



**Item:**

Early Childhood Learning Collaborative Update

**Requested Action:**

The Board is asked to receive this update.

**Update:**

This is an update of the activities of the Early Childhood Learning Collaborative workgroups

**Thrive Parents**

- **Workgroup Leaders:** Yolanda Hagley, Lisa Heath, and Stacey Williams
- **Next Meeting:** March 11, 2026

The March 11 meeting will continue the work started in January, with the goal of finalizing and launching the parent survey. The group will also discuss how to best host a single focus group in partnership with a community organization that works closely with caregivers. By the end of March, the workgroup leaders expect to have a drafted proposal ready to share with CTAC.

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**Early Learning Educator Workforce and Supports**

- **Workgroup Leaders:** Elizabeth Woods, Heather Dole, and Arlene Lambert
- **Next Meeting:** February 27, 2026, March TBD, April 18, 2026

This workgroup is off to a strong start. They plan to use the in-person BLI Alumni Learn and Lunch event as an opportunity to gather direct feedback from early educators and directors. A Zoom session will also be held in March to expand participation.

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**System Coordination and Resources**

- **Workgroup Leaders:** Bonnie Bowman, Terri Robinson, and Dorothy Thomas
- **Next Planning Meeting:** February 11, 2026, March 3, 2026, and March 24, 2026

Although the full group has not met recently, the Workgroup Leaders and a smaller core team have been meeting regularly to gather stakeholder input and begin drafting a proposal that will later be shared with the full workgroup and CTAC for review and feedback.

Their ongoing focus is to develop and implement a coordinated, countywide process for early identification and intervention for children with developmental delays. This includes establishing a transdisciplinary team—such as occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech-language pathologists—as core service providers. The proposal will also include a strong professional development and training component for early childhood practitioners.

The smaller team anticipates having the proposal organized into a clear, shareable format by the first week of March. The full workgroup will reconvene on March 24 to gather feedback, input, and ideas.

**Programmatic Impact:**

Goal 1- Children and youth are healthy and have nurturing caregivers and relationships.

Goal 2- Children and youth can learn what they need to be successful.

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

Receive the information