It’s Open Enrollment
Don’t forget to continually update your slot vacancy information!

Providers Publication
EDITION 31: JULY 2023

IN THE LOOP

ELC Brevard’s go-to resource for Teachers and Early Learning Partners

News & Updates

- PROVIDER SERVICES
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- MONITORING & COMPLIANCE
- EARLY INTERVENTION
- PROGRAM ASSESSMENT
- TEACHER RESOURCES
- CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES
- QUALITY
- CCR&R
- MISSION MOMENTS

Presented by
Chinaka Grizzle
Professional Development Specialist ELCB

Proudly Supported By:
United Way

Happy 4th of JULY
INDEPENDENCE DAY
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Summertime is here......... congratulations to all our students, teachers and providers for another successful year!!! This year has been challenging, enlightening and a year of growing and building together.

This year brought a focused effort and funding support from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA). The funding introduced a range of much needed financial incentives to assist and stabilize our Early Learning Educators and providers. The incentives for teachers and instructors are designed to support their retention and upskilling and continued commitment to the profession of early education. This support has helped our providers invest and support all the early educational efforts and inspire TEACHERS AND INSTRUCTORS to grow and learn! And our children and families gain from these efforts.

As we celebrate summer and reflect on this past school year, I’d like to take a moment to acknowledge our Board of Directors and our Board Chair, Alan Bergman, who govern and guide us here at ELC Brevard! Our provider representatives, Dee Helbig and James Box, who bring knowledge, experience and time to ELC Brevard. And I’d also like to recognize our leadership team who work hard each day in helping us move forward – Amaris Rosario, Harriet Paredes, Eneida Colon, Jodi Ammons, Paige Hoskins and Jeannie Williams. We truly are an amazing group!

And special SHOUT OUT to one very special member of our Professional Development team who authors this provider newsletter each month with patience, kindness and an unwavering commitment to telling our stories, Chinaka Grizzle! Thank you Chinaka for all your hard work and efforts each day.........
Good Day Providers-

Wishing you a happy and cool summer!!!

1. VPK Contracts due- please reach out to your assigned Provider Relations Coordinator if you need assistance.

   Dallas Michaud (Providers A-K)
   dmichaud@elcbrevard.org
   Provider Relations Coordinator
   321 626-4935 x 8562

   Shivani Veerasami (Providers L-Z)
   sveerasami@elcbrevard.org
   Provider Relations Coordinator
   321 626-4935 x 8562

   Lauren Detweiler (BPS)
   ldetweiler@elcbrevard.org
   Program Assessment and Contract Assistant
   321 358-4002 x 8562

2. Childcare partners are a key component to the successful implementation of this valuable program. All new, prospective providers wishing to offer SR and/or VPK services must attend a New Provider Orientation, submit the required paperwork to the Coalition or its designee, and receive an onsite visit to ensure compliance with legislative requirements.

   Existing contracted providers are welcome to attend as a refresher.

   ELCB is offering Provider Orientation monthly. Providers must register on the ELC Calendar which can be found on our website:

   https://www.elcbrevard.org/p/90/calendar.
Effective July 1st, 2023, stipends for CLASS Group Coaching and Tuesday's Certified Coaching Hour have come to an end, until further notice. However, we would strongly encourage you to continue participating in Tuesday's Certified coaching hour, and registering for our CLASS Group Coaching courses as both are beneficial for the preparation for your CLASS assessments.

We hope you well. **July is here**, and as you wrap up summer camp programs, it’s time to prepare for the new school year, and as you do so think about what worked well, and what you can change this upcoming year, it is also a wonderful time to consult with your ELC coach. **Remember we are here to assist you.**

The following are three amazing conferences. Please take some time out to attend with your staff team:

- **Soar to Success Summit for Early Childhood Educators** (Online- Free Summit)  
  **July 13-16, 2023**  
  [https://soartosuccesssummit.com/](https://soartosuccesssummit.com/)

- **One Goal Summer Conference**  
  [https://www.onegoalsummerconference.org/](https://www.onegoalsummerconference.org/)  
  **July 19-21, 2023**  
  Hilton Tampa Downtown  
  211 North Tampa Street, Tampa, Florida

- **Zero to Three Conference**  
  **September 19-20, 2023**  
  Minneapolis Convention Center  
  [https://signature.zerotothree.org/registration-and-hotels/](https://signature.zerotothree.org/registration-and-hotels/)

CLASS Assessments will begin for the new fiscal year. **The Children's Forum** will continue to conduct observations, please make sure to notify your **Contract Specialist and our Provider Services Coordinator** of changes in your instructional staff or Director, as this assist the observation planning process & Assessors. **School Readiness providers**, please ensure to update your staff information on your Quality Performance System (QPS). For assistance in preparing for your upcoming CLASS assessments, please reach out to our Professional Development teams certified Coaches. After registering for our online or face-to-face trainings, if you can no longer attend, **please contact us** so that your space can be offered to another participant.

QPS monthly rosters are due the last day of each month, with the exception of those providers on Quality Improvement Plan you will not be able to complete the roster until your plan has been completed. Please update your teacher email addresses on QPS it eases the dissemination of information.

Don’t forget to join us on our **Monthly Directors Chat**, the last Thursday of each month 1pm - 2pm. As always feel free to contact us if you have any questions.
Register now for "Taming the Behavior Beast with the Pyramid Model"

Please register so we can plan fun things for you!

* Required

1. Full name *

Enter your answer

2. Title: (example, Director, Assistant Director, Teacher) *

Enter your answer
As a reminder, the VPK staff person who will be administering the FAST using Star Early Literacy will need to have taken the required training prior to administering the assessment.

To complete the VPK FAST training requirements, participants will need to register in Renaissance-U (Ren-U) using the Ren-U Enrollment Guidance and complete one of the below courses that meet VPK FAST training requirements.

The below Ren-U courses meet VPK FAST training requirements:

- VPK Test Administrators Getting Started with FAST Star Early Literacy Assessment (English)
- VPK Test Administrators Getting Started with FAST Star Early Literacy Assessment (Spanish)

A certificate of completion is issued in Ren-U for participants upon completion. This certificate or an individual’s Department of Children and Families (DCF) Child Care Training Transcript reflecting the Imported Course, Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Star Early Literacy are both acceptable forms of documentation. Note, these courses do not have hours or CEUs.

Participants that have an existing Ren-U account should use the below instructions to access training.

1. To access Ren-U, login to the VPK Renaissance Testing Site or [https://www.renaissance-u.com/#/login](https://www.renaissance-u.com/#/login) and enter the email address you used when registering and enter your password.

2. Once logged in, click this link [https://www.renaissance-u.com/?KeyName=VPKFLCSPM](https://www.renaissance-u.com/?KeyName=VPKFLCSPM)

3. A pop-up will appear on your screen and will display the Key Name as VPKFLCSPM. Click the blue Launch button.

4. Another pop-up will appear on your screen to confirm the new courses. Click the blue Course button. This will take you directly to the Courses page of Ren-U.

Participants that are new to Ren-U, should use the below instructions to create an account and access training.

Participants must carefully register by entering their information according to the below registration instructions for the course to be imported onto their DCF transcript upon course completion. Ren-U course records are received every Monday and sent to DCF. DCF imports are not automatic, and processing may take up to 2 weeks.

1. Click this link [https://www.renaissance-u.com/?KeyName=VPKFLCSPM](https://www.renaissance-u.com/?KeyName=VPKFLCSPM) and complete the Sign-Up form by filling out all required fields.

2. In the First Name field, enter your name as it appears in your DCF profile.

3. In the Last Name field, enter your name as it appears in your DCF profile.

4. In the Email field, enter the email address used to login to your DCF profile.

5. In the Job Title field, enter VPK FAST Test Administrator.

6. In the Employee Number field, enter your DCF Student ID.

7. In the Location field, enter your early learning coalition.

8. Verify all required fields have been completed according to the above registrations instructions and click Sign Up.
9. Now you will be directed to the Ren-U Dashboard. Click on Your Library to access the courses.

If you need to update information in your Ren-U Profile you will need to complete this form. In the Product dropdown, select FAST/VPK/K-2 and include the following information: full name and email as they appear in both DCF and Ren-U profiles, DCF Student ID and your early learning coalition (ELC)-BREVARD. VPK Program administrators, teachers, staff and test administrators are encouraged but not required to complete the highly recommended courses listed below to support VPK FAST Star Early Literacy implementation.

The below Ren-U courses are highly recommended to support VPK FAST Star Early Literacy implementation:

- VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Training Course for Star Early Literacy Screening Data and Reports
- VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Training Course for Star Early Literacy for Planning Targeted Instruction

Questions pertaining to FAST using Star Early Literacy please visit DEL’s website: https://www.floridaearlylearning.com/vpk/fast.

We hope you all had a happy, safe & meaningful 4th July

"May we think of freedom, not as a right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right"
Ms. Cara Adams, the VPK Director from Coastal Community School emailed ELCB stating "I want to recognize and nominate Mrs. Anntoinette Urdaneta, for the coalition's Teacher of The Month feature... and of course we here at ELCB are happy to oblige, because we have so much respect for the amazing Mrs Anntoinette!!

Mrs. Anntoinette is fondly known as "Mrs U", she has a lifelong career in education, including homeschool and preschool. She is a dedicated, hard-working, and compassionate teacher.

Mrs. U has worked for Coastal Community School since 2018. She is a legend amongst our families, some of who have had multiple siblings graduate from her sweet class.

Mrs. U is passionate about teaching her students about the love of Jesus, in addition to all of the preschool standards, developmental milestones, targets, and student growth, it is her ministry that young children know Jesus.

Mrs. U is also a loyal friend, and supportive peer to her colleagues. She lifts them up in prayer and goes above and beyond duty when needed to help others.

Mrs. U is diligently focused on her own Professional Development, such is her intentionality in strengthening her craft. She attends compulsory and non compulsory courses, and she is also working towards her director certification. She truly shines, personally and professionally!

We want to recognize the amazing Teachers in your centers who have gone above and beyond.

Email your nominations with a photo and biography to ldiggs@elcbrevard.org before the 20th of each month. Tell us how and why your Teacher is a SHINING STAR! who has earned his or her place in the TEACHER OF THE MONTH HALL OF FAME

We are beyond grateful for Mrs. U in all her efforts and accomplishments. We are delighted to welcome her back for another year at Coastal Community School in the fall!
Can we talk about structure? When CLASS® entered my life, I was 20 years into my career in the field of early childhood education. What I remember most about that initial training, besides the nervousness about an impending reliability test, was a sense of relief. Structure, including state and program standards, curriculum, materials in the classroom, and approaches to childcare and pedagogy, had dominated my working hours. CLASS was a lot to learn, but for me, it was a breath of fresh air. Observing with CLASS meant I could set aside my obsession with all things structural, which encompassed my thoughts every time I walked into an early childhood classroom.

For me, though, focusing on the process, or what adults do within a program structure as defined by the CLASS dimensions, revealed an all too true reality. The classroom structure present in any given program has a strong influence on adults’ interactions with the children in their care. While a thoughtful program structure may encourage rich adult-child interactions, many approaches to early childhood program delivery hinder an adult’s ability to interact effectively.

**STRUCTURAL APPROACHES THAT SUPPORT EFFECTIVE INTERACTIONS INCLUDE:**

- Flexibility within predictable routines
- Less large group times
- Short small group times
- Ample free-choice times
- For very young children – individual schedules

**STRUCTURES THAT MAY HINDER EFFECTIVE INTERACTIONS INCLUDE:**

- Toddler routines in large groups, such as all in the bathroom, or washing hands, or brushing teeth.
- Long wait times in lines, meals, and transitions
- Curriculum delivered to fidelity that lacks flexibility for children’s interests.
- Large group times, particularly those where adult talk dominates.
- Very young children forced into the same schedule.

We are often stuck with structural issues that are challenging or impossible to change. An example that comes to mind is building structure; the bathrooms, for instance, are down a school hallway. Or staffing may dictate the need to move the children in large groups. Sometimes, we are convinced it is easier to accomplish a routine with the entire group of toddlers so that the room will all nap or eat or play on the same schedule. It takes creativity, and adult buy-in to make structural changes. Acknowledging the effect structure is having on the process is a significant first step. Making changes to program structures that support quality educator-child interactions takes being willing to stick to it for longer than a week, or even two weeks, to see meaningful results. Are you interested in improving the structure of your program?
In infant classrooms, allow children to eat and sleep on their own schedule. Change diapers on demand, rather than all at the same time.

At toddler tooth brushing time, provide activities that keep children busy, and then bring one or two children at a time to the sink to brush.

Ditch the calendar and weather at preschool large group time. Instead, gather for an interactive group meeting, story, or a fun dancing activity. Keep it short and upbeat and encourage a lot of child talk throughout.

Analyze your CLASS data by times of the day. Do you notice trends in quality? Use your data to problem-solve structural changes to the daily routine.

Ready for long-term, meaningful change? Consider professional development opportunities for your classroom staff that blend the process of CLASS-based interactions with appropriate program structure. Check out our online program, CDA (Child Development Associate) with CLASS. A basic understanding of the CLASS tool is integrated into course learning experiences, with an emphasis on positive relationships and interactions in early childhood education settings. CDA with CLASS is available at two levels: Pre-K and Infant-Toddler.

Eligibility Requirements

- Guardian must be a Florida resident
- Children must be 4 years old on or before September 1
- There are NO income requirements

Required Documents:
- Proof you live in Florida (utility bill, current ID, rental agreement, etc.)
- Your child’s birth certificate, passport or immunization record

www.elcbrevard.org
How to make **Glow in the Dark** Sensory Bottles

Here's what you'll need to create these bottles:

- Empty water bottles
- Water
- Baby oil or bath oil
- Glitter to match your colors
- Food coloring
- Glow Sticks

Fill your water bottles 4/5 of the way full with water. Then add some glitter and 5 drops of food coloring (if you choose). Add 1/4 cup of baby oil being sure to leave a little room at the top without any liquid so the bottles will shake nicely.
Get Book Smart!

We are thrilled to announce the launch of BookSmart - a digital library that offers free access to a wide range of books for children. This library, developed by Worldreader, is designed to foster a love of reading, promote literacy, and provide an enjoyable and educational experience. With BookSmart, children can explore books in English and Spanish, and access them from any device, making reading both accessible and convenient. Worldreader is constantly expanding the collection of books and they are committed to providing a diverse collection of books that caters to every child’s interests and reading level.

BookSmart Quick Start Instructions:
Option 1 - Access the unique Florida URL: https://booksmart.world/facct
Option 2 - Scan the unique Florida QR code.

Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards

Florida adopted the Florida Early Learning and Development Standards Birth to Kindergarten in December 2017. The standards and benchmarks reflect the knowledge and skills that a child on a developmental progression should know and be able to do at the end of an age-related timeframe.

During their first five years, young children undergo the most rapid & dramatic changes in terms of their Physical Development, Social & Emotional Development, Language Development, Cognition and Cognitive Development, than at any other time in their lives.

As Educators, we are responsible for feeding and nurturing their learning, growth and development.

In future editions of “In The Loop” we will be reviewing the Early Learning Developmental Standards as a means of refocusing us on Child Development and how best we can support that.

http://flbt5.floridaearlylearning.com/standards.html#d=I&a=birth_to_eight-months,18-24_months,eight_to_eighteen-months,three_year_olds,two_year_olds,four_year olds
June 10, 2023, Sylvia Thomas, Community Outreach Coordinator attended the 2023 Summit of Seven Event at Eastern Florida State College’s Melbourne Campus.

This was the 29th Annual celebration for the Conference whose focus is empowering Boys and Men in the community. This is a joint venture between Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in Palm Bay and Eastern Florida State College.

ELC shared materials on the School Readiness and VPK Programs, CCR&R, and resources.

ELC Brevard were delighted to invite Teachers and Providers who have completed the CLASS Group Coaching for Infants and Toddlers to collect invaluable Social, Emotional Behavioral Kits, and cognitive Development kits for their classrooms.

Ms. Young Cadieu from Berry Patch Malabar, collected kits for herself & colleagues, Ms. Yumiko and Ms. Alicia, all cohort 5 Graduates! YOU ROCK!

"Because a picture speaks a thousand words"

Do you have a picture that speaks "A thousand words?"

Share with us your special events awesome activities or community initiatives

Please send pictures to cgrizzle@elcbrevard.org

Mission Moments -
Notices

Join us on our Monthly Directors Chat!
It's the last Thursday of each month
Time: 1 pm - 2 pm.
Be a part of this growing "Networking Community".

Don't miss out! THIS ELC forum is for you!
Join us on our Monthly Directors Chat!

Tuesdays 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm ET
June 27 to August 1, 2023
No session on July 4th
Register on Eventbrite - see QR code

facilitated by
Sarah Baca, MSW Intern - sbacadp@psfl.org
Supervised by Paula Lupton, LCSW Clinical Director - plupton@psfl.org
and Ashley Hutchinson, MSW -ahutchinson@psfl.org
Positive Behavioral Solutions | 901 Douglas Ave. Ste. 100B | Altamonte Springs, Florida

Reach out to someone that C.A.R.E.S.

C.A.R.E.S. is a voluntary program where parents ask for help. A variety of services from different agencies come together to "wrapsaround" your needs and help prevent child neglect before it starts.

CALL US TODAY!

321-866-1654
Program Supervisor: Latoya Dukes

Parenting comes with its share of challenges and some are more difficult to deal with than others. If you find yourself in a stressful state of mind and in need of help, reach out to C.A.R.E.S.

Brevard C.A.R.E.S. works with you and your family and wraps around your needs to get the resources so you and your children will be safe and free from abuse or neglect.

If you live in these zip codes: 32907 (Palm Bay), 32935 (Melbourne), 32922 (Cocoa), and 32780 (Titusville) we can help!

www.brevardcares.org

Brevard Cares is wholly owned subsidiary of Brevard Family Partnership, Sponsored by Brevard CARES, State of Florida and Department of Children and Families.

Programa Alianza En La Comunidad

COMUNÍCATE CON ALGUIEN A QUIEN SÍ LE IMPORTAS EN LA COMUNIDAD
C.A.R.E.S. es la organización sin fines de lucro ayudando a los padres en un programa completamente voluntario sobre la prevención.
El programa consiste en ofrecerle servicios por parte de diferentes agencias del área para de una manera atender a la familia con todos los recursos posibles para ayudarlos. El objetivo es prevenir negligencia o abuso hacia los niños en sus hogares.

Es nuestro deber ayudar a nuestra comunidad.

321-866-1654
Supervisora del Programa
Latoya Dukes

Entendemos los desafíos que conlleva ser padre y estamos aquí para ayudarlos. Si usted se encuentra en una situación bajo mucha estrés y está necesitando uno manos, puedes comunicarte con nosotros en Brevard C.A.R.E.S.

Nuestra misión es ayudar a las familias para evitar abuso, negligencia o abandono.

Usted califica para estos servicios gratuitos si en estas códigos postales: 32907 (Palm Bay), 32935 (Melbourne), 32922 (Cocoa), and 32780 (Titusville)

www.brevardcares.org

Brevard Cares is wholly owned subsidiary of Brevard Family Partnership, Sponsored by Brevard CARES, State of Florida and Department of Children and Families.
1st - 31st July 2023: National Watermelon Month
Summer is in full swing, and it’s peak harvest month for watermelons. This healthy and nutritious fruit should be savored and enjoyed. Did you know that the entire watermelon is edible? The rind can be pickled and is also used in stir-fries. The seeds can be roasted and eaten as a snack, similar to pumpkin seeds.

17th - 23rd July 2023: Capture the Sunset Week
July evenings are just about the best time of all. A gentle breeze wafts through the warm air. The sun is putting on a dazzling display in shades of yellow, red, orange, and purple. Take some pictures to share with the kiddies in your classrooms and get them painting beautiful sunsets, or just mixing colors for the joy of it all!

Wednesday 12th July 2023: National Different Colored Eyes Day
Celebrate the diversity of eye color. Wouldn’t the world be boring, if everyone had the same color eyes? It’s a great talking point in the classroom & an opportunity to celebrate the uniqueness of people…especially those with different colored eyes!” Also recognizes the eye condition called Heterochromia, which occurs when folks have two different colors of eyes… how amazing!!!

Monday 17th July 2023: World Emoji Day
If you could use one emoji to express how you feel today, which one would it be? Humor, approval, applause, frustration, prayfulness? Your "Mission" is to see how many emojis you can embed in texts, emails, and other digital correspondence. In your classrooms, how can you use emojis to help your students express themselves? It’s the digital age after all!!

Summer KidFest!

When: Sunday, July 9, 2023, 10:00 am
Location: Cinema World 4345 W New Haven Ave, 32904
Cost: Kids FREE, Adult $2 or non-perishable pet food donation
We’re proud to announce the lineup for Cinemaworld’s Summer KidFest 2023 - free films, every day at 10:30am. Children are FREE. Adults are just $2 or FREE with the donation of a non-perishable pet-food item to benefit the Brevard Humane Society.
SCHEDULE:

Story Time in the Park
with Brevard Mobile Library
When: Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 10:30 am - 11:15 am
Location: 3053 Fell Road West Melbourne, Cost: Free
Join the Brevard Mobile Library at Field of Dreams Park, West Melbourne and enjoy a children’s storybook reading.
Website: www.westmelbourne.org
Contact Phone: 321-837-7779

2nd Farmniversary
Romelia Farms
Saturday, July 29, 2023, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Location: 165 Gator Dr, Merritt Island, FL
Cost: Free
Customer appreciation and 2nd anniversary celebration at Romelia Farms!
Come enjoy complimentary mimosas, pastries and if you’re up for it, add a tour of our farm after!
The anniversary celebration will be complimentary and you may purchase tickets to go fishing, do a petting zoo tour, horseback rides or a sloth encounter!
Bring your kiddos with you to enjoy an awesome water slide!
Since this event is complimentary, please be sure to only RSVP yes if you know for sure you are coming as we are purchasing food based on the final count we have by July 27th.

Premiere Oaks 10: Free Summer Movies
When: Friday, July 28, 2023, 10:00 am
Location: 1800 W Hibiscus Blvd, Melbourne, FL, 32901
Cost: FREE
Doors open at 10:00 am, Movie starts at 10:30 am.
$4 concessions during the kids show including: popcorn & drinks
Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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