

California QRIS Consortium Meeting Highlights

Thursday, October 20, 2016
Yolo County Office of Education

State-level Updates (Sarah Neville-Morgan and Cecelia Fisher-Dahms)

California Department of Education Updates

- See PowerPoint slides for highlights. The slides are posted at: http://www.cafc.ca.gov/programs/programs_impact.html

2016 Child Health, Education, and Care Summit

- The annual Child Health, Education, and Care Summit will take place November 8–10. Registration is still open and also will be available for those that arrive the day of the Summit.
- Summit will include a “Pre-summit Day” focused on Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS).
- There will be many QRIS-related sessions throughout the Summit, several with a focus on ensuring equity and diversity throughout the system.

First 5 IMPACT

- Preliminary data from the 2015–16 Annual Performance Report and abbreviated Common Data File show:
 - Consortia served over 3,000 sites
 - Consortia partnered with 370 agencies statewide to support quality improvement in early learning settings
- In order to provide personalized support, each IMPACT region now has an assigned First 5 California liaison to provide technical assistance and resources.

Launch of the First 5 IMPACT CLASS-Based Coaching Program

- The ten-month program is designed to help local and regional coaches improve their competency to provide culturally and linguistically responsive coaching to early educators and directors that improve classroom interactions.
- This program will be offered through First 5 IMPACT for the next three years.
- Coach applications must be submitted by Regional Hubs by October 31st and the first year program will begin in early November 14, 2016. Coaches will participate in 5 to 8 hours of activities to strengthen coaching on effective adult-child interactions per month.

Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: California's Implementation Plan

- In response to the April 2015 Institute of Medicine and National Research Council's (NRC) report, *Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation,* (TWB8), California was one of five participating states/regions in the first "incubation" phase to develop implementation plans at the state and national levels.
- California's Implementation Plan outlines key recommendations and objectives (including responsible parties and timelines) to achieve the shared vision for California's early childhood workforce in the areas of Licensing, Permitting, and Credentialing Requirements; Professional Pathways and Lattices; and Higher Education.
- Next steps are outlined in the Implementation Plan.

Policy and Legislative Update (Erin Gabel)

- Prediction: Early childhood education will continue to be discussion topic in the Capitol next year – continued due to feeling of unfinished business around reform for the field.
- Blue Ribbon Committee on Early Learning – comprehensive reform is within their scope of work – to convene in January 2017.
- For full fiscal recovery from the recession, need to address rates, minimum wages, slots, getting the infrastructure shored up to bring back access. We will need to advocate in order for quality to be part of the conversation.

CA-QRIS Planning Committee

- Planning Committee met twice in September to discuss the Advisory Group and forthcoming agenda items, and will continue to meet monthly to prepare for the March 2017 Consortium meeting and get updates on the progress of the workgroups.
- There will be two CA-QRIS meetings in 2017—in March and in September, which will include a QRIS Summit.

CA-QRIS Advisory Group

- After deliberation with the Planning Committee, it was decided that the Advisory Group would be an ad hoc group of content experts and stakeholders to be included by the following:
 - Workgroups decide who and when to request support and topic-related information during workgroup meetings.
 - Planning Committee decides who to bring in as experts for consortium meetings.

Data and Evaluation Discussion (Gerrit Westervelt and Diana Schaack)

RTT–ELC Evaluation Report — Lessons Learned and Key Findings:

- Reports posted to: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/rt/rttelc.asp>
- Emphasis on having evaluation as an ongoing iterative process on whether QRIS design decisions are producing meaningful changes... keeping this mindset
- Cultivating a CQI stance
- New perspective includes a broader systems evaluation
- Developing systems to deliver an effective QRIS — consider the systemic effect of the QRIS
- Framework focus on 5 inter-connected areas: Context; Components; Connections; Infrastructure; Scale ([Julia Coffman's A Framework for Evaluating Systems Initiatives](#))
- Infrastructure in place: Data systems; PD systems; Higher ed – credentials and leadership support, curricula; Accountability systems; governance and fiscal systems

Evaluation Workgroup Sharing (workgroup members: Jody Veenker and Liz Guerra)

- Representatives shared agreements for group moving forward
- First steps, review of Common Data File elements
- Next, development of research questions, leading into the development of the RFA

CA-QRIS Common Data Reporting (Gretchen Williams)

- MOU in development for shared data between F5CA and CDE
- Data upload processes in development for FY 16/17 reporting

Communication Plan and Process (Gerrit Westervelt)

- Presentation of QRIS Branding Strategy Process
- “Excellence in Early Learning: Ensuring quality care for California’s youngest children”

- Option to keep existing brands where they exist, co-brand, or use state/county specific versions
- Intent is to be complimentary
- Wireframes – for website design with tabs for parents, QRIS programs, and press/media
- Communications Workgroup will be working on developing recommendations for a vote by the CA-QRIS Consortium in 2017.

Rating Matrix Workgroup Discussion (workgroup members: Ramee Serwanga and Jennifer Beggs)

- Looking toward revising and improving
- Scope: review elements in all areas, what's in now, what to add or take away. What's working and worthy of moving forward?
- Consider Implementation Guide

CQI Pathways Workgroup Discussion (workgroup members: Ruth Fernandez, Carol Abella and Jami Eyre)

- Potential updates to the pathways document, including family engagement in Rating Matrix, potential other tools, and a leadership pathway
- Looking at access issues
- Making the Pathways more user friendly

Afternoon Activity: Regional Peer Learning Breakout Discussion

Next CA-QRIS Consortium Meeting:

March 2, 2017
 California Agriculture Museum
 1962 Hays Lane
 Woodland, CA 95776