



Early Learning Coalition

Of Brevard County, Inc.

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting
 Date/Time: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 4p.m.
 Location: Early Learning Coalition of Brevard, Conference Room, 2671 w Eau Gallie Blvd. Suite 102, Melbourne FL 32937

Members Present: Patrick Culhane, Dee Helbig, Audrey Wanich, Phil Scarpelli, Khaled Jarrah, Linda Halpin, Terri Barlow, Robin Buckmaster, Althea Puzio, Bill Drexler (virtual), Caitlin Rice (virtual), Jana Bauer (virtual)

Excused Absent: Alan Bergman, Linda Graham

Staff Present: Laura Gambino, Jeannie Williams, Harriet Paredes, Amaris Rosario, Jodi Ammons

Guest/Public: Nanny Jean’s Preschool, Octavio Verdaja (Auditor), Monique Bustamante (Auditor), Fatima Jarrah

Called to Order: Khaled Jarrah called the meeting to order and quorum was established 4:12 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance took place.

Agenda Item	Summary/Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Mission Moment	Children from Nanny Jean’s Preschool performed.	No Action
Public Comment	None	
Vice Chairman’s Update	Khaled Jarrah, Vice Chair announced that Board President Alan Bergman is hospitalized and we are all praying for a swift recovery.	No Action
Minutes	January 18, 2022, Board Minutes	Audrey Wanich makes the motion to approve the minutes. Phil Scarpelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
Auditors	The auditing firm of Verdaja, DeArmas & Trujillo presented ELC’s annual 990 (which was approved in the Executive/Finance meeting) and the annual financial statement. Auditor Octavio Verdaja compliment both the CEO, Laura Gambino and CFO, Amaris Rosario on their diligence and willingness to ask questions.	Phil Scarpelli makes a motion to accept the Financial Statement as written. Dee Helbig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
CEO Report	<p><u>State Board of Education and Division of Early Learning Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEL Executive Director update calls – bi-weekly • Association of Early Learning Coalitions (AELC) – monthly • Finance Director/DEL/ED Collaborative calls - monthly 	

ELCB Coalition Update:

- Policy and Governance updates will start on April 22nd and be sent to the Board in “batches”. Total number of policies is #150, however, the batches will be broken into small groups as ACTION ITEMS and NO ACTION/REVIEW ONLY. Estimated to have project run from April 22 – July 30, 2022. Project will be completely electronic with reviews and updates held at Board meetings during this same time period.
- Division of Early Learning Accountability Monitoring final CAP items have been submitted to DEL within the identified timeframe of April 7th. Division of Early Learning Fiscal Monitoring in DRAFT format only and responses from ELCB due to DEL by Friday, April 22nd. ****Fiscal Monitoring DRAFT report shows prior year #11 findings and current year #1 finding.
- Rockledge Lease update - several meetings held with current landlord and optional space at CareerSource Brevard. Landlord has extended a rent reduction for the smaller space at the current Rockledge office as well as complete renovation of the current space. **ACTION: Board approval to move forward with lease negotiations with Florida Ave landlord as well as MOU with CareerSource Brevard.** *
- DEL additional CARES funding potential (CRRSAA) for Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act has been funded to providers. American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding initial funding to providers on March 25th. **UPDATE: CRRSA award issued amount of \$6,413,368 and ARPA award issued amount of \$16,339,297.**
- Workforce Needs Initiative grant has been approved for additional funding opportunity with DEL. Funding will continue to support workforce and employment recruitment/retention efforts for child care and education professionals. **UPDATE:** Award of \$523,000 for continue support to providers related to workforce and upskill training and building an EL pipeline of talent.
- Legislative Activity Highlights:
 - School Readiness New Funding Formula
 - Gold Seal differential payment pulled from base rate of funding
 - Additional funding source specific for Wait List
- ***Historic increase for Base Student Allocation for VPK – school year from \$2,486 to \$2803***

Transition to K mandate to adopt Best Practices Plan with Brevard Public Schools

- Early Learning Outcomes – Closing the Gap Data Report. The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is a quality improvement system for teaching. CLASS not only defines teaching quality through the lens of interactions, but it also provides the ability to measure and improve the interactions that matter most for student outcomes.

	<p>It provides opportunity for continuous improvement that is data-driven and focused on what matters most for student outcomes, interactions. DEL working on continuous improvement efforts based on CLASS scores by county.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESSER Award for Technology – additional award from Division of Early Learning dedicated to providing tablets and headphones for every VPK classroom. In process and estimated delivery from the vendor by summer. • ELC Brevard Local Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Space Coast League of Cities Monthly Meetings, Second Monday each month ○ Melbourne Regional Chamber – Small Business/Nonprofit Luncheon, April 5th ○ Melbourne Regional Chamber – State of the State Breakfast, April 7th ○ Coordinating “Business EL Briefing” Event with Chancellor Mears, late May/June ○ Confirmed Education Update from State Representative Randy Fine, May 17th. • Rule Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6M-4.500 – Child Attendance and Provider Reimbursements 6M-4.735 Early Learning Professional Development Standards and Career Pathways 6M-8.702 Removal from Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program Eligibility 6M-9.120 Early Learning Coalition Performance Standards and Evaluations <p>*It was discussed and decided that lease negotiations would be on hold and a committee formed to decide next steps.</p>	
Finance Report	<p>Amaris Rosario – gives finance report</p> <p>Khaled Jarrah comments he would like to look into the recommendation of a policy/procedure related to the reconciliation and review process.</p>	No Action
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 5:30	Phil Scarpelli makes a motion for adjournment. Audrey Wanich seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

April 19, 2022 Board minutes were approved at the May 17, 2022 meeting: