

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**  
**ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 19, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m.**

PRESENT:

Whitney Crain, AC Lab School  
Mary Clare Munger, AC Education/Child Development Dept.  
Laura Clark, AC Education/Child Development Dept.  
Jana Rice, AC Education/Child Development Dept.  
April Moore, DFPS-Licensing  
Jerry Moller, Amarillo College  
Nancy Brent, AC Adult Students Program  
Janice James, TPMHMR  
Steve Burton, Children's Learning Center  
Sherry Richardson, Headstart  
Caytie Martin, Northwest Texas Hospital

NOT PRESENT:

Beverly Harrison, Frances Garcia, Sydney Roach, Linda Pitner, Dianne Hill, Cheri Sherley, Kim Reeves, Dr. Paul Matney

Beverly Harrison is the chairperson but she had another board meeting and could not attend this meeting at this time. Everyone agreed Mary Clare Munger should chair the meeting in her absence.

This year has been a very busy year for Child Development. Academically, she and Jana were involved in statewide and national groups. They attended a meeting in Galveston this year and have been asked to run Child Development Educators Association as Co-presidents Jan 2011.

A new national opportunity is to earn accreditation of the academic two year degree through the National Association for the Education of Young Children. San Antonio College is the first to go through the process and become accredited. We have begun to study the framework for accreditation but have not purchased the self study kit.

Whitney Crain reported that the AC Lab School was accredited by NAEYC this summer. Accreditation has to be done every 5 years. Only about 6% of the nation's child cares are accredited. There is only one other daycare in Amarillo that is accredited. The lowest score we had was 96%. Seven emerging criteria were met.

There are new staff members at the lab school. Both teachers have Bachelors degrees as required of NAEYC accreditation and both graduated here at AC with an Associate in Child Development.

2-year-old teacher = Angela Davis  
4-year-old teacher = Debbie Turley

Pam Webb is the parent involvement coordinator. Wanda is also obtaining Parents as Teachers training.

At this time, there are approximately 160 children on our waiting list. We are always being asked if we would ever be expanding and the answer would be not with our current mission of being a program to offer lab experiences.

The Lab School takes a walking field trip with all the children, including the babies, once a month to The Cottages nursing center. This is a good experience for both the children and residents at the nursing center.

Last week they celebrated Family Favorite Foods Feast last week with 78 people in attendance. They will be compiling recipes for a Christmas gift book.

Santa's Workshop is the theme for the Lab School Christmas program this year.

The Amarillo College newspaper recently printed an article with the idea of the college providing drop-off childcare for students. With licensing as well as our space issues this is unlikely.

Jana Rice reported that Web CT has changed to Angel. We currently have a good program to transition students. Online classes always fill before in-class classes do. Hybrid classes are part online and part in person. Online classes prevent teacher from meeting and seeing students but there is a lot of online communication. We currently have a student in China and one in Costa Rica.

State and federal dollars are coming in and all child care courses are going to be offered this Spring and Summer. They are trying to meet student needs.

Mary Clare Munger reported that the old TEEM program is now *Texas School Ready!* Amarillo picked up the Lubbock area with this program. Teachers are excited about it. They receive mentoring, are able to take a night class and receive many materials for the classroom. Wanda received the School Ready award in the past and now Debbie will be working for the same certification. Cheri Sherley, our coordinator is the author of the online class E Circle for the state.

The Child Development program at Amarillo College consists of several programs for completion: Provider certificate, Administrator Certificate, Paraprofessional Certificate and the Associate degree. Jerry Moller added that our child care program is a signature program often promoted by our President, Dr. Matney. Our office will be sending out packets to all area daycares regarding the scholarship program and financial aid.

Caytie Martin that W.T. does not have a Child Life Specialist Masters program. Texas Tech is the closest university to provide that. A Child Life Specialist deals with children alone in the hospital. The Child Life specialist is a liaison between the doctor and child.

An 8-hour online pre-service training has been developed. Stephanie Wilkinson developed this for our department. The cost is \$26.00. They take a quiz after each part and then receive a certificate in the mail. We would like to add another CEU training for SIDS, Shaken Baby, and Brain Development.

Janice James reported that there is a new organization that is trying to collaborate parenting and new marriage. Kim Yuri and Joe McGinness are the developers. They are looking for funding partners. One partner has been Warren Chisum who is wanting to support healthy marriages. This program is called Twogether in Texas. This is Christian-based and corporate money. Their office is at Wellington Square. January 19-21, 2010 is training to certify people with their curriculum.

Parent Educators Advisory Board want to have a parenting conference at the Civic Center on 03/29/10. Partnerships may develop between Twogether in Texas as well as our traditional partners. Amarillo is 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation for divorce, a fact important to the conference. Janice James, Chair of PEAB, teaches one parenting class per month.

Steve Burton reported that CLC is opening a new center that will care for nearly 120 children. One wing will be for Infant/Toddler. It will be the Curtis-Fleming Center and will be housed in the First Christian Church.

Our meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.