Welcome
Welcome to the call. Who has joined us? The minutes and recording will be available on the PHSA website in the near future.

Federal
1. Budget update
   a. Continuing Resolution is scheduled this week so that funding is extended through 20 December
   b. Update from NHSA viewpoint:
      The House literally just passed (11.19.19) a CR until 12/20. They are expected to skip town tomorrow to force the Senate to vote on that CR without changes by Thursday night when the shutdown would occur. We understand that they are all very close to a final agreement and do expect that they will iron everything out by the end of the year. The main issue is the top-line number. We are confident that Head Start will get a funding increase, but it is unclear how large of an increase we’ll get - that will likely depend on the topline conversations.

2. Call to Action from NHSA: Freshmen Working Group on Addiction
As part of their efforts, the Working Group circulated a letter amongst their members asking the House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee to increase funding for Head Start and Early Head Start in order to address the childhood trauma that too often accompanies substance use. They needed Head Start help getting members of the Working Group to sign this letter!

   The Freshmen Working Group on Addiction, comprised of 63 members of the House from both parties, was created earlier this year to promote policies to address addiction and substance abuse across the country. The letter from the Working Group to the Appropriations Subcommittee requests increased funding for Head Start as a way of addressing some of the impacts of substance use disorder through increased workforce supports, trauma-informed training, and more.

   Pennsylvania has eight freshman on this group and PHSA contacted each of them. We have confirmed Reschenthaler, Dean, Wild and Lamb signed the letter. Meuser did not. Unknown about Joyce, Scanlon and Houlanah.

3. Have programs had issues with Exempt vs. Non-Exempt Status within the context of the new over-time laws? Has the Federal Dpt of Labor indicated HS, HSSAP, PreK Counts teachers do not meet the definition of teacher?
   Discussion: Programs rely on their HR Department to determine exempt/non-exempt status. Teachers work less than 52 weeks per year so that supports the determination. Department of
Labor identifies on Fact Sheet 17D from September 2019, [https://www.dol.gov/whd/overtime/fs17d_professional.htm](https://www.dol.gov/whd/overtime/fs17d_professional.htm).

Can PHSA look into this issue and offer more definition? PHSA will seek information from others and offer what we learn.

NHSA

1. Check out the interactive Data Analytics Playbook which is available to everyone on-line. NHSA seeks feedback so work through the interactive Playbook. A link was shared in the PHSA November Newsletter.
   a. One program on the call has briefly reviewed the Data Playbook and shared it with Data Specialist in her program. She does like the language for recruitment.

2. Has your program begun to plan to attend the Winter Leadership Institute in DC? This is scheduled 27-30 January 2020. Great opportunity to attend sessions to develop advocacy skills and meeting with your representatives in DC. Legislator visit time is built into the schedule of the week. PHSA highly encourages all programs to consider sending staff and parents. We would like to organize meetings with PA State senators and others. Check the NHSA website for more details as conference registration is now open, [https://www.nhsa.org/event/2020-winter-leadership-institute](https://www.nhsa.org/event/2020-winter-leadership-institute). Early Bird rate available through 6 December.

State

1. The state has announced an initiative for MCOs to conduct two post-partum evident-based home visiting.
   a. Kara spoke with a representative from an MCO this morning who shared DHS and MCOs had a meeting in October. MCOs sent questions to DHS which have not been answered. There is a Family Engagement with OCDEL today and all are hoping there is more clarity for the home visiting models.
   b. Have programs been contacted by MCOs?
      i. No direct contact for programs on the call, as of yet.
      ii. One director on the call indicated she had been told MCOs were to contact programs.
   c. Do programs have questions?
      i. One director on the call stated she had been informed the MCOs had the money to conduct the visits.
   d. Is there anything programs need from PHSA?

2. PACCA/OCDEL host a Market Rate Survey webinar on 4 December, entitled Market Rate Survey and You. The link to this free session is promoted in the November PHSA Newsletter.

3. Early Care and Educator Workforce Surveys are available from the Professional Development (PDOs) for the regions. Shippensburg U and Public Health Management
Corporation (PHMC) each have a link for the regions in their territory. These are available through early December as one part of the needs assessment.

PHSA

1. Health and Safety conference 3-4 December
   Registration is still open and includes valuable conversation for program teams around child safety and well-being.

2. Admin Meeting 4-5 December
   a. Brenda Hewitt, Nyanda Finley De Santos, Tara Dwyer are on the Agenda.
   b. Fresh content: Dig into PHSA Draft Public Policy Agenda, Unpack Ready to Start Task Force Report

3. Board Meeting 5-6 December
   a. Registration posted on paheadstart.org

4. Save the Dates:
   a. Admin February
   b. Request for Proposals will be released in December for AC2020.
   c. Home-based Institute 27-28 April 2020
   d. Pre-Conference is 28 April 2020
   e. PHSA Annual Conference 29-30 April 2020

5. Census
   a. Resources in newsletter, table at Summit, table at AC2020
   b. What plans do programs have in place to promote Census completion?
   c. Census resources are available in the PHSA monthly newsletter.
   d. Dr. Faith Lamb-Parker is promoting an early childhood Census program, We Count! Materials are available in multiple languages. Learn more: [https://www.wecountkids.org/?utm_campaign=fc673439-91b3-4084-8343-e2e91ae2d87d&utm_medium=lp&utm_source=so](https://www.wecountkids.org/?utm_campaign=fc673439-91b3-4084-8343-e2e91ae2d87d&utm_medium=lp&utm_source=so)

6. Contact Kara for Cookbook events.

7. New Staff: Laura Michael, Office Manager and Finance Coordinator

8. Staff Change: Carrie Spina as Membership Engagement

9. Giving Tuesday: PHSA is promoting itself for Amazon Smile. PHSA will promote on FB for others to consider donating/purchasing classroom materials for their local Head Start/EHS programs. Consider developing an Amazon wishlist.

Campaigns and Early Learning Pennsylvania (ELPA)

1 November 2019 began a new three year funding cycle with all 3 campaigns, PreK for PA, Childhood Begins at Home and Start Strong, collaborating together. The campaigns have in the past several years have developed their collaborations, campaign committees, capital and state-wide events and strategies. The campaigns and activities are central to the work PHSA does with our members through district visits, program activities, Calls to Action, caravans, letter writing and making holiday ornaments.
Thank you to all of the PHSA member programs who have signed up for campaigns, hosted state legislator visits in district and at the capital, participated in caravans, met with rep and senator staff locally and federally to grow early learning funding in PA!

The recent ELPA petition benefitted all 3 campaigns urging Gov. Wolfe to further invest in early learning across the continuum of services. Thank you to all who signed on to the petition. More than 1500 individual signatures and 200 supporting organizations signed from the promotion work among all of the campaign partners. These signatures speak loudly on behalf of the early care and education community which includes Head Start, HSSAP, PreK Counts, child care, infant and toddlers, home visiting and family providers.

Recently PreK Counts/HSSAP classrooms in some key districts were invited to participate in creating ornaments for the tree at the capital and host visits with those key senators and representatives in their district. Thank you to the programs who participated as part of the work of the PreK for PA campaign. Activities like these and the social media visibility make a difference on state budget decisions.

PHSA continues to contact individual programs asking to schedule district events for our campaign responsibilities. Programs please send Kara photos and descriptions of events scheduled locally. These represent the many ways Head Start programs advocate and PHSA seeks to document all of the efforts, locally, at state level and federally. Thank you!

**DRS**

PHSA is rethinking the kind of support and approaches it can offer programs who may be in DRS or may have concerns of being placed in DRS. PHSA welcomes a call if you think you will be in the situation of DRS so that we can share other programs’ experiences, connect programs, and offer resources. PHSA anticipates developing a DRS Work Group for DRS response and support.

**Q&A**