The policy regarding Children on Campus was drafted by the Student Development Committee, which is a standing committee of the EAC. It was developed in response to problems throughout the district regarding children on PCC property. The SDC works with policies regarding PCC students, so the primary focus of this policy is the children of PCC students rather than staff.

Here are two issue that we are working to address:

1) There have been a number of incidents where students bring their children on-campus and do not actively supervise them. Children are sometimes left unattended in hallways, on the lawn, in the library, at computer stations, on the shuttles, etc. while parents are in class or are attending to college business. Older children sometimes meet to play computer games and cause problems in PCC buildings. Public Safety and other college staff need a policy to address these situations.

This aspect of the policy does not seem to be causing disagreement around the district.

2) The second issue relates to children in classroom settings. Here is some of the information we considered:

- Current registration policy states that only registered students be allowed to attend classes (with the exception of OSD accommodations such as interpreters, note takers, aides, etc).
- There are a number of hazards in classroom settings and children may be at risk. The college has a greater risk of liability. In the case of an extreme emergency, PCC would not know that children may be present in a classroom.
- The presence of children in a classroom may benefit a parent, but it may jeopardize the child or other students.
- Registered offenders are enrolled in a number of PCC classes. As a condition of their probation or parole, most of these students cannot have any contact with minors. They are carefully screened for enrollment in classes with no underage children. They also need to be in classrooms away from childcare facilities. Bringing children into their classrooms causes serious problems for them. Other students and faculty are usually not aware of these situations.
- Students with attention issues are often easily distracted. Even well-behaved children may fidget, whisper to parents, need to leave the room for breaks, etc. These are distractions for a number of students who expect a controlled classroom environment. Students have complained that children in classrooms often cause distractions and are not removed – other students feel they cannot complain.
- Some instructors have said they do not want children in the classroom, but feel pressured. They want a clear policy to follow.
- PCC is an adult environment. Classroom discussions may not be appropriate for children – the classroom is not a childcare facility.

3) Students who wish to appeal a situation, or who fail to comply, may follow the Code of Student Conduct hearing process.