

We envision Illinois as a place where every young child – regardless of race, ethnicity, income, language, geography, ability, immigration status, or other circumstance – receives the strongest possible start to life so that they grow up safe, healthy, happy, ready to succeed, and eager to learn.

**Illinois Early Learning Council
Executive Committee Meeting
February 6, 2023**

Join from the meeting link

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m867847dbb8e5de2a78d11f6bc446e209>

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 2459 133 4165

Meeting password: TyEquWrA453

Agenda

2:00 PM Welcome, Purpose, & Updates

PDG Award, Budget, and State of the State updates
ELC Co-chairs Phyllis Glink, Executive Director, Irving B. Harris Foundation & Martin Torres, Deputy Governor for Education, Office of the Governor JB Pritzker

2:30 PM Data Presentation & Discussion

Ben Boer, Education Systems Center, Northern Illinois University
Theresa Hawley, CELFE, Northern Illinois University
Afton Partners

3:30 PM – 3:40 PM Break

4:15 PM Agency Updates

ISBE shares update on RFP feedback. Other agencies will provide update in the written report

4:50 PM Public Comment

5:00 PM END

Racial Equity Definition: A racially equitable society values and embraces all racial/ethnic identities. In such a society, one's racial/ethnic identity (particularly Black, Latino, Indigenous, and Asian) is not a factor in an individual's ability to prosper. An early learning system that is racially equitable is driven by data and ensures that:

- Every young child and family regardless of race, ethnicity, and social circumstance has everything s/he/they need to develop optimally;
- Resources, opportunities, rewards, and burdens are fairly distributed across groups and communities so that those with the greatest challenges are adequately supported and not further disadvantaged; and
- Systems and policies are designed, reframed, or eliminated to promote greater justice for children and families.

Racial Equity Priorities:

- 1) Align and standardize race/ethnicity data collection and reporting;
- 2) Evaluate and identify whether processes for distributing resources exacerbate racial disparities, including agency contracting;
- 3) Address race/ethnicity disparities in terms of workforce compensation and advancement;