



Early Childhood Policy Council
November 16, 2020 Meeting

Annual Report



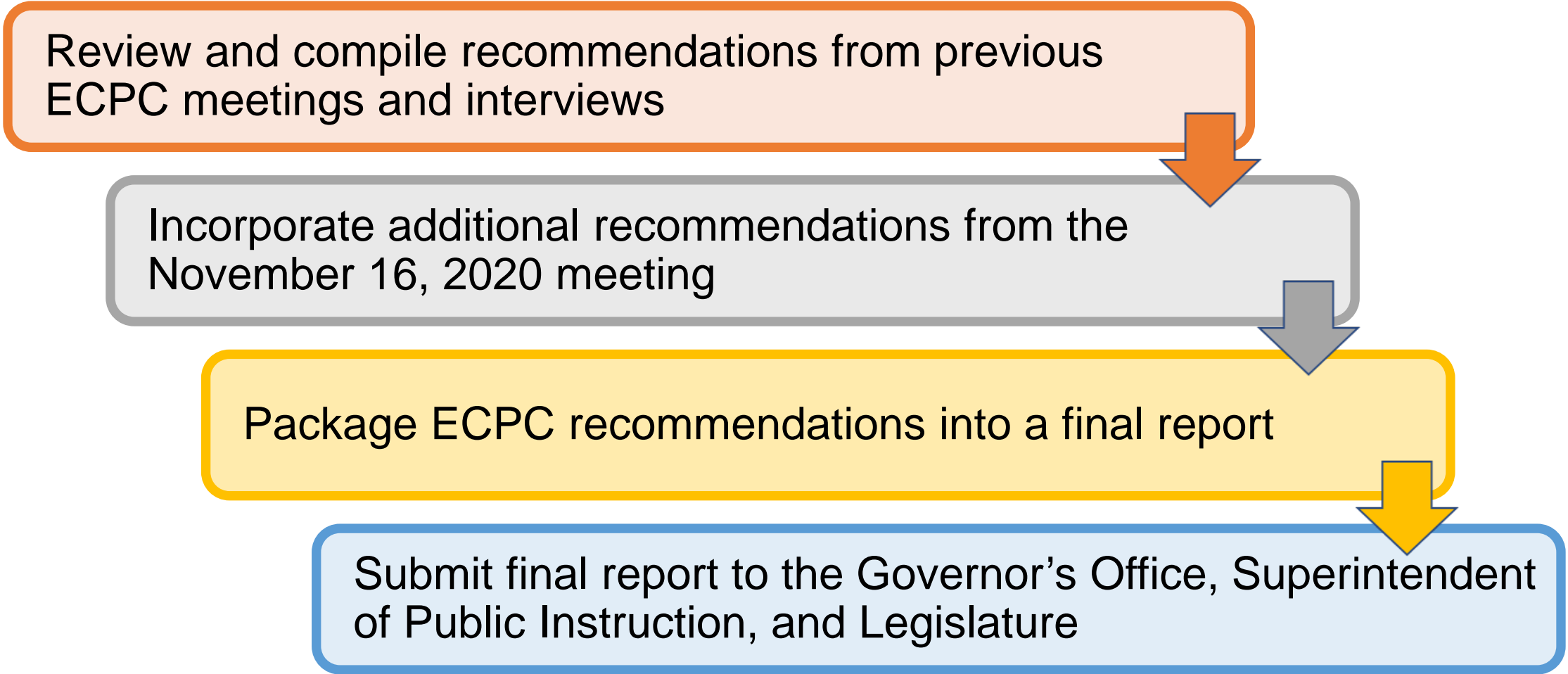
ECPC Annual Report

Purpose

- Advise the Governor, the Legislature, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction on statewide early learning and care policy.
- Prepare a formal public annual report.
- Provide specific recommendations on all aspects of the state's early childhood system, including
 - equity;
 - accountability;
 - opportunities; and
 - ways the MPELC and BRC can be updated/improved.

Annual Report Development Approach

Review and compile recommendations from previous ECPC meetings and interviews



Incorporate additional recommendations from the November 16, 2020 meeting

Package ECPC recommendations into a final report

Submit final report to the Governor's Office, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Legislature

Thematic Recommendation Categories



- Equity
- Coordinated Systems
- Whole Child/Whole Family
- Family Engagement
- Workforce Development
- Access to Information
- Access to Services
- Funding



Equity

- Must take a systemic approach in addressing inequities, including those affecting specific child populations, provider wages, and the distribution of resources based
- Must address biases that exist in data collection tools and approaches in ELC-related research
- Must address systemic and institutional racism
- Must connect equity-driven solutions to sustainable funding

Whole Child/Whole Family



- Must involve a multi-system approach and address issues of equity for children, families, and providers
- Must provide (through ELC system) comprehensive supports for cognitive, social, emotional, nutritional, residential, and mental health needs of children and families



Coordinated Systems

- Must align services across systems to ensure continuity of care
- Must coordinate services for children and families through state-level and local partnerships to support the whole child
- Need a system that supports transitions from pre-k to kindergarten
- Must build a strong, cohesive system that clearly defines and measures system outcomes through integrated data systems
- Need statewide COVID response coordination



Family Engagement

- Parents are partners, co-teachers, and first teachers and must be dignified as such.
- System must be multigenerational, culturally responsive, and honor the expertise of parents.
- Parents and families must be engaged to provide recommendations and inform decision-making.



Workforce

- Prepare providers to employ best practices and understand developmental milestones, emotional development, and relationship-building to serve the diverse needs of children.
- Ensure consistency in what's required and expected of providers.
- Create and strengthen career pathways for new and experienced providers.
- Invest in partnerships with community colleges and institutions of higher education.



Access to Information

- Strategies to increase access to families must include in-person and technology-based approaches.
- Information needs to be developed consistently and delivered clearly.
- Strategies to share information to home-based providers must be enhanced.
- Providers need better access to information about available resources and to support networks with other providers.
- Guidance must increase regarding appropriate amounts of screen time, social isolation, and learning loss.



Access to Services

- Income eligibility requirements should be revised to increase access.
- Access to mental health services is vital for families and providers.
- Vulnerable populations should be elevated for additional attention and care.
- Support for vulnerable families should take a strength-based approach.



Funding

- Funding strategy must take an equity-based approach to comprehensively fund what children, families, and providers need to thrive
- Compensation—livable wage for educators—is foundational
- Funding mechanism must provide sustainable supports for child care providers to enhance quality



Thematic Recommendation Categories (2)

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