



MARYLAND STATE CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING -IN PERSON
Board Meeting DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Meeting Call to Order at pm

Need 11 for Quorum

Board Members		Chapter Representatives	
Executive Director- Chris Peusch-	0	Anne Arundel County—Courtney Feather	A
President- Lisa Dickinson	1	Baltimore City— Annie Reyes	
1 st Vice Pres.– Ruthi Claytor	2	Baltimore County—Caitlyn Holley	
2 nd Vice Pres.– Imani Angela Rose		Baltimore County—	
Secretary- Astrid Crookshank	3	Carroll County - Amanda Beacham	11
Treasurer—Vacant		Carroll County—	
Immediate Past President—Marina Maier	4		
Business Rep—Barry Benesch	5	Frederick Co –Cindi Webb	
Member-at-Large—Carolina Reyes	6	Harford County—Julie Dobies	
Member-at-Large—Kristen Miller	7	Howard County—Randi Albertsen	12
Member-at-Large—Deb Kamplain		PG County—Deborah Williams	
Member at-Large — Quandra Green	8	MoCo County—Jan Williams OR	
Member-at-Large–Diane Mellott	9	MoCo County - Tracey Clay	13
Member-at-Large– Rita Harrell	10	Washington County—April Singleton OR	14
Alt Member-at-Large - Drukeenu Nolan no vo		Washington County—Harmony Wilson	15
Guest -		Guest Marc Creighton, Kullman Assoc	
Guest- Joan Johnson		Guest -	

Members noted present with a number to establish voting Quorum. 0= present but non voting , If 2 Chapter leaders present = 1 vote

Board Meeting Agenda

Date: May 21, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Goals and Outcomes:

1. MSCCA Conference by the Sea 2026 gratitude and success

**2. Advocacy recap from session-Elly Cowan Compass and Legislative Committee Chairs,
ED-Maryland**

Insurance Commission hearing on General

*Liability insurance issues for child care businesses in May and local updates- AA County, Baltimore City, MoCo, and
PG County local advocacy*

3. Office of Child Care Advisory Council highlights

4. Passion for Excellence Grant- report out approval from Board

5. PreK workgroup- PreK feedback awards and concerns – document and more feedback needed

1. Call to Order

Time: 12:15 PM

Presenter: President

2. Financial Report

Time: 12:20 PM

Presenter: Kullman Accounting – sent reports for Feb, March and April.

MOTION 1 Kristin/Marina approve the financial reports. Vote passed

3. Quorum and Approval of Minutes for April Meeting

Time: 12:25 PM Presenter: Secretary

Motion 2: April/Ruthi Accept the April Minutes.

4. Chapter Reports

Time: 12:30 PM

Presenters: Chapter leadership

a. Chapters report out on their meetings and progress

b. Nominating Committee finalize schedule of meetings and work- see below

**c. Chapters meeting schedules and support for 2026- opportunities to use Bainum
funds to hire professional
strategists**

5. Committee Reports

Time: 12:45 PM

Presenters: Committee Chairs

a. Membership Committee- Cait, Kristen, Lisa

a. Scripts – necessary for Board engagement to reach out to non-renewed members- proration July 1

b. New strategies to expand- professional strategist opportunities

Kristin reported the membership list is being reviewed for duplicates and wrong addresses. Denise shared the list with items marked for review to the co chairs yesterday.

b. Professional Development Committee- Astrid, Cait

a. CONGRATULATIONS and feedback!

Overall feeling of huge success for our first conference at the convention center. Many thanks to everyone who worked ahead of time and all day every day onsite. Overall the feedback from attendees continues to be very positive, the virtual platform was smoother and better than ever. Raffle sales increased, made over 12k for the Passion for excellence grant. Shirt sales were overall less than last year, the team will adjust orders and possibly add other items for 2027. Growing collaboration with LCAM was so appreciated, really added to the team. Great feedback for the Wellness room and the hotel activities, mixed feedback for food, and timing issues in the schedule. Will review and change what is possible as we plan for 2027. Running feedback collected from all committee members reviewed at the PDC last week, already working on new ideas, possible keynotes and themes for next year. Carolina: Spanish community really appreciated the Spanish-language track. The wellness room had great feedback, definitely want to include again next year. Many sponsors supported in new ways, very appreciated.

NOTE - October 15 Leadership Symposium.

c. Nominating Committee-Marina

a. Schedule meetings and assign the committee

Barry Benesch nominated to Cochair committee with Marina, he accepted. Board is asking for volunteers to be on the committee, names in Chat. If anyone on the committee is nominated and wishes to accept a nomination, the co chairs would have them remove themselves from the committee before any meetings take place. Barry and Marina will follow up with a Zoom meeting. Discussion to clarify who can run for office. A regular member can run for any office, except the president needs to be someone who has been on the board for 2 full terms already. Individual members can only be nominated for member at large

d. Advocacy and Legislative Committee-Carolina, Randi

a. Sine die April 13 th -legislative session concludes

b. Budget and bills – provide info and prep for Town hall and CBTS Sunday keynote on advocacy updates

c. New coalition formed with MSCCA support to take over Montgomery Moving Forward's work- May 7 event to launch- Chris will invite C Impact to share details at June Board meeting

The new coalition did break out in small groups, discussed the early childhood career lattice, to get people's feedback on that. They reviewed the legislation as we did today and talked about the child care credentialing. There were some updates about the training community and House Bill 477, which is licensing, the PreK Tiger teams and the survey results. Finding and recommendations were discussed,. And they're looking for more people to be a part of the advisory group.

Mscca board members are invited to join the advisory group to finish out this report, make some concrete recommendations for licensing. Just pretty much what happens this morning.

6. New Businss

Time: 1:15 PM

Presenter: Elly, Carolina, Randi, Chris

a. Advocacy and Legislative Committee

b. Sine die April 13 th -legislative session concludes- Numerous bills signed into law and child care package signing on May 26 th at 11:00 AM in Annapolis!

c. Maryland Insurance Administrative Hearing on Child Care and Liability Insurance-thanks advocates!

Elly Owen, Guest.

4th session working together with MSCCA. Some takeaways from this year. Saw leadership changes this year in the House and new Early Childhood dedicated subcommittee. Early Childhood advocates now have a stronger seat at the table, but there is still much work to do. Fiscal pressures seen in this session will only increase next year, so we need to look for sustainable funding sources for CCS and other investments. Anticipate more changes this coming year with elections and retirements.

Chris: Advocacy is a large art of the MSCCA mission, so Board needs to stay informed.

The funding we were able to secure this year in several different bills, amounts to an additional \$38 million dollars. Also prioritizing the child care workforce within CCS. Families that qualify for prek expansion will soon be notified.

Licensing Bill did not move forward, the bill did not make the crossover deadline this year, came very close with sponsorship, but ran out of time. Effort for this bill is not wasted, the connections will be there next year, and can move it forward sooner.

New Child Care/Early Childhood Bills will be signed by the Governor on May 26.

Background check bill that passed, creates a centralized clearinghouse within MSDE which should help streamline process and make it more transparent. MSDE testified for this as well.

Credential program funding extension into this next year and funded from 2028 to 2030. Got the same amount of funding for credentialing as the previous year to support this upcoming year.

Overall saw more focus this year on supporting the Early Childhood workforce.

Growing family childcare opportunities this year, supported the family child care bills for startup assistance. Also bill to allow for Substitute for FCC for those providers serving in the military.

HB 748 makes career ladder permanent, supporting providers in mixed delivery PreK.

Randi, Advocacy need more people coming to testify and share stories, beyond the committee members from MSCCA.

Carolina had opportunity to go to Quebec to visit early universal child hood programs there. Saw that they empower women to be part of the workforce and education. It was great to learn from another country, and the long process towards their successes.

- d. Local advocacy – Baltimore City ECAC – advocacy new funding and messaging***
- e. Local changes to Anne Arundel County tax incentives for child care property taxes passed bill***
- f. Prince George's County- new changes in support for child care programs***
- g. MECEC May 7 th event to introduce new umbrella coalition organization***

Presenter: Astrid and Cait

- a. CBTS 2026- super successful feedback and MSCCA Leadership Symposium in Columbia on October***

15th

- b. OCC Advisory Council meeting discussion points to highlight***

- c. PreK workgroup report- more info collected and shared with Board- Board feedback from their experience***

Over 207 applicants applied this year for pre-K, doubled from last year, with funds at \$20,000 per kid. Out of the 207 that applied, only 50 were approved. And then there were 30 conditional approved, they have enough to fund over 800 seats.

They may be reaching out to others if they don't get everyone approved, curious to see the barometer for who gets approval. For example, Kim Ritchie, applied 40 or 46 and only got like 20. She's the only person in Washington County that applied. So not sure why they were cut. What are they looking for? Want Data to be clear and transparent.

- a. Issues still around application and GIG***

- b. Grant Manual***

- c. Sliding scale enrollment***

- d. ELL and Special Needs ineligibility***

- e. Transparency and consistency in grant award process***

Old Business

Time: 1:45 PM

Presenter: Board of Directors

Discussion: Follow-up on unresolved items from previous meetings

a. Nominating Committee- schedule ready and shared! Thanks Marina!- All Board who are participating please be assigned to Nominating Committee with info for Marina to contact..

b. Chapters meeting schedules and support for 2026- opportunities to use Bainum funds to hire professional strategists -discussion

c. Town Hall April 22- feedback

8. Open Forum

Time: 2:00 PM

Presenter: Board of Directors

Discussion: Open floor for board members to raise additional issues or comments

Chris sending out information about leadership development opportunities for this board with some strategic planning, orientation and onboarding. Some real support for our chapters because that is how we're going to expand and grow. Using some of the Bainum Grant funds to help MSCCA grow to be more effective in its mission moving forward. Have proposals from 2 groups, will distribute and get feedback. Will mean additional meetings in June.

9. Adjournment

Time: 2:10-2:15 PM

Presenter: President

Next Meeting is virtual and scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2026 at noon