

Governance Council Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2025

1-2:30pm

Governance Council Members:

X	Wendi Baird	X	Carol Hacherl	A	Carli Ainsworth
X	Jeremy Skinner	X	Taya Noland		
A	Whitney Warr	C	Margie House		
X	Marie Simonds	X	Ashley Matsui		

Staff:

X	Sara Stephens-SCREL	X	Charlotte Carver-SCREL	X	Yolanda - SOWIB
X	Skaidra Scholey-SCREL	X	Corinne Potts-SCREL		
X	Vanessa Broadley- SCREL	X	Jessica Porter- SCREL		

Guests:

X	Brett Bailey	X	Annie Grayson	X	Dana Nichols
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(X) Present (A) Absent (L) Leave (C) Communicated, Packet, contact

1. Board meeting called to order at 1pm by Jeremy

- Meeting called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Jeremy.
- Welcome and roll call conducted.

2. Approval of Agenda & Previous Minutes

- Reviewed August 2025 minutes included in consent agenda.
- Motion made by *Jeremy* to approve the consent agenda; seconded by *Marie*.
- Motion passed unanimously.

4. New Member Applications

Overview: The Governance Council Recruitment Committee (Charlotte, Jeremy, Carol) presented three candidates:

- **Dana Nichols** – Housing sector representation (Southern Oregon Coast Regional Housing)
- **Annie Grayson** – Parent Advisory Council representative
- **Brett Bailey** – Parent Advisory Council representative

Candidate Discussions & Introductions

- Dana shared her background in planning, housing development, and community land trust work. Expressed strong support for integrating housing and early learning needs.
- Annie shared her guardianship journey, her experience entering early learning systems through Baby Promise and Preschool Promise, and her commitment to bridging families and governance work.
- Brett shared her long-term involvement with the PAC, her lived experience in Curry County, and her commitment to equity across rural communities.

Council Discussion

- Clarified bylaws: one designated parent representative is required; a second may attend as a non-voting stand-in.
- Staff recommendation: **Annie** for parent representative; **Brett** as stand-in and ongoing participant.
- Housing sector: strong consensus in support of **Dana**.

Vote

Motion to appoint **Dana Nichols** (Housing) and **Annie Grayson** (Parent) to the Governance Council.

- Motion made by *Carol*; seconded by *Marie*.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Council invited Brett to attend meetings regularly and serve as Annie's stand-in.

5. Officer Elections

Positions: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary.

Nominations presented:

- **Chair:** Jeremy Skinner
- **Vice Chair:** Marie Simonds

- **Treasurer:** Carol Hacherl
- **Secretary:** Ashley Matsui

- Motion to approve slate made by *Taya*; seconded by *Annie*.
- Motion passed unanimously.

6. Director's Report (Charlotte & Jessica)

Monthly Highlights

- Continued development of childcare advocacy strategy and internal alignment.
- Data committee compiling regional Early Care & Education (ECE) access profile for presentation at next meeting.

Family Engagement Redesign

- Partnership with Pathways to Positive Parenting to take over Parent Café facilitation.
- SCREL continues to provide stipends, tech support, and data management.
- Staff time reallocated toward **developing regional playgroups**, a widely requested service.

Family Connects Oregon (FCO)

- Renewed search for a newborn nurse home visiting partner following CHW withdrawal.
- Potential partners under exploration: **Bay Clinic, ESD, ADAPT**.
- Goal: launch Coos County first, expand to Curry.

IEC-MHC / Every Child Belongs (ECB)

- Hiring process underway for mental health consultant.
- South Coast to join statewide implementation wave in Feb 2026.
- High community demand for behavioral/early childhood mental health support.

Tri-County Collaborative (Coos, Curry, Douglas)

- Coordinated outreach on early learning resource awareness.
- Website expansion to include Douglas County services.
- Cross-county Parent Advisory Council engagement scheduled.

Legislative & Funding Overview

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- State agencies asked to prepare 2.5–5% cut scenarios for the 2026 short session.
 - Revenue forecast improved but shortfall remains; strategic advocacy needed.

Investment Funds Update

- One-year contract cycle allows unused funds to roll into next year.
 - Staff capacity constraints → **continuation funding** for selected subrecipients instead of a full RFA.
 - SCREL exploring internal investment projects:
 - Region-wide **playgroup expansion**
 - **Pyramid Model** professional development
 - Invite-only funding for **kindergarten transition** and **prenatal/postpartum supports**
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7. P3 Evaluation Presentation (Pacific Research & Evaluation)

Presenters: **Christy Manseth & Regina Wheeler**

Key Findings

1. **Desire for more in-person family and provider connection opportunities.**
2. **Childcare access remains the top regional challenge** (waitlists, infants, special needs care).
3. Families value home-learning tools and literacy supports.
4. Need for improved communication and resource awareness.
5. Recommendation to continue multi-method evaluation annually.

Upcoming Evaluation Work

- Repeat family survey, partner survey, focus groups.
- New: Aggregate K–2 literacy outcomes using assessment data from regional schools (DIBELS, MAP, iReady).
- Interviews with community partners to strengthen referrals and coordination.

Council Discussion Highlights

- Concern expressed over **low 3rd-grade proficiency rates** in several districts.
 - Need for targeted investment and deeper district partnership.
 - Possibility of non-competitive kindergarten transition grants for all districts.
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- Suggestion to incorporate Head Start outcomes data.
 - Note: small district sample sizes (e.g., Port Orford) cause large data swings.
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8. Public Comment

- None.
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9. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.
 - No additional comments or updates.
 - Motion to adjourn approved unanimously.
 - Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.
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Minutes prepared by: Celcionna Volluz

Signature: *Celcionna Volluz*

Board Chair: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____