



CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL OF SONOMA COUNTY

Bylaws of the Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County

Revised ~~March 2023~~ September 2025

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County (CCPC).

ARTICLE II: STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of the Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County (CCPC) is to serve as a forum to identify and address the child care needs of all families and in all child care programs, both subsidized and non-subsidized, in Sonoma County.

Furthermore, it is intended to increase the accessibility, affordability, and quality of children's development through early education and before and after school programs. Early Education and before and after school programs include family child care and center-based programs, all licensed child care and development services, and license-exempt child care, including, but not limited to, private for-profit programs, nonprofit programs, and publicly funded programs, for all children 12 and under, and children from all linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Current mandates include:

- Conducting a local Child Care Needs Assessment at least once every five years
- Submitting a comprehensive countywide child care plan to the California Department of Education and the County Board of Supervisors
- Establishing and reviewing local priorities for child care funding, according to State policy and guidance
- Collaborating with organizations and community members to foster partnerships designed to meet the local child care needs
- Linking part-day programs such as Head Start and State Preschool programs with full-day child care programs
- Coordinating efforts to transfer funds as needed between subsidized programs according to California Department of Education and California Department of Social Services guidelines

CCPC's Values include:

- Supporting nationally and locally defined standards of quality in the care of children, including best practices in child development and education environments.
- Recognizing the challenges to accessible, affordable care and education and the need for various settings to respond to unique barriers and family demographics.

- Recognizing diversity and cultural responsiveness are essential elements in the composition of CCPC membership, goals, meeting agendas, outreach efforts, community events, and child care and development settings.
- Representing a broad constituency – all those concerned with the care of children and youth, from birth to 12 years of age.
- Representing many diverse viewpoints in identifying the best interests of children and their families and advocate at the state and local levels for programs, best practices, and funding.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

A. COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

To comply with mandates of Welfare and Institutions Code § 10485 et seq., and to maintain an inclusive participation from the diverse communities in Sonoma County, CCPC has a Voting Membership and an identified Advisory Membership.

Voting Members are appointed jointly by the County Board of Supervisors and County Superintendent of Schools to exercise decision-making responsibility for CCPC functions as described in Welfare and Institutions Code § 10485 et seq., as well as to vote on all CCPC business and policy recommendations. The Voting Membership is not to exceed 35 members and shall be comprised of the percentage of members from the categories listed below. Every effort is made to ensure that membership reflects the racial, ethnic, and geographic population of the County. Every effort is made to ensure that categories include representation from groups that serve families and children with disabilities and other special needs.

Composition of Voting Membership:

1. **20% Consumers** (up to 7 parents or persons who receive, or who have received within the past 36 months, child care services)
2. **20% Child Care Providers** (up to 7 persons who provide child care services or represent persons who provide child care services reflective of the range of child care providers in the County)
3. **20% Public Agency Representatives** (up to 7 persons who represent a city, county, city and county, or local education agency)
4. **20% Community Representatives** (up to 7 persons who represent an agency or business that provides private funding for child care services, or who advocate for child care services through participation in civic or community-based organizations, but is not a child care provider and does not represent an agency that contracts with the California Department of Education to provide child care and development services)
5. **20% Discretionary** (up to 7 persons from any of the above categories or outside these categories at the discretion of the County Board of Supervisors and County Superintendent of Schools)

Each Voting Member may appoint a single proxy to represent him or her in CCPC affairs and to vote on all matters when the Voting Member is not in attendance at CCPC

meetings of the Board or committees. Such proxy shall act in the Voting Member's place to all intents and purposes as though the Voting Member were personally present, including the right of the proxy to be counted in constituting a quorum to participate in the proceeding. Such proxy shall be designated in a signed written instrument which shall be kept on file at the CCPC office, and shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing Voting Member. Each proxy shall represent only one Voting Member at any meeting.

Advisory Members provide needed expertise or perspective in the area of child care. Advisory Member applications are submitted to the Membership Committee and then the full CCPC for approval. The role of an Advisory Member is:

- To provide specialized advice and information regarding issues affecting child care and development services in Sonoma County;
- To demonstrate a personal commitment and responsibility to improve child care in Sonoma County;
- To attend regularly scheduled CCPC meetings whenever possible; and
- To develop a working knowledge of the Mission and mandates of the CCPC.

Advisory Members are not Voting Members and, except during public comment periods, they shall abstain from conversation during Member-only voting discussions. Advisory members shall serve two-year terms.

B. TERMS OF APPOINTMENTS

The term for each Voting Membership seat is two years beginning on July 1 and ending on ~~December 31~~ June 30 of the last year of the term. Voting Members appointed to a seat before the end of a term shall only serve the remainder of that term.

The CCPC shall comply with the process for new appointments, resignations, and replacements specified by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and County Superintendent of Schools.

The Membership Committee will select and recommend nominees for Voting Member vacancies to the full CCPC. The Voting Members shall then vote on nominees to recommend to the County Board of Supervisors and County Superintendent of Schools for appointment as Voting Members.

C. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

Voting Members may be removed from CCPC for cause or because of absence in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Removal for Cause:

Cause shall be defined as a determination by the CCPC that the member is unable to effectively represent the categorical seat to which they are appointed due to change of employment or status that substantially alters the member's qualifications which were the basis for making the initial appointment.

2. Removal for Absenteeism:

- a. If a member is absent from more than (2) consecutive regular CCPC meetings without notification, and after a good faith effort by CCPC staff to contact the member regarding absences, the member shall be considered to have resigned.
- b. A member ~~with a substantial pattern of absences~~, who is absent from either two consecutive meetings or more than 50% of the monthly meetings in one year, may be removed from CCPC membership.

Removal Process: The Membership Committee shall recommend to the CCPC the removal of any Voting Member(s) based on cause or absence. Removal of a member shall require a majority vote of the CCPC, a quorum being present. CCPC staff will be responsible for notifying the County Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Schools of all member removals.

D. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERS

Resignation of CCPC members should be effected by written notification. CCPC Staff will be responsible for notifying the County Board of Supervisors. Member resignation will be acknowledged in writing to the resigning party after acceptance by the CCPC.

E. CCPC CODE OF ETHICS

1. CCPC Members will commit to practicing these core values:
 - 1.1. Children and Families: Advance the long-term best interests of families and children, especially special needs of children.
 - 1.2. Inclusion and Collaboration: Draw strength from members' diversity, yet strive to speak with one voice.
 - 1.3. Honesty and Integrity: Build public trust by meeting the highest standards of personal and professional practice.
 - 1.4. Accountability: Agree to be held answerable for fulfilling responsibilities, promises, and commitments.
 - 1.5. Cultural and Geographic Diversity: Attentive to and influenced by the cultural and geographic diversity of the County.
 - 1.6. Innovative, Strategic Thinking: Move outside of one's comfort zone to develop visionary solutions for children.
 - 1.7. Leadership: Have the political wisdom, relationships, and expertise to be effective advocates of children and families.
2. To make an ethical decision, CCPC members will:
 - 2.1. Take an objective look at the facts and information.
 - 2.2. Identify stakeholders who will gain or lose.
 - 2.3. Apply the Ethics Standards. Which action will:
 - 2.3.1. Do the most good and least harm?
 - 2.3.2. Protect rights, satisfy duties, and treat all with respect?
 - 2.3.3. Support the inclusion of children with disabilities and exceptional needs?
 - 2.3.4. Be fair and treat everyone else equitably?
 - 2.3.5. Advance the community's best interests?
 - 2.3.6. Best advance the CCPC's Core Values?
 - 2.4. Double check the motives, alternatives, and reasoning:

- 2.4.1. Is there a better action? Why not?
- 2.4.2. Do some Stakeholders lose? Why?
- 2.4.3. Can we reduce harm any further?
- 2.4.4. Why should someone hurt by this still trust us?
- 2.4.5. Is this us acting at our best? Why?
- 2.4.6. Is there a conflict of interest? Do I need to disclose it?
- 2.5. Participate fully; seek mutual understanding, and inclusive solutions.
- 2.6. Explain our Ethics reasoning in public and act with courage.
- 2.7. Assess the results. Apply lessons learned to future decisions.

ARTICLE IV: Appointment of Members to Outside Commissions, Councils and Boards

- A. Whenever the CCPC wishes to name one of its members to serve on another commission, council or board, members may submit a letter to the CCPC Coordinator detailing the member's interest and qualifications in being appointed to serve on the commission, council or board. The member who will serve as the CCPC's representative to such an outside entity will be appointed at a CCPC meeting by a majority vote of those members constituting a quorum.
- B. If the member chosen by the CCPC membership to serve on an outside commission, council or board does not fulfill his or her entire term on such an entity, the CCPC will vote to appoint another member who will serve the remainder of the term using the procedure detailed in section 1 of this article.
- C. At the end of a CCPC member's term on a commission, council or board, the CCPC will hold a vote to appoint its representative to such an outside entity using the procedure detailed in section 1 of this article. Nothing prohibits a member from being re-appointed to serve on the same outside entity.
- D. A CCPC member appointed to serve on an outside commission, council or board may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the CCPC membership.
- E. All appointments pursuant to this article will be renewed annually at the first regular CCPC meeting of the year.
- F. Responsibilities of CCPC representatives on an outside commission, council or board will be to:
 - a. Report (written and/or oral) activities of the commission, council or board at regular scheduled CCPC meetings. The reports shall be an agenda item at regularly scheduled CCPC meetings.
 - b. Represent the interests, values, goals, and objectives of the CCPC.
 - c. Seek the advice from the CCPC Chair(s), Staff, and Membership whenever necessary.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

A. OFFICERS

Officers of the organization shall be: Co-Chairs (2), Chair-Elect, ~~Treasurer~~, and Membership Chair.

B. OFFICER TERMS

Terms of office for Co-Chairs, ~~Treasurer~~ and Membership Chair are two years beginning July 1. An officer in these classifications shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. The Membership Committee will meet and select nominees to put forth for officer

vacancies at the CCPC meeting prior to the June meeting. Vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote of the CCPC.

The term of office for the Chair-Elect is one year. The Chair-Elect will be expected to transition into the office of Co-Chair upon its vacancy. If a Co-Chair is elected to serve a second term, the Chair-Elect may be elected to serve subsequent one-year terms as the Chair-Elect. Should the office of a Co-Chair become vacant, the Chair-Elect shall assume the office. The Membership Committee shall meet and report at the next regularly scheduled CCPC meeting on its nominees to fill the term of the vacated Chair-Elect office. The vacancy will be filled by a majority vote of the CCPC.

C. OFFICER VACANCIES

A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or any other cause shall be filled in the manner prescribed in these Bylaws. Vacancies shall be filled as they occur and not on an annual basis.

D. DUTIES OF CO-CHAIRS

The duties of the Co-Chairs of the CCPC shall be as follows:

1. Preside at all meetings of the CCPC, alternating meetings between co-chairs.
2. Call special meetings.
3. Serve as an advisor for all committees as needed.
4. Work with the staff of the CCPC to prepare an agenda for each meeting.
5. See that members of the public have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the appropriate time.
6. Represent the CCPC at appropriate functions and events.
7. Oversee annual review of Bylaws. [Moved from Duties of Treasurer]
8. Perform all other duties necessary or incidental to the office.

In the absence of the Co-Chairs, or upon their inability to act, the Chair-Elect shall take their place and perform the duties. Upon the Co-Chairs' and Chair-Elect's absence or inability to act, the remaining members of the CCPC shall appoint a Voting Member to act temporarily as Chair.

E. DUTIES OF CHAIR-ELECT:

The duties of the Chair-Elect of the CCPC shall be as follows:

1. Assist the Co-Chairs and Executive Committee in fulfilling the functions of the CCPC, and learns the duties and roles of a Co-Chair.
2. Preside at meetings of the CCPC in the absence of both Co-Chairs.
3. Stand in the place of the Co-Chair to provide representation for the CCPC at appropriate functions and events, in the absence of both Co-Chairs.
4. Perform all other duties necessary or incidental to the office of Co-Chair, in the absence of both Co-Chairs.
5. Convene or act as Chair of sub-committees or forums when called upon to do so.

F. DUTIES OF TREASURER:

The duties of the Treasurer of the CCPC shall be as follows:

1. Serve as Chair of the Finance Committee.
2. Provide oversight of all fiscal matters of CCPC.

- ~~3. Approve expenditures authorized by the CCPC.~~
- ~~4. Regularly review statements of the financial activities of the CCPC.~~
- ~~5. Provide reports and supportive information as requested by the Co-Chair and Executive Committee.~~

G. DUTIES OF THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

The duties of the Membership Chair of the CCPC shall be as follows:

1. Convene meetings of the Membership Committee as needed.
2. Oversee membership assessment and recruitment, consideration of new member applications, and membership attendance.
- ~~3. Oversee annual review of Bylaws. [Moved to Co-Chair duties]~~
4. Oversee Officer Elections.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

A. REGULAR MEETING OF THE CCPC

All meetings of the CCPC shall be open to the public in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code §§54950 et seq.). The CCPC shall hold regular meetings at least 4 times each year, as posted on the CCPC website [day, time, and location of meetings].

Meetings shall not be held in a facility that prohibits the admittance of any person on the basis of ancestry or any characteristic listed in Government Code §11135, including, but not limited to, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. In addition, meetings shall not be held in a facility which is inaccessible to individuals with disabilities or where members of the public must make a payment or purchase in order to be admitted.

B. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the CCPC may be called at any time by the Co-Chair(s) or a majority of the CCPC Voting Members in accordance with Government Code §54956. Written notice of special meetings shall be delivered personally or by any other means to all CCPC members and the local media who have requested such notice in writing. The notice also shall be posted on the CCPC's Internet web site. The notice shall be received at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting. The notice shall also be posted at least 24 hours before the meeting in a location freely accessible to the public. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the business to be transacted or discussed. No other business shall be considered at this meeting.

C. EMERGENCY MEETINGS

In the case of an emergency situation for which prompt action is necessary, CCPC may hold an emergency meeting without complying with the 24-hour notice and/or 24-hour posting requirement for special meetings pursuant to Government Code 54956. CCPC shall comply with Government Code §54956.5 and all other requirements for special meetings during an emergency meeting. An emergency situation means either of the following:

1. An emergency, which shall be defined as a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health and/or safety as determined by a majority of the members of the CCPC.

2. A dire emergency, which shall be defined as a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring the CCPC to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting may endanger the public health and/or safety as determined by a majority of the members of the CCPC.

Except in the case of a dire emergency, the Co-Chair(s) shall give notice of the emergency meeting by telephone at least one hour before the meeting to the local media that have requested notice of special meetings. The minutes of the meeting, a list of persons the Co-Chair(s) notified or attempted to notify, a copy of the roll call vote, and any actions taken at the meeting shall be posted for at least 10 days in a public place as soon after the meeting as possible.

D. CLOSED SESSION MEETINGS

~~The CCPC shall hold closed sessions only for purposes authorized by law. A closed session may be held during a regular, special, or emergency meeting in accordance with law. Each agenda shall contain a general description of each closed session item to be discussed at the meeting, as required by law.~~

E. D. QUORUM

A quorum for the transaction of official business shall consist of a majority of the currently appointed Voting Members. CCPC believes that when no conflict of interest requires abstention, its Voting Members have a duty to vote on issues before them. When a Voting Member abstains, his/her abstention shall not be counted for purposes of determining whether a majority of the membership of the CCPC has taken action.

F. E. MEETING AGENDA

CCPC meeting agendas shall state the meeting time and place and shall briefly describe each business item to be transacted or discussed, including items to be discussed in closed session, in accordance with Government Code §§54950 et seq. The agenda of each meeting of the CCPC shall be delivered personally, via email, to the Voting and Advisory Members, and posted publicly and on the CCPC website, at least 72 hours before the time of the meeting.

G. F. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business, ordinarily, shall follow Robert's Rules of Order and the Brown Act (Government Code §§54950 et seq.) for conducting a public meeting.

The CCPC shall give members of the public an opportunity to address the CCPC on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the CCPC, either before or during the Board's consideration of the item. Without taking action, CCPC members or CCPC Staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by the public about items not appearing on the agenda.

Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes to address the CCPC on each agenda or non-agenda item. The CCPC shall limit the total time for public input on each item to

20 minutes. With consent of a majority of the members of the CCPC, the Co-Chair(s) may increase or decrease the time allowed for public presentation, depending on the topic and the number of persons wishing to be heard.

CCPC members wishing to suggest speakers for meetings should submit names to staff for consideration by the Executive Committee.

H. G. VOTING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

1. Every Voting Member, or their proxy, must be present in person to vote. However, correspondence germane to the Agenda from absent Voting Members is to be read and considered as part of the discussion.
2. In general, actions are taken based on a majority vote (i.e. more than half of votes cast by currently appointed Voting Members).
3. Abstentions do not count for purposes of determining whether a majority of the membership of the CCPC has taken action.
4. Actions to decide if the CCPC will take a formal position on a political issue are taken based on a two-thirds majority vote (i.e. at least two-thirds of votes cast). Minority position statements will be recorded in the meeting minutes. "Political issue" is defined as "CCPC taking a formal position on measures, legislative bills, propositions, budgets, and/or government plans or policies, at the city, county, state or federal levels."
5. Amendments/suspension to the Bylaws shall be with previous written notice, by motion, and shall require an affirmative recorded vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting. (See Article VII.)

I. H. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No Voting Member shall participate in a vote if they have a proprietary interest in the outcome. (Welfare and Institutions Code § 10485(h).)

The purpose of this policy is to establish safeguards to prohibit members of the CCPC from using their positions for a purpose that is, or gives the appearance of being, motivated by a desire for private gain for themselves or others, particularly those with whom the aforementioned have family, business, political, or other ties.

Any CCPC Voting Member who has a conflict of interest or a financial interest in a CCPC decision or contract shall make all necessary disclosures, shall not participate in discussion of such decision or contract, and shall abstain from taking action on such decision or contract.

J. I. FINANCIAL SUPPORT – Compensation of CCPC Members

CCPC members shall serve without compensation except for reimbursement to Child Care Provider and Child Care Consumer Representatives for actual and necessary travel and child care/substitute costs, incurred during attendance at official CCPC meetings, subcommittee meetings and other CCPC events, and as funds are available.

K. J. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

All Voting Members or their proxies shall be present at the hour appointed for each regular, special, emergency, or recessed meeting of the CCPC. Voting Members shall

notify staff if they will be unable to attend regularly scheduled meetings and whether a proxy will attend in their place.

L. K. MINUTES

CCPC staff shall keep minutes and record all official CCPC actions in accordance with the requirements of the Brown Act (Government Code §§ 54950 et seq.) The CCPC's minutes shall be public records and shall be made available to the public upon request.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

A. STANDING COMMITTEES

The following shall be standing committees: Executive Committee, ~~Finance Committee~~, and Membership Committee. Other standing committees may be formed as needed. All standing committees shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Brown Act

1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a. COMPOSITION

There shall be an Executive Committee comprised of:

- Both Co-Chairs of the CCPC
- The Chair-Elect of the CCPC
- The Chair of each Standing Committee

b. MEETINGS

The Executive Committee shall hold meetings at the request of the Co-Chairs. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

c. BYLAWS [moved from membership committee. Changed to annually]
The Executive Committee shall review the Bylaws ~~bi~~ annually or as needed and may suggest amendments to the CCPC. It may also review Bylaws amendments proposed by other parties, in order to make recommendations on such amendments to the CCPC.

d. ACTION AUTHORIZATION

When circumstances demand that action be taken prior to the next regularly scheduled full meeting of the CCPC, the Executive Committee is authorized to take action on behalf of the CCPC. Executive Committee actions taken under such circumstances are subject to review and ratification by the CCPC at its next meeting. For ratification of actions taken by the Executive Committee on behalf of the full CCPC under provisions of this paragraph, four-fifths of the Voting Members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

2. FINANCE COMMITTEE

~~There shall be a Finance Committee comprised of:~~

- ~~• The Treasurer~~

- ~~At least two (2) other CCPC members~~
- ~~Additional committee members as determined appropriate by the Treasurer~~

- a. ~~The Treasurer shall serve as Chair of the Finance Committee.~~
- b. ~~The Finance Committee will hold meetings at the request of the Treasurer. A majority of the members will constitute a quorum.~~
- c. ~~The Finance Committee will assist and advise the Treasurer in completing the Treasurer's duties as outlined in Article IV.~~
- d. ~~The Finance Committee will make recommendations to the Executive Committee and the full CCPC regarding requests for funding, the fiscal structure of the CCPC, and the financial status of the CCPC.~~

3. 2. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

There shall be a Membership Committee composed of at least three (3) members of the current Voting Members of the CCPC. The Membership Committee will strive to have representation from each category of the Voting Members.

- a. The Membership Committee will hold meetings at the request of the Committee Chair. A majority of the committee members will constitute a quorum.
- b. The Membership Committee shall recruit, review applications, recommend new Council members, and present new members at the next full CCPC meeting.
- c. ~~The Membership Committee shall review the Bylaws bi-annually and may suggest amendments to the CCPC. It may also review Bylaws amendments proposed by other parties, in order to make recommendations on such amendments to the CCPC. [Moved to Exec Committee]~~
- d. The Membership Committee shall routinely review member attendance at CCPC meetings.
- e. The Membership Committee will serve as the nominating committee for CCPC Officer vacancies.

B. AD HOC COMMITTEES

Ad Hoc Committees or Work Groups shall be organized to implement designated tasks and/or to formulate recommendations to the Voting Members on specific focus areas. Ad Hoc committees and work groups will be time limited and invite the involvement of Voting Members. Members of appropriate professions and the general public may be invited to participate as guests.

ARTICLE VIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

On any question or point of order not contained in these rules and regulations, the CCPC shall be governed in its parliamentary actions by the Brown Act (Government Code §§54950 et seq.) and Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS TO AND SUSPENSION OF BYLAWS

Amendments/suspension to the Bylaws shall be presented to the CCPC by written notice and shall require an affirmative recorded vote of at least two-thirds of the Voting Members. When adopted, such amendments/suspensions shall be submitted to the ~~Child Development Division, California Department of Education, 1430 N Street, Suite 3410, Sacramento CA 95814, by the Co Chairs.~~ Child Care and Development Division of the California Department of Social Services via email by CCPC staff.

Approved at the CCPC meeting on September 5, 2025.

~~Reviewed, format/tips corrected on May 19, 2023.~~

~~Approved at the CCPC meeting on May 19, 2023.~~