

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) | Draft Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, Apr 17, 2024

Time: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

9:05 – 9:37 a.m. | Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Introductions

- ✚ The first few minutes were reserved to let members and attendees join the meeting.
- ✚ SICC Chair, Danna Summers, gave her visual description and welcomed meeting attendees.
- ✚ SICC Chair, Danna Summers, conducted SICC member roll call, SICC members each gave brief introductions and descriptions.
- ✚ *Meeting Role & Purpose* statement and meeting agreements reviewed by SICC Chair, Danna Summers.
- ✚ Will Moncrease, Jr., ESIT Partnership & Collaboration Manager, shared his visual description and the *Teams Meeting Dos and Don'ts and Keyboard Shortcuts*.
- ✚ Valerie Arnold, ESIT State Administrator, welcomed everyone and gave her physical description. Val Arnold, ESIT Program Administrator, held a moment of respect and led a meaningful Land Acknowledgment, and then shared an inspirational book and quote:
 - “Dream a little Kulu, this world now sings a most beautiful song of you.” – [Sweetest Kulu](#) by Celina Kalluk, illustrated by Alexandria Neonakis.
 - "[Native Land](#) is an app to help map Indigenous territories, treaties, and languages.
 - [The Office of Native Education \(ONE\)](#) aids school districts in meeting the educational needs of American Indian and Alaskan Native (AI/AN) students.
- ✚ **Motion:** Janet George moved to approve the *April 17 agenda* and the previous *February 2024 meeting minutes*, and Val Arnold seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- ✚ SICC members shared their insights on our new Teams experience and insights while waiting for the PIE parent speaker to join the meeting.

9:37 – 9:52 a.m. | Parent Institute for Engagement (PIE), Parent Stories: JoAnna Hayden

JoAnna Hayden shared her experience with receiving Birth to Three services for her daughter, Indigo. Joanna’s family had an amazing experience with B-3 services: the teachers were great at communicating, they were able to sit in on her speech lessons at times and were able to see their child’s progress in real-time. B-3 services changed JoAnna’s and her family’s life for the better. Meeting attendees and members asked questions and gain additional insights.

9:52 – 10 a.m. | SICC Member Spotlight: Danna Summers | Parent, Caregiver, SICC Chair

Danna Summers is from Kazakhstan, located in Central Asia, and is a first-generation immigrant. She grew up an only child, became a psychologist and is great at math. Danna is married with two kids, both born on December 24, and both were diagnosed on the spectrum, with ADHD and learning disabilities. Kinderling, in Bothell, helped with the transition to school services. The process was difficult and Danna felt totally lost. The staff in B-3 services let her be vulnerable, were supportive and understanding throughout the whole process to help her learn. Danna is a

WA State Parent Ambassador alumnus and is directly involved with translation services and other projects to support Ukraine.

10 – 10:10 a.m. | Break

10:10 – 11:32 a.m. | What I wish our Early Supports Team had known about robust high-tech AAC

Cass Griffin Bennett shared her personal story about her daughter, Harriett, born on the autistic spectrum. When Cass noticed that her daughter’s language development was limited, yet had a love for high-tech devices, Cass was inspired by Jordyn Zimmerman’s story, [This is Not About Me](#). Seeing the similarities in their stories, Harriet turned out to be a great match to start using AAC ([proloquo2go](#)) at the early age of two. We experienced parts of Harriet’s journey, excelling with AAC and Harriet’s language development, in a unique mix of educational storytelling, visual presentation and short video diaries. The meeting attendees and SICC members had the opportunity to ask questions and share their appreciations.

Presentation: [Toddler AAC: What I Wish Our Early Supports Team Had Known About How 'Early' AAC Can Help Families Thrive](#)

Terms:

Gestalt language acquisition is language learned in larger units of words first, rather than single words. The process of gestalt language development is described through Natural Language Acquisition stages (see stages below).

Echolalia is the repeating of an utterance that has been produced by others.

Cass Griffin Bennett is an autistic and ADHD self-advocate. She is a parent of multiple autistic children, including a young multimodal communicator. She knows firsthand that AAC can change lives. Cass started her youngest child on robust high-tech AAC at age 2. She stepped into the Outreach Coordinator role because she wishes she had known about NWACS when first embarking on this AAC quest. She hopes that sharing her family’s Toddler AAC experience will decrease gatekeeping. Cass wants to empower parents to take an active role in their child’s AAC journey.

Cass is passionate about early access to robust high-tech AAC, collaborative problem-solving, equity, neurodiversity, and inclusion. Her guiding goal in parenting is to raise her children to be their own best self-advocates. Cass has a career background in professional services business development and a degree in Psychology.

11:32 – 11:42 a.m. | Break



11:42 – 12:22 p.m. | [PAVE, Dee Bosworth & Minah West](#)

Dee Bosworth and Minah West presented about [PAVE](#), services, supports and trainings for family, youth groups and programs. The meeting attendees and SICC members had the opportunity to ask questions about services. PAVE and Parent to Parent resources are listed below.

Presentation: [PAVE Programs](#).

- [PAVE Pierce Parent to Parent Family Group Descriptions](#)
- [Applying for the Lifespan Respite Voucher](#)
- [Find Respite](#)
- [PAVE 3-5 Transition Toolkit](#)
- [PAVE P2P Early Year: 2023-2024 group gathering and registration information](#)
- [Get Help from PAVE](#)
- [Request a PAVE Speaker](#)
- PAVE's P2P Support Groups | Sept. 2023 – June 2024:
[Register for the P2P Lunch & Learn](#)

PAVE Team Bios

Dee Bosworth (she/her) is a dedicated military spouse and the mother of a twice-exceptional child with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD). Her personal experience and passion for supporting military families led her to join STOMP (Specialized Training of Military Parents) at PAVE, where she now serves as the Assistant Program Director. In this role, Dee develops and delivers comprehensive training that promotes military cultural competence and equitable access to support through state, federal, and community-based programs. In addition to her work with STOMP, Dee serves as the PAVE Helpline Coordinator, connecting individuals with disabilities, their families, and professionals with essential support and resources.

Dee is deeply involved in her community and state as a NAMI Homefront Teacher and State Trainer, a graduate of Florida Partners in Policymaking, and a Community Leader for American Military Families Autism Support. She has also served on local educational and policy advocacy boards fostering meaningful community participation for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities and improving access to care for persons living with mental illness. Dee earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, focusing on Legal Studies, and a Paralegal Certificate from California State University, Chico.

Minah West (she/her) has professionally worked in early childhood development for over 29 years in teaching families & children (aged birth to five), coaching for parents/caregivers and early learning professionals, training in Universal Developmental Screening (UDS), child development program creation, and facilitation of parent education programs. She is dedicated to family support services for underserved and marginalized communities, with an emphasis on Black and



African American families in King and Pierce counties, with and without disabilities. At PAVE, Minah serves as the Pierce Parent to Parent(P2P) Coordinator where she delivers support services to parents and caregivers of children with a developmental disability and/or special healthcare needs. As the P2P Coordinator, she provides community education, emotional support groups, training, and opportunities for parents/caregivers and self-advocates to connect with local resources.

In addition to her role at PAVE, Minah created the ICCFS 1..2..3 Jump Kindergarten Readiness Program generously funded by Best Starts for Kids. This program helps parents successfully transition their 3–5-year-olds into kindergarten by providing early intervention and school readiness home visiting services to underserved Black/African American and Spanish speaking families, with and without disabilities. Minah holds a M.Ed. degree in Curriculum and Instruction- Early Childhood Education and is mother to four outstanding children, two with autism, sensory processing disorder, and ADHD.

12:22 – 12:32 p.m. | Break

12:32 – 12:34 p.m. | No Public Comment.

12:32 – 1 p.m. – | Lunch

1 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Committee & Agency Updates

E Renae` Antalan, ESIT Community Collaboration Coordinator, welcomed everyone back to the meeting, gave her physical description and invited the SICC state agency and committee representatives to share their updates:

- Shellea Quillen, Health Care Authority: [SB 5580](#) partially passed, now reassessing with team to see what changes need to be made and what they can do with the funds awarded.
- Val Arnold, ESIT State Lead Agency Rep: [State Lead Agency Update](#)
- Nicole Jensen, DSHS/DDA: Working closely with DCYF, working on waivers, providing specific services, creating, and expanding services and supports that don't exist in WA State.

Submitted Agency & Committee Reports

- [Special Education Updates \(ECSE/OSPI\)](#)
- [Personnel and Training](#)
- [Service Delivery Committee](#)

1:30 -1:35 p.m. – | Ice Breaker Question & Interaction Break

E Renae' Antalan, ESIT Community Collaboration Coordinator, asked the question: *Anyone with an interesting travel adventure?* She shared a heartfelt thank you to the SICC board, providers, and supporters in the early learning field for the passion, hard work and experience shared.

1:35 – 1:54 p.m. | Legislative Update & Celebration, Stephanie Budrus, DCYF Government Affairs

Stephanie Budrus, from the DCYF Government Affairs team, shared her thanks to everyone involved in the passing of [House Bill 1916](#) and gave an overview of where their team is now in the process preparing for session and what they are prioritizing moving forward.

1:54 – 1:55 p.m. | No Public Comment.

1:55 – 1:56 p.m. | Evaluation & Wrap Up, ESIT E Renae' Antalan, Community Collaboration Coordinator

E Renae', ESIT Community Collaboration Coordinator, thanked everyone, gave last remarks and concluded the meeting.

Next SICC Meeting:

Wednesday, July 17, 2024, | In-Person Colville, WA

