrington				Jasmine Cisneros	Nivette Moore-Abalo			
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**Report:**  
2020-2021 Mid-Year DRDP Child Outcomes and School Readiness Report

Ron Pipa and Julia Kittle-White, Education Managers, provided an overview of the 2020-2021 Mid-Year DRDP Child Outcomes and School Readiness Report. Community Services Bureau (CSB) utilizes DRDP-2015<sup>®</sup> to assess the development of all children enrolled in the program. The tool assesses children based on different developmental domains, measures, and levels. Three assessments are conducted each program year using this instrument to monitor children's development. Today we will discuss the results of the **second assessment**, also called the **mid-year**.

Developmental Domains

- Social and Emotional Development (**SED**)
- Language and Literacy Development (**LLD**)
- English Language Development (**ELD**)
- Cognition Including Math and Science. (**COG**)



**Key Findings for Infants & Toddlers**

The scores for all infants and toddlers in Language and Literacy Development, Cognition, including Math and Science, and Social-Emotional Development are as follows:

- 56% scored at the Exploring Later and Above level in the Social-Emotional Development Measure of Identify of Self in Relation to Others.
- 65% scored at the Exploring Later and Above level in the Language and Literacy measure of Interest in Literacy
- 62% scored at the Exploring Later and Above level in the Cognition measure of Spatial Relationships

Infant and Toddler – Current and Expected Outcomes by June 2021

- Social and Emotional Development (**SED**)
  - Baseline – 35%
  - Mid-Year – 56%
  - SR Goal – 70%
- Language and Literacy Development (**LLD**)
  - Baseline – 55%
  - Mid-Year – 65%
  - SR Goal – 70%
- Cognition Including Math and Science. (**COG**)
  - Baseline – 40%
  - Mid-Year – 62%
  - SR Goal – 70%

**Key Findings for Preschool**

The scores for all preschool children in Social-Emotional Development, Language and Literacy Development, Cognition, including Math and Science, and English Language Development are as follows:

- 73% scored at the Building Earlier and Above level in the Social-Emotional Development Measure of Social-Emotional Understanding
- 71% scored at the Building Earlier and Above level in the Language and Literacy measure of Phonological Awareness
- 65% scored at the Building Earlier and Above level in the Cognition measure of Number Sense of Math Operations
- 60% scored at the Building Earlier and Above level in English Language Development measure of Symbol, Letter and Print Knowledge in English

Preschool – Current and Expected Outcomes by June 2021

- **Social and Emotional Development (SED)**
  - Baseline – 62%
  - Mid-Year – 73%
  - SR Goal – 75%
- **Language and Literacy Development (LLD)**
  - Baseline – 53%
  - Mid-Year – 71%
  - SR Goal – 75%
- **Cognition Including Math and Science. (COG)**
  - Baseline – 44%
  - Mid-Year – 65%
  - SR Goal – 75%

**Key Findings for Pre-Kindergarten**

The scores for all pre-kindergarten children in Social-Emotional Development, Language and Literacy Development, Cognition, including Math and Science, and English Language Development are as follows:

- 80% scored at the Building Later and Above level in the Social-Emotional Development Measure of Social-Emotional Understanding
- 73% scored at the Building Later and Above level in the Language and Literacy measure of Phonological Awareness
- 74% scored at the Building Later and Above level in the Cognition measure of Number Sense of Math Operations
- 75% scored at the Building Later and Above level in English Language Development measure of Symbol, Letter and Print Knowledge in English

Pre- Kindergarten: Current and Expected Outcomes by June 2021

- **Social and Emotional Development (SED)**
  - Baseline – 42%
  - Mid-Year – 73%
  - SR Goal – 80%
- **Language and Literacy Development (LLD)**
  - Baseline – 57%
  - Mid-Year – 77%
  - SR Goal – 80%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cognition Including Math and Science. (COG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Baseline – 51%</li> <li>○ Mid-Year – 75%</li> <li>○ SR Goal – 80%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Training:</b> Kindergarten Transition</p>	<p>Afi Fiaxe and Jennifer Kirby, Education Managers, provided training on Kindergarten Transition to ensure that parents are aware of what steps they can take to ensure this important transition is a smooth one.</p> <p><b>Getting Your Child Ready for Kindergarten</b> We have been preparing your child for kindergarten since they have been enrolled in our program. Some of the skills they have developed are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Skills for Learning:</b> Your child gained skills to help him/her become a better learner, including focusing attention, listening carefully, and asking for help.</li> <li>• <b>Empathy:</b> Your child learned to identify and understand his/her own and others’ feelings. Your child also learned how to show care for others.</li> <li>• <b>Emotion Management:</b> Your child learned how to calm down when having strong feelings, such as worry or anger.</li> <li>• <b>Friendship Skills and Problem Solving:</b> Your child learned how to make and keep friends and positively solve problems with others.</li> </ul> <p><b>What Can Parents Do?</b> <b>Practice listening and thinking skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read aloud to your child - Listening to sounds and words will help your child connect spoken sounds to written letters and words.</li> <li>• Ask your child questions about his/her day and the stories you read together. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What was your favorite thing we did today, and why?</li> <li>○ What was your favorite activity in school today?</li> <li>○ What do you think will happen next in this story?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Talk to your child and make everyday activities into fun learning opportunities.</li> </ul> <p>For example, A fun way to play with words and letters is with magnetic letters that you can place on your refrigerator.</p> <p><b>Practice responsibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to take responsibility and accomplish tasks independently: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Self-help skills that will help your child in kindergarten are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dressing, tying shoes</li> <li>○ Using the bathroom, washing hands</li> <li>○ Putting personal items away</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Let your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Help you prepare a meal, such as tearing lettuce for a salad or washing the vegetables.</li> <li>○ Help set the table before meals.</li> <li>○ Put away his/her toys before bedtime.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Practice Social Skills</b></p>

**Some social skills your child will need in kindergarten are:**

- To get along well with other children, play and share with other children
- To be able to stay on task and able to work independently

**You can help meet the social-emotional needs of your child by encouraging participation in some of these activities:**

- Ask permission to use someone else's things
- Know that they must wait their turn in group activities, but allow them to be first at times
- Practice using words like "excuse me" and "please and thank you" to show that they are polite to others.

**Practice Cognitive Skills**

Some cognitive skills your child will need in kindergarten are:

**Numbers**

- Count out loud to number 10 or higher
- Knows what a number is
- Counts objects in one-to-one correspondence

**Size Colors & Shapes**

- Understands big, little, long, and short
- Recognizes and names the colors red, green, blue, yellow
- Recognizes and copies shapes (circle, rectangle, triangle, square)

**Practice Motor Skills**

Some motor skills your child will need in kindergarten are:

- Able to run, jump, hop
- Able to walk a straight line
- Able to march
- Able to throw a ball
- Pastes objects onto paper
- Match simple objects
- Build with blocks
- Complete simple puzzles (five pieces or less)
- Hold pencil and crayon
- Cut with scissors

**Final Preparations**

- Label your child's personal items with his or her name or the inside of the object where others cannot see
- Talk with your child about plans for drop-off and pick-up. Ask your child to repeat the information to ensure they are clear on the drop off/pick up procedure
- Ask your child if they would want you to walk them to the classroom or if they would want to play on the school playground before school starts
- Talk about any last-minute fears that your child might have.

Example: *"What if I have to go to the bathroom when the teacher is talking?"*

	<p><b>The Night Before</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the weekday routine with your child (bath time, bedtime, wake up time, homework time)</li> <li>• Put a small clock in your child's room, so he/she knows what the time looks like when he/she wakes up.</li> <li>• Put clothes out the night before. Let your child help choose the outfit that he or she wants to wear for the first day of school.</li> </ul>
<p>Site Reports</p>	<p><b>Ambrose</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambrose celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week. Teachers got many treats and "Thank you's" from families.</li> <li>• Ms. Lorena Perea is our new Master Teacher. Welcome to Ambrose, Ms. Lorena!</li> <li>• We enrolled three (3) new infants/toddlers.</li> <li>• New easels were installed on the fence in our playground.</li> <li>• We continue planting at the Ambrose Community garden.</li> <li>• Jessie Black, Assistant Director TU, visited our Center on May 3, 2021. She brought a basket full of treats for the teachers to enjoy.</li> <li>• Grab-N-Go bags with family activities were distributed.</li> <li>• We shared Make Parenting A Pleasure, lessons 9, 10, 11, and 12 with families.</li> </ul> <p><b>Balboa</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balboa celebrated our wonderful teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week: Movie night and a visit from all Cluster A Site Supervisors to deliver goody bags.</li> <li>• New outdoor paint easels and mud kitchens were installed for the preschool playground.</li> <li>• Organic recycling from the West County Waste and Recycling Services will begin on May 20, 2021.</li> <li>• Classroom #2 continue its Building Project by recycling boxes.</li> <li>• Staff participated in an Anti-Racism, Anti-Bias in Early Childhood Training.</li> </ul> <p><b>Bayo Vista</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bayo-Vista is celebrating Teachers Appreciation Week and Mothers Day. Teachers were treated to goodies each day; a few thank you's from families and a thank you luncheon for all their hard work and dedication to the children and families of Bayo-Vista. Bayo Vista would also like to acknowledge Mrs. Divina Tiamzon, who retired after working for CSB for 30 years Congratulations, Mrs. Divina; we wish her the best on her new journey.</li> <li>• The staff breakroom has temporary furnishings, as the new ones are soon to come.</li> <li>• A day of beautification took place at Bayo Vista. The front entrance and the playground were cleaned, and power washed. Also ceiling lights that were burned out were replaced in Rooms #2 &amp; #3.</li> <li>• Room #3 preschool classroom is continuing their project on balls, exploring balls, and being made of many different materials.</li> <li>• Bayo-Vista welcomed County Administration Office- Analyst Monica Carlisle, Interim Bureau Director Katharine Mason, and TU Division Manager Amy Wells on our site tour.</li> <li>• Parents were provided resources for the food bank that visits Bayo-Vista on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.</li> <li>• Phillips 66 Refinery donated pencils, crayons, markers, erasers, notes pads, and scissors to the children moving on to kindergarten this year.</li> </ul> <p><b>George Miller Concord</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GMC celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week May 3 to 7, 2021. Parents showed appreciation to the teachers.</li> <li>• Enrollment for In-Class and Distance Learners increased.</li> </ul>



- Preparation started for the Head Start Part Day Program end of the year.
- On April 27, 2021, during the Parent Committee Meeting, Andrea Bailey, Special Education Teacher of Mount Diablo District, shared information about kindergarten classroom expectations. Mr. Jose Chavez, a preschool teacher, discussed the creative curriculum and showed what their classroom looks like in a video clip. Also, parents were provided resources for Child Readiness Developmental Perspective, Kindergarten Readiness, and Parent Readiness.
- Our next Parent Committee Meeting will be on May 26, 2021 and Cecilia Valdez of TANDEM will be our guest to talk about their TANDEM program.

**GMIII**

- We celebrated all GMIII teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week May 3 to 7, 2021. Thank you, parents, for making this week so special for the teachers. The teachers loved receiving some of the thank you cards that your children made.
- Some classroom learning projects included the recycling of paper products into Paper Mache (in classroom #6), the study of trees continued (in classroom #5), study of the Coral Reef (in classroom #3), and composting/planting project (in classroom #10).
- Posted at the center are updated COVID-19 vaccination information for families to see and read.

**Las Deltas**

- The staff celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week with lots of love! The Las Deltas staff continues to support each other and the center as a whole during this transitional time.
- Las Deltas will soon close its doors and reopen at Crescent Park.
- Preschool is focusing on nature and living things like plants and nature, while infants and toddlers are focusing on sensory experiences like water play and mixing textures.

**Lavonia Allen**

- The Policy Council recognized Ms. Consuelo Hanson for being an Outstanding Teacher.
- New Teacher Assistant in Training, Danni Pan that who is also a parent at one of our sites, is going to college to become a Teacher.
- Gardening project: Lavonia has two beautiful gardens, a flower and vegetable garden.
- Parents were given information for COVID-19 vaccinations sites.

**Los Arboles**

- We celebrated the Week of the Young Child. It was a success with many fun activities for the children to enjoy.
- Children received book bags to read at home from Tandem Story Cycle Program.
- The rugs and floors were deep cleaned.
- Preschool children are learning about the ocean and marine animals.
- Amy Wells, Interim Division Manager, and Amanda Cleveland, Administrative Services Assistant III, visited our center during the week of the young child and participated in children's activities.
- Parents participated in the Child Nutrition Unit virtual meeting to discuss the CSB's nutrition program and gather input from parents.
- Parents were provided resources for Income Taxes and weekly child development reports.

**Los Nogales**

- At this time, we are celebrating the good health of our staff and children.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We now have a Policy Council Representatives.</li> <li>• Room 2 is doing a project on plants. Children are studying the life cycle of plants. The children have each planted beans; they take care of their plants, watch them as they grow, and have class and group discussions on the project.</li> <li>• We had the pleasure of meeting a couple of the people on the Head Start Mental Health and Consultation Team. Stephanie Kraus (Mental Health Services Program Manager, and Lafeshis Edwards (Mental Health Consultant).</li> <li>• We have had multiple resources that have gone out to the parents. Some of the topics are are COVID-19 vaccines (including information about the vaccine itself, self-care) and Rent Relief, among others.</li> </ul> <p><b>Riverview</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are fully enrolled, adding four (4) children to our center this last month.</li> <li>• We are in the process of redesigning our playground. We added an outdoor art area as well as a mud kitchen and some outdoor storage. We are waiting on a few more pieces to complete our improvements to the yard.</li> <li>• Room #1 is currently working on flowers and gardening, and Room #2 is doing a tree study. Both classrooms have been learning a lot and are in the process of growing their own plants.</li> <li>• Miss Ligia will be coming in to visit over the next couple of weeks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Verde</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have had a successful and safe reopening since last April, and the staff celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week with lots of love!</li> <li>• Verde Elementary has many precautions in place to protect all students and staff, including a QR code registration system to help with contact tracing.</li> <li>• Verde started their turn on the summit cleaning rotation and will start receiving electro static cleanings.</li> <li>• We are doing lots of water play as the weather warms up. Each child has individual buckets, and we made ice cubes with small toys and watercolors inside them to melt in the water.</li> </ul>				
Announcements	<p>Ana Araujo, Comprehensive Services Manager for Parent, Family, and Community Engagement, provided the following announcements and resources (copy of resources were emailed to participants):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources were provided via CLOUDS group email for Triple P Parenting Classes, Emergency Broadband benefit, and Parent Guidance “Keeping Children Safe.”</li> <li>• Happy 56<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Head Start and Happy 26<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Early Head Start.</li> </ul> <p>Jasmine Cisneros, Chair, presented Katharine Mason with the Excellence award for her outstanding leadership as the Interim Director of the Community Services Bureau after 16 years of service in Contra Costa County.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2021.</p>				
Meeting Evaluation	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Pluses / +</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Deltas / Δ</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="363 1203 1312 1343"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nivette thanks Head Start staff for the great work they do</li> <li>• Welcome our new Executive Director</li> <li>• Thanked Katharine for her work and dedication</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="1312 1203 2005 1343"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Pluses / +</u>	<u>Deltas / Δ</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nivette thanks Head Start staff for the great work they do</li> <li>• Welcome our new Executive Director</li> <li>• Thanked Katharine for her work and dedication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
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