



School Readiness Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams:

Meeting ID: 298 880 687 814 44

Link: [School Readiness Committee Meeting](#)

June 18, 2026

5:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

1. Welcome
2. Call to order
3. Roll call and establish quorum (half plus one)
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Introduction of Guests
7. Public Forum
(The public wishing to address the Policy Council School Readiness Committee may do so at this time; however, the Committee will take no action other than referring the item to staff for study and analysis.)
8. Presentation/Discussion Items– Cynthia Rodriguez, Education Manager and Maria Guadian, Support Services Manager
 - a) 2025-2026 School Readiness Highlights
 - b) School Readiness Resources
9. Announcements
10. Meeting Adjourned

"Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what make a teamwork, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." – Vince Lombardi

Committee Chairperson – Alejandra Verduzco
Clarissa Mendoza, Frances Torres, Rebecca Castro, Sandra Ibarra
Head Start / State Child Development
661.336.5236

Community Action Partnership of Kern Head Start/State Child Development
Policy Council School Readiness Committee Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2026

Audio Only: (213) 204-2374 Phone Conference ID: 286 366 302 144 479

1. Welcome

- a. Committee chairperson, Alejandra Verduzco, welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Call to Order

- a. Alejandra Verduzco called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

3. Roll Call and establish Quorum (half plus one)

- a. Quorum was established.
- b. Members Present: Alejandra Verduzco, Frances Torres, Sandra Ibarra, and Markquetta Jordan
- c. Members not present: Rebecca Castro and Clarissa Mendoza

4. Approval of Agenda

- a. Francis Torres made a motion to approve the agenda dated May 21, 2026; second by Markquetta Jordan. Motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes

- a. Francis Torres made a motion to approve the minutes dated dates April 16, 2026; second by Sandra Ibarra. Motion carried.

5. Introduction of Guests

- a. Cynthia Rdriguez, Education Manager, introduced herself.
- b. Lisa Gonzales, Program Governance Coordinator, introduced herself.

6. Public Forum

(The public wishing to address the Policy Council School Readiness Committee may do so at this time; however, the Committee will take no action other than referring the item to staff for study and analysis.)

None

7. Presentation / Discussion Items

- a. Introduction: The Education Manager introduced herself and invited all members to do the same, as there were two new members on the committee. Each member shared the center or program option in which they participate.
- b. Cynthia explained that the School Readiness goals are organized into five developmental domains. Each domain includes an Early Head Start page with strategies and activities for children ages 0–3 and a Head Start page for children ages 3–5.
- c. Cynthia explained that earlier phases focused on data aggregation and sharing the data with staff in Kern and San Joaquin counties, who then developed the strategies and activities under review.
- d. Cynthia introduced the first domain and reviewed the Approaches to Learning self-comforting goal and supporting strategies. Committee members shared successful experiences and strategies from this domain. Members appreciated the reminder that simple activities can support optimal development, and one member noted that the outline helped identify appropriate strategies and activities.

- e. After reviewing the Head Start goal and activities, a committee member recommended adding Mighty Minutes to the home-based strategies for use during home visits or socializations. Other members also shared feedback on using visuals and timers.
- f. Cynthia thanked the members for their feedback and transitioned to the Social-Emotional domain, where she reviewed the Early Head Start goal and strategies. In response to a question about home-based services and community opportunities, a committee member shared examples such as visits to the Kern County Fair and local libraries. Another member recommended adding sensory items for home use, along with mirrors and emotion books or posters.
- g. Cynthia introduced the Language and Literacy domain and reviewed the goals for Early Head Start and Head Start. Committee members discussed strategies for home-based and center-based services, as well as activities families can do at home. Cynthia also reviewed the English Language Development domain, emphasizing the importance of bilingualism and English acquisition for school readiness. No additional recommendations were made, and all committee members agreed with the listed activities.
- h. Cynthia introduced the Cognitive Development domain and reviewed the goals for Early Head Start and Head Start. Committee members identified repeated strategies, which were removed. One member also shared that the mystery box activity was especially useful because it is flexible and can be done at home with a variety of materials.
- i. Cynthia then reviewed the Physical Development and Health domain goals and strategies. A committee member recommended looking both ways and holding an adult's hand as safety strategies families can teach at home. Another member suggested using role-play to help children better understand safety practices. No other changes were recommended for this section.
- j. Cynthia thanked the committee for their recommendations. The goals will be updated to reflect the feedback and presented to the Policy Council for approval, followed by the Board of Directors. The final phase will be printing and implementation during the next school year.

8. Announcements

- a. Cynthia Rodriguez announced that next School Readiness Committee meeting will be held on June 18, 2026.

9. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM.