



COUNTY-WIDE POLICY COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 5, 2026
 5:30 P.M. – Dinner
 6:00 P.M. – Meeting

FRANKLIN HEAD START
 1189 MARTIN AVENUE
 FRESNO, CA 93706
 (559) 233-0882

AGENDA

	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Motion</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. CALL TO ORDER	Justine Avina		
II. ROLL CALL	Jasmine Arreola		
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Justine Avina	Approval	
IV. FRESNO EOC PROGRAM REPORT – ADOLESCENT FAMILY LIFE PROGRAM (AFLP)	David Beale	Information	
V. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS FOR MAY 2026	Community Reps	Information	
VI. FRESNO EOC COMMISSIONERS REPORT FOR MARCH 2026	Aldo Alvarado Rebolledo	Approval	
VII. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS FOR MARCH 2026	Joann Espinoza	Approval	
VIII. IN-KIND MONTHLY STATUS REPORT FOR MARCH 2026	Alison Tatem	Information	
IX. ACTION ITEMS			
A. Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Reports For March 2026	Dafne Rolon Loza	Approval	
B. Head Start 0 to 5 Program Update Report (PUR) For March 2026	Michael Balderas	Approval	
C. County-Wide Policy Council Appointment of New Chairperson for the 2025-2026 Program Year	Alfonso Lopez	Approval	
D. County-Wide Policy Council Appointment of the New Early Head Start Center Based Representative for the 2025-2026 Program Year	Justine Avina/ Alfonso Lopez	Approval	
E. County-Wide Policy Council Appointment of the New ERSEA Committee Chairperson for 2025-2026 Program Year	Justine Avina/ Alfonso Lopez	Approval	
F. Head Start 0 to 5 County-Wide Policy Council Bylaws	Olga Jalomo-Ramirez/ Alfonso Lopez	Approval	
G. Head Start 0 to 5 Local Parent Meeting Bylaws	Olga Jalomo-Ramirez/ Alfonso Lopez	Approval	
X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS			
A. Full Enrollment Initiative	Sara Juarez/ Olga Jalomo-Ramirez	Information	
B. Personnel Committee Report for March 2026	Domenica Goff	Information	
C. Self-Assessment Data Review Week 19, 20, and 21, 2026	Veronica Galvan	Information	
D. Head Start Center Based and Home Based End-of-Year Activities	Lao Cha/ Guadalupe Zuniga	Information	
E. CWPC Program Governance Questionnaire	Alfonso Lopez	Information	
F. CWPC Summer Months Meetings (June, July, August)	Alfonso Lopez	Information	
G. Head Start and Early Head Start Asset Disposition 2026	Nidia Davis	Information	
H. Site Closure for 2026-2027 Program Year	Michael Balderas/ Nidia Davis	Information	
I. Head Start 0 to 5 County-Wide Policy Council Bylaws Amendments	Olga Jalomo-Ramirez/ Alfonso Lopez	Information	
XI. PARENT COMMENTS			
(This is an opportunity for parents to address the CWPC and staff on related matters that are not listed on the agenda. Limit of three (3) minutes per speaker.)			
XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS	Raul Garcia	Information	
A. May 15, 2026 – Volunteer Luncheon			
B. May 22, 2026 – Last Day for Head Start Home Based Socialization			
C. May 22, 2026 – Last Day of School for Children (3.5-hour classes)			
D. May 25, 2026 – Memorial Day Holiday – Classes closed			
E. May 28, 2026 – Last Day for CSPP Classes (7.5-hour classes)			
F. June 2, 2026 – Next County-Wide Policy Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. – Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. – EOC Board Room, 1920 Mariposa Street, Suite 310			
G. June 5, 2026 – Last Day of School for Children (6.0-hour classes)			
XIII. ADJOURNMENT	Justine Avina	Approval	



**COUNTY-WIDE POLICY COUNCIL (CWPC)
MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2026**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Justine Avina, CWPC Vice-Chairperson.
- ROLL CALL** Roll Call was called by Justine Avina, CWPC Vice-Chairperson. The following Representatives were present: Adriana Cuevas, Gidardo Fuentes, Naomi Yanes, Domenica Goff, Maria Marin, Janet Gonzalez, Justine Avina, Alma Martinez, Dafne Rolon Loza, Joann Espinoza, Prisila Ordaz, Raul Garcia, Margarita Diaz, Veronica Pallares, Mariana Mena, Vernon Robinson III, Carla Martinez, Elaine Melendez, Erica Ramos, Vanessa Lozano, Nicole Mittelbrunn, Galvia Juarez, Yasmeen Gonzalez, Brianna Jaurique, Elizabeth Ortega, Laplashay Maxie, Sonia Medina Herrera, Karina Padilla, Mayra Diaz, Maria Romero, Crystal Arellano and Jimi Rodgers.
- APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS CWPC MINUTES** Motion to approve March 3, 2026, CWPC Minutes as written and read was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Erica Ramos. Motion carried.
- FRESNO EOC PROGRAM REPORT – CENTRO LA FAMILIA ADVOCACY SERVICES** No reports at this time.
- COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS FOR APRIL 2026** Maria Romero, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Community Representative, announced that WIC will introduce major food updates effective April 13, 2026. New additions will include canned mature beans, fat-free refried beans, and seasoned canned beans. Whole grain options will expand to include corn masa flour, whole grain cornmeal, bagels, English muffins, and pita bread. Canned fish will also be added as an option, except for infant participants. All current food items will remain available, giving participants a wider range of choices.
- FRESNO EOC COMMISSIONERS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2026** Alfonso Lopez, Family Engagement/Volunteer Services (FE/VS) Coordinator, stated that the meeting minutes from the Fresno EOC Board of Commissioners meeting held on February 23, 2026, were included in the packet for CWPC review.
- Motion to approve the Fresno EOC Commissioners Report for February 2026 was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Erica Ramos. Motion Carried.
- MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY 2026** Joann Espinoza, CWPC Treasurer, stated staff recommends CWPC approval for the Monthly Financial Status Reports for February 2026.
- This report shows expenditures for the Head Start (HS)/Early Head Start (EHS) Program Basic and Trainings & Technical Assistance budgets for the month of February 2026 which also includes credit card expenses for the month of February 2026 as required by the Head Start Act of December 12, 2007.

This funding supports personnel and operating expenses totaling \$47,579,061 (\$38,504,223 – HS, \$323,827 – Head Start T&TA, \$8,577,640 – Early Head Start, \$173,371 – Early Head Start T&TA), and the Non-Federal Share match is \$11,894,766. (\$9,707,013 – HS; \$2,187,753 – EHS) for the Fiscal year.

Motion to approve the Monthly Financial Status Reports for February 2026 was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Vernon Robinson III. Motion carried.

IN-KIND MONTHLY
STATUS REPORT FOR
FEBRUARY 2026

Alison Tatem, Finance Manager, informed Representatives that the supporting documents attached are intended to keep the CWPC apprised of the In-Kind Monthly Status Report for February 2026.

The In-Kind Monthly Status Report for the month of February 2026 consists of \$560,770 for Head Start, which is accumulated by classroom and non-classroom volunteer services, consultants, goods, foster grandparents, PACT Time, and space. Early Head Start's In-Kind Summary for the month of February 2026 is \$551,962, which is accumulated by classroom and non-classroom volunteer services, home activities, literacy/growing readers, consultants, goods and space.

The annual Non-Federal Share requirement for Head Start 0 to 5 is \$11,894,765. Year-to-date In-Kind contributions as of February 2026 total is \$2,031,691 (\$987,495 HS; \$1,044,195 EHS), representing 17% of the required match.

AVERAGE DAILY
ATTENDANCE (ADA)
REPORTS FOR
FEBRUARY 2026

Justine Avina, CWPC Vice-Chairperson, informed the CWPC of the ADA Reports for the month of February 2026 for Head Start 0 to 5. Head Start's monthly ADA for February 2026 for Center Based was 81.70%. Head Start Home-Based visits completed were 307. Early Head Start's monthly ADA for February 2026 for Center Based was 81.91%. Total EHS Home-Based visits completed were 743.

Motion to approve the ADA Reports for February 2026 was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Elaine Melendez. Motion carried.

HEAD START 0 TO 5
PROGRAM UPDATE
REPORT (PUR) FOR
FEBRUARY 2026

Michael Balderas, Head Start Director, stated staff recommends CWPC approval of the Head Start 0 to 5 Program Update Report for the month of February 2026. Some of the highlights in February for Head Start 0 to 5 were several trainings: Fiscal Training & Technical Assistance, School Safety Leadership, Investigation, and Interagency Response Training, and Dealing with Conflict; Responding Effectively in Difficult Conversations. President Lincoln's Birthday and President's Day holidays were observed-no school.

On February 11, 2026, Fresno EOC received results from 2025 improper payment review. A determination was made that no improper payments were identified from the sample selection.

Early Head Start staff attended training as well with Toribio Psychological Associate Training Childhood Trauma, Teaching Pyramid Training, and Conscious Discipline & Second Step Training for new hires.

Motion to approve the Head Start 0 to 5 Program Update Report (PUR) for February 2026 was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Erica Ramos. Motion carried.

FRESNO EOC HEAD
START 0 TO 5
RECRUITMENT AND
ENROLLMENT POLICY
REVISION

Sara Juarez, ERSEA Coordinator, stated this policy was previously approved by the CWPC on February 3, 2026. It has been revised to state that children will be considered four years old once they reach their 4th birthday during the school year. This change will enable our program to accept more three-year-olds, providing greater opportunities for younger children to participate. Additionally, it will facilitate the transition of more children from EHS to HS.

Ms. Juarez reiterated that once children turn 4 years old, they'll be considered 4 years old, opposed to previously, if a child turned 4 after the school year, the entire school year, they would be considered a 3 year.

After approval from the CWPC, the Policy will be taken to the Fresno EOC Board for final approval.

Motion to approve Fresno EOC Head Start 0 to 5 Recruitment and Enrollment Policy Revision was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Vernon Robinson III. Motion Carried.

CHILD GUIDANCE AND
BEHAVIOR POLICY
REVISION

Isabel Marmolejo, Mental Health/Inclusion Services Coordinator, stated recommends CWPC approval for the Child Guidance and Behavior Policy Revision. The Child Guidance and Behavior policy is in place in order to protect the safety of all children and staff members. We view children's cultural and linguistic backgrounds as a resource. Each child's uniqueness (temperament, culture, family background, stage of development, learning style, etc.) adds to the strength and character of the classroom. Ms. Marmolejo presented the revisions.

Adriana Cuevas, Budget & Finance Committee Chairperson, inquired about the process for sending a child home due to behavioral concerns and whether there is a system in place to address behaviors before they escalate.

In response, staff explained that there is an established system designed to support children exhibiting challenging behaviors. This includes clear procedures, ongoing monitoring, and referrals when needed. For example, in cases such as Toribio's, communication with parents is a key component to ensure a collaborative approach between home and school.

The process involves coordination among teachers, an Early Childhood Education (ECE) specialist, and a Mental Health/Inclusion specialist. The team meets to share information about the child, including family background, strengths, and areas of concern. Through this collaborative discussion, the team often identifies solutions and next steps.

Based on these insights, the Mental Health/Inclusion specialist develops a behavior support plan, which is then shared with both the family and the teacher. The goal is to encourage ongoing partnership and consistency between home and school to best support the child's development.

Adriana acknowledged that while the goal is to support all children within the program, there are extremely rare situations in which a child's behavior may pose a risk of harm to others.

Michael clarified that, in the moment, staff focus on de-escalation to ensure safety for all children and adults. For more severe or ongoing behavioral concerns, there is a structured process in place. This includes thorough documentation of incidents and interventions, as well as adherence to program regulations. A modified schedule request may be temporarily implemented, so that the child attends class for less hours.

Motion to approve Child Guidance and Behavior Policy Revision was made by Mariana Mena and Erica Ramos. Motion Carried.

FULL ENROLLMENT INITIATIVE

Sara Juarez, ERSEA Coordinator, stated this information is presented to keep the CWPC apprised of the Full Enrollment Initiative Updates.

The recruitment data attached includes our recruitment efforts up to Mar 12, 2026. Head Start Center Based has 1162 children enrolled. Head Start Home Based has 83 children enrolled. Early Head Start Center Based has 71 children enrolled. Early Head Start Home Based has 234 children enrolled. This gives Head Start 0 to 5 a total of 1550 enrolled children.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2026

Justine Avina, Vice-Chairperson, stated the Personnel Committee report consists of a list of: Hiring/Personnel Action Positions, Resignations/Separations, Promotion/Status Change, and Job Descriptions for Positions for the month. All promotions, transfers, separations, and new hires are to be presented to the CWPC monthly, as an informational item.

For the month of February 2026 there were 11 Hiring/Personnel Action Positions (7 pending), 2 Promotions/Status Changes, 8 Resignation/Separation and no updated Job Descriptions.

SELF-ASSESSMENT DATA REVIEW WEEK MAY 19, 2026, AND 21, 2026

Veronica Galvan, Quality Assurance Manager, shared an invitation for CWPC members and Commissioners to participate in an upcoming Self-Assessment Data Review training opportunity. The training will provide an overview of how the program adheres to Performance Standards, including the systems in place for monitoring and ensuring continuous quality improvement in services provided to families.

Each Service Area will participate in the training and provide an overview of the work completed throughout the year, highlighting identified strengths as well as areas for continuous improvement.

At the bottom of the invitation, a QR code is included for participants to RSVP and indicate which session they plan to attend. Refreshments will be provided. This training offers an opportunity to see the extensive efforts the program makes to ensure high-quality services for children and families. In the past, both parents and Commissioners have expressed appreciation for these sessions and have contributed valuable feedback.

Ms. Cuevas recommended that the training be offered outside of regular work hours to better accommodate participants' schedules.

HEAD START 0 TO 5 COUNTY-WIDE POLICY COUNCIL BYLAWS

Alfonso Lopez, FE/VS Coordinator, stated the information presented is intended to keep the CWPC apprised of the Head Start 0 to 5 County-Wide Policy Council Bylaws.

Periodic review of the CWPC Bylaws ensures the established policy council is maintained according to Head Start Program Performance Standard (HSPPS) 1301.3(a). The CWPC Parent Planning and Review Committee, alongside program staff, met three times over the past three months and reviewed the attached recommended CWPC Bylaws amendments. In accordance with current CWPC Bylaws, the proposed amendments need to be submitted in writing at a regular meeting, as an initial step towards approval. The proposed amendments are attached and submitted for review of the CWPC.

For any questions or feedback regarding the proposed amendments to the Bylaws, please contact Alfonso, Maria Zarate, or Audrey Metcalf. Members are encouraged to take their time reviewing the document, as these Bylaws serve as the guiding framework for our work.

HEAD START 0 TO 5 LOCAL PARENT MEETING BYLAWS

Alfonso Lopez, FE/VS Coordinator, shared that he is also presenting the Head Start 0–5 Local Parent Meeting (LPM) Bylaws. These Bylaws establish the rules and procedures that govern LPM meetings, including state requirements for how parent meetings are conducted and what information must be presented.

The Bylaws are being introduced as an informational item to allow members sufficient time to review the proposed revisions and provide feedback. The document has already been reviewed by both parents and staff on three separate occasions. All revisions are clearly tracked, indicating additions and deletions for transparency.

Following this review period, the Bylaws will be submitted to the EOC Board for final consideration.

ERSEA PRESENTATION

Sara Juarez, ERSEA Coordinator, stated the ERSEA Presentation is provided as an additional training to CWPC Members on the Head Start 0 to 5 program implementation of ERSEA. In addition to the training provided at the Annual Program Governance Training, this presentation ensures CWPC members can effectively oversee and participate in the decision-making process of Head Start 0 to 5.

The recruitment component of ERSEA was presented as part of the PowerPoint presentation.

READYROSIE GRANT INFORMATION

Alfonso Lopez, FE/VS Coordinator, stated the information attached is intended to keep the CWPC apprised of the ReadyRosie Grant Information.

Head Start 0 to 5 submitted a grant proposal to acquire licensing use of ReadyRosie to serve 1,462 children. ReadyRosie provides parents with accessible education on developmental milestones from prenatal through age five, age-appropriate expectations, positive parenting strategies, and approaches that support early literacy, language development, executive functioning, and healthy routines. ReadyRosie is a virtual platform accessible through a computer, tablet, and smart phone, Head Start 0 to 5 requested \$300,000.00 for purchase of a 2-year license for ReadyRosie, including funding for training, and staff support to implement the use of ReadyRosie.

In the attachment there is a calendar that shows when the grant will be approved.

Jimi Rodgers, EOC Commissioner asked if we do not receive the grant, are we in a position to purchase ReadyRosie.

Alison Tatem, Finance Manager, stated not at the moment, but perhaps with our future grant cycle.

Mr. Lopez stated that time spent may be used as In-Kind as well.

TWO-WAY
COMMUNICATION
MODULE PILOT

Olga Jalomo-Ramirez, Family/Community Services Manager, stated the pilot has been launched and been in use by Family/Community Services and Home Based. This pilot provides us with an opportunity to test the module and become familiar with its use among parents.

Staff training took place on January 9, 2026, and they began introducing the module to parents during the LPM's in January. As of now, a total of 1,234 invites have been sent to parents, but only 395 parents have created an account.

This module provides practical tools and strategies to strengthen communication and collaboration between families and staff, making it easier to share updates, ask questions, and support each child's learning and well-being.

The app enhances communication by keeping parents informed about their child's daily activities and upcoming center events. It also offers a convenient way for parents to connect directly with staff. For example, instead of calling or emailing, parents can quickly send a message to their Family Services Specialist (FSS) to notify them if their child will be late or absent.

PARENT COMMENTS

Yasmeen Gonzalez, Richard Keyes Representative, asked if the Recruitment and Enrollment Policy revisions will begin tomorrow, or do they have to get approved.

Mr. Lopez stated that the item will be presented to the EOC Board for review. If approved, it will then be implemented and become active.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Raul Garcia, Historian, made the following Announcements:

- A. April 25, 2026 – Annual Parent Conference at Franklin Head Start
- B. May 5, 2026 – Next County-Wide Policy Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. – Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m.
- C. May 15, 2026 – Volunteer Luncheon
- D. June 2026 – Food Distribution

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mariana Mena and seconded by Erica Ramos. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Submitted By:

Brionna Warren
Secretary I