



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Head Start Policy Council

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

6:00 PM 500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill | 1203 West
10th St. Building D, Antioch | 300 S. 27th St,
Richmond |
Zoom:
<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/82379230789> |
Meeting ID: 823 7923 0789

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Gabriela Garibay, Policy Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

2. Correspondence

[26-210](#)

Attachments: [Funding Guidance Letter](#)

Gabriela Garibay, Policy Council Chair, read the correspondence from the Office of Head Start. OHS informed CSB that their funding application must be submitted by April 1, 2026.

3. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

There were no public comments.

4. Parent Recognition of Staff

The following staff were recognized for going above and beyond in their work with the children and the families: Ms. Lorena Molina, Teacher at Verde and Ms. Yolanda Williams, Teacher at Verde were presented with a certificate to acknowledge their dedication to children and families.

5. ACTION: Approval of November 19, 2025, Policy Council Minutes [26-205](#)

Attachments: [Policy Council Meeting Minutes - 11-19-2025 Draft](#)

The Policy Council meeting minutes from November 19, 2025, were reviewed, and no corrections were noted.

A motion to approve was completed by Amy Mockoski and seconded by Kizmath Hemingway.

- The motion passed with 18 votes in favor. Nays: 0 Abstentions: 0

Ayes: Hemingway, Hernandez, Mockoski, Velasquez, Santana, Botello, Perez, Magana, Garcia, James, Williams, Villalpando, Fayani, Aslami, Ginochio, Garibay, Nwankwo, Perez

6. Administrative Reports (Program updates, Program Reports, and Fiscal Reports) [26-206](#)

Attachments: [Administrative Reports](#)
[Fiscal Reports](#)

M.J. Robb, Director, presented the Directors Report

Christina Castle-Barber, Division Manager, presented the Administrative Reports

Darryl Davs, Administrative Services Assistant III, presented the Fiscal Reports

7. Presentation: CSB Annual Report [26-207](#)

Attachments: [CSB Annual Report 2025](#)

Ayalew Lidete, Administrative Services Assistant III, presented the CSB Annual report.

The Policy Council had a question regarding how Parent Volunteers data from KinderCare Pittsburg was represented in the report. Lidete mentioned that he could further investigate the concern.

8. Wellness: Vision Board [26-208](#)

Ana Araujo, Comprehensive Services Manager and Ruben Cardona, Comprehensive Services Assistant Manager, facilitated the meetings wellness activity which involved the Policy Council representatives creating a vision board for the new year.

9. Presentation: Positive Parenting Month [26-209](#)

Attachments: [Make Parenting A Pleasure 2026](#)

Darling Rivera, Comprehensive Services Assistant Manager, presented a sample chapter from the Make Parenting a Pleasure (MPAP) curriculum. Rivera then informed the policy council that the MPAP curriculum would be offered to program parents from February to May.

10. Subcommittee Reports

Nohora Botello, George Miller Rep, reported participation in the Fiscal Subcommittee, in which they reviewed reports from November 2025. She reviewed the funding information for Head Start and Early Head Start.

11. Site Reports

Samia Aslami, Marsh Creek - reported that their teachers are doing well and have been introducing new students from November & December to the classroom areas. The Children received gifts from Angel Tree and subsequently wrote thank you cards. Each child received a book from Head Start.

Christopher James, George Miller III - reported that the site received a visit from the Office of Head Start. GMIII's lobby was repainted and organized. Portions of the playground were painted yellow to support visual development. GMIII is also working on a uniform approach to nonverbal communication posting.

12. Announcements & Sparkle Space

[26-204](#)

Ana Araujo, Comprehensive Services Manager, provided the following announcements.

- Give Kids a Smile Day, coming February 6, 2026
- Make Parenting a Pleasure, English & Spanish curriculum sessions starting in February.
- Changes to the Brown Act will be reported on next meeting
- Next Meetings:
 - o Program Services Subcommittee - 02/04/26 @ 5PM
 - o Policy Council Executive Meeting - 02/04/2026 @ 6PM
 - o Fiscal Subcommittee - 02/18/2026 @ 5PM
 - o Policy Council Meeting - 02/18/2026 @ 6PM

13. Meeting Evaluation

Pluses:

- Wellness Activity

Deltas:

- None

The next meeting is currently scheduled for February 18, 2026.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 3068 Grant St, Concord, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: Ana Araujo aaaraujo@ehsd.cccounty.us