

Date: **May 18, 2026**

Time Scheduled: **9:00 a.m.**

Subject to a notice posted on **NA** Public Meeting/Working Group Session

Time Convened: **9:03 a.m.**

Time Recessed: **12:18 p.m.**

By the Chair Holt

Until: **12:38 p.m.**

<b>ECE Task Force</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Tardy Time</b>
Chair Peter Holt	X		
Reagan Curran	X		
Dr. Tracy Hanson	X		
Leslie Callahan	X		
Lori Gabbery Charney	X		
Marisela Nava	X		
Dr. Jennifer Stockemer	X		
Jeff Austin III	X		
J. Puckett	X		
Grant Coates	X		
Nancy Windham	X		

<b>Steering Committee</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Tardy Time</b>
Joe Esparza	X		
Mike Morath		X	
Stephanie Muth		X	
Rachelle Daniel	X		
Monica Martinez	X		
Reagan Miller	X		
Faith Sandberg-Rodriguez	X		
Jennifer Vincent	X		

**Time Reconvened: 1:00 p.m.**

ECE Task Force	Present	Absent	Tardy Time
Chair Peter Holt	X		
Reagan Curran	X		
Dr. Tracy Hanson	X		
Leslie Callahan	X		
Lori Gabbery Charney	X		
Marisela Nava	X		
Dr. Jennifer Stockemer	X		
Jeff Austin III	X		
J. Puckett	X		
Grant Coates	X		
Nancy Windham	X		

**Time Adjourned: 1:48 p.m.**

**Notes:**

At 9:03 a.m. the Chair called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

The Chair called the following invited witnesses to provide testimony to the Committee.

- Sylina Valdez, Texas Education Agency
- Allison Wilson, Texas Workforce Commission
- Libbie Sonnier, Louisiana Department of Education
- Erin Carroll, Kris Meyers, Virginia Department of Education
- Katie McConnell, Children's Learning Institute
- Sarah Baray, Pre-K 4 SA
- Diana Cortez-Castro, Texas Southmost College
- Melanie Johnson, Collaborative for Children
- Dominique McCain, Educational First Steps
- Stephania Whitehurst, Child Care Associates
- Mary Harper, Texas Association for the Education of Young Children
- Tim Kaminski, Texas Licensed Child Care Association
- Kathlyn McHenry, Early Care and Education Consortium

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

- Jacquelyn Reza
- Cynthia McCollum
- David Fincher

The Chair shared the following high-level reflections:

- Quality programs matter and this is shown through research.
  - The quality and volume of adult child interactions are very important
- Providers are important in this space. They are seeking clear, achievable, focused standards and systems And availability across the setting.
- Outcomes matter. While inputs should be a focus, it is important to have a system that measures outcomes as well to ensure there is a return on valuable resources.
- Families and children are at the center of this work.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 30, 2026 and will be focused on early childhood education data.

There being no further business, at 1:48 p.m. Chair Holt moved that the task force adjourn.