

December 15, 2009

To the NC Child Care Coalition Advocacy Network  
From Roz Savitt

**First Meeting of the Joint Legislative Task Force on the Consolidation of Early Childhood Education and Care (referred to as the "Consolidation" Task Force or "Task Force" by me).**

We now have the first meeting concluded. It was great to see about a dozen NC Child Care Coalition members in the audience and several on the Task Force itself. The purpose of this initial meeting was to review the purpose or "charge" of the Task Force and to hear two presentations from staff and one presentation from an invited presenter, a NC Child Care Coalition member as well!

The Agenda included:

1. One of the Education fiscal staff persons doing a presentation on the early childhood programs located in DPI (Department of Public Instruction).
2. The HHS fiscal staff person responsible for DCD (including Smart Start and Early Intervention) presenting on DCD responsibilities, Smart Start, the relationship between Smart Start and More at Four and the Early Intervention Programs located in the Division of Public Health.
3. A presentation by Dr. Richard Clifford, FPG on the November 2004 proposal entitled "Ensuring School Readiness for North Carolina's Children: Bringing the Parts Together to Create an Integrated Early Care and Education System." The proposal was written by Dr. Clifford and several members of the NC Child Care Coalition. The 2004 proposal was not acted upon that year but could be the starting point for current consolidation discussions.

The meeting was basically for informational purposes so that everyone present would understand the parts of the early childhood system and its history.

**Good news!** All materials from the Task Force meetings will be available at the Task Force's Documents website:

<http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/DocumentSites/browseDocSite.asp?nID=62&sFolderName=\Meetings>

Click on the first link, meetings, to see the agenda and the presentations from yesterday. The second link is just a copy of the language in this year's budget bill establishing the Task Force.

Additionally, here is where to go for information on the Task Force membership:

[http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Committees/Committees.asp?sAction=ViewCommittee&sActionDetails=Non-standing\\_6430](http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Committees/Committees.asp?sAction=ViewCommittee&sActionDetails=Non-standing_6430)

**NEXT MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE: Wednesday, January 20, 2010, Room 421, LOB, 2 p.m.**

**Note:** This is a change from the 1:00 p.m. time previously scheduled.