



**Early Learning Coalition  
Resource Development Committee  
September 18, 2018 – 10:00 AM**

**Persons in Attendance**

**Committee Members:**

Mary Ann Winstead (Chair)	Shawn Jennings	Tammy Hicks
Melody Meier	Brenda Hardy	Peggy Steward
Sharon Vecchio	Kim Edmonds	Cindy Kirk
Aisha Adkison	Mary Ann Bickerstaff	Sharmane Lilleston

**Staff:**

Bruce Watson	Vicki Pugh	Anne Cynkar
Melissa Stankard		

**Non-Committee Member Partners/Public:**

None.

**Teleconferencing:**

None.

**I. Welcome and Approval of Agenda**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Winstead. The Agenda was approved upon a motion made by Ms. Hicks and seconded by Ms. Steward.

**II. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**III. Approval of Minutes of May 15, 2018**

The Minutes of the July 17, 2018 Resource Development Committee meeting were approved upon a motion made by Ms. Cindy Kirk and seconded by Ms. Steward.

**IV. Program Reports**

**a. Medical Support Services Report**

Ms. Jennings shared that ELC Nursing services has an annual screening goal of 1,200. The final report in June indicated that the medical support staff doubled their goal at 2,400 screenings. This information was presented in response to a question brought up by a Committee member during the RDC meeting on July 17, 2018.

Ms. Jennings reported that in July 2018 the medical support staff screened 106 children for vision and hearing, seven children were referred for vision and five for hearing and held 10 education classes. In August, 151 students screened for vision and hearing, four referred for vision to the optometrist, nine for hearing, and 11 education classes. 257 total vision and hearing conducted in the first two months of the new year. Ms. Winstead questioned Ms. Jennings if parent education classes were conducted. The response was yes, but primarily it is done for staff. Mr. Watson



added that this training is possible to have a parent education class or orientation, but it would have to be conducted during normal operating hours. The contract does not permit parent education classes or orientation after hours.

#### **b. CCR&R Update**

In the month of July there were 64 CCR&R interviews of which 43 were new interviews and 21 were repeat interviews. During August there were new 89 CCR&R interviews of which 60 were new interviews and 29 were repeat interviews. Most of these callers were single parent homes, and the primary reason for care was employment for working parents. Other factors for parents included location, transportation, and available care openings. School age children were requiring the most assistance.

The Parent/Provider Resource Room will be available soon to assist parents with making applications for our programs and searching for resources. Presently, the Resource Specialist are reaching out to facilities such as NAS and Sesame Street to provide material resources to parents such as resource kits, greetings, school issue items, activity books, resource for reading and a parent guide, and local maps for use by new parents relocating to this area.

#### **c. Program Support Summary**

Ms. Pugh gave a recap of the expulsions and suspensions for August. The primary reasons were related to behavioral problems, which resulted in three expulsions. The parents of three children were asked to remove their children from the class despite the efforts by the Providers staff, the Coalition Inclusion Specialist and parents. Two of the three families were able to place their children in a home setting that may prove to be better for the children. On a positive note the Coalition has increased its awareness of options to assist the families of children with similar behavioral issues. A special thank-you goes out to Ms. Abney from Ms. Steward and the Coalition for a job well done in her efforts to assist these three children and their parents.

On October 25, 2019, Academic Blue Angel joined over 80 VPK sites in Escambia County and over 6000 VPK classrooms in Florida for Read for the Record Day. This year's book, Maybe Something Beautiful, How Art Transformed a Neighborhood, by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell, is a story about how art can transform a neighborhood. The Coalition Read for the Record Day effort this year focused on children in four-year old classrooms. For more information visit the website <https://www.jstart.org/read-for-the-record/>.

### **V. Old Business**

#### **a. Wait List and Contract Summary**

The Coalition is still dealing with EFS MOD issues but, as of September 14, 2018 there were 3,271 children enrolled. The Wait List numbers are reliable and in the past three weeks 300 children were pulled off the Wait List. Because so many children were pulled of the list in August, no one has been pulled off the Wait List in September yet. There are 436 children on the Wait List.



Mr. Watson informed the Committee that OEL received an additional \$60M from the Federal government to be used in this fiscal year. The Coalition portion was \$874,761. With this additional money, the Coalition needs to increase enrollments to 3,500 up from 3,250 enrollments average for the past two years. A concern for the Coalition is what to do with the children already in care in June and July of 2019 when the money to support this number of children may no longer be available. At this point the Coalition is determined to get all the children in care and worry about any overage when the time comes.

The Coalition this week was unable to pull any more children because there were too many still parents waiting for their appointments from the big pull in August. It is pointless to extend an invitation to parents when they may not get an appointment for at least a month. Once Eligibility gets caught up then more children will be pulled from the Wait List.

There are 2,280 children approved in the 2018/2019 VPK Program. Currently there are 1,997 enrolled. There are approximately 300 children approved whose parents have not yet submitted their COE to a Provider. This is a common occurrence. Typically VPK enrollment numbers do not peak until the November timeframe.

Contracting and Fraud Summary Report:

Currently there are 91 School Readiness Providers and 81 VPK Providers. One new SR Provider has contracted with the Coalition, and four SR Providers have been removed by Provider choice.

There were no Fraud cases to report.

**b. EFS Modernization Transition Update**

After two months, there is still no reliable EFS MOD system in place. In the last month the Coalition turned the old EFS Legacy system back on. The staff has been working to update the old system data records with all the activity since July 1, 2018 to present that went into the new EFS MOD system. Even though it was time consuming this information did aid in providing more accurate data to pay Providers. The Coalition's intent is to pay the Providers 115% of what they were paid in June for August. This percentage was based off the number of days worked in a month. There were 3 more work days in August than in June. However, with the increase in children enrolling and not leaving the program the Providers are incurring more costs. Once the old EFS Legacy System work is complete at the end of September, the Coalition plans to use it to pay Providers until the EFS MOD System is someday deemed reliable. Mr. Watson complimented the Eligibility Staff and the Providers for their patience while dealing with all the problems associated with implementing the new state data system.

**c. Grow With Me /Lena Recruitment for Fall**

Ms. Pugh updated the Committee on the fall recruitment schedule for Grow With Me/LENA Program (with Child Care Centers), and LENA Start Program (with Parents). In October during attendance days a flyer will be available for Providers with information about fall recruitment for the GWM Program. As an incentive for the teachers, stipends will be built into the program. The Coalition's intention is to assign teachers early and begin CLASS observations in November



before the HB1091 SR Program Assessment requirements start. If a Provider participates in the Grow With Me program the CLASS observations count toward the SR assessment requirement.

**d. Performance for Pay (PFP) Program**

Presently, 22 sites are participating in the Pay for Performance (PFP) program. This will be the last year for this program. The observation process begins with random pulls out of the WELS Data Base. The staff visits the facilities and does a CLASS observation which is then leveled into one of five Tiers. Tier 1 is the lowest tier level and Tier 5 is the highest. The 22 PFP Providers results were: one Tier 1, ten Tier 2, none Tier 3, and two Tier 4. There were no Tier 5 Providers. The significance of these tiers is that each tier level has distinctive criteria which must be met and for all teachers and staff to maintain, and they each have a different payment level.

The PFP program shall be used as the basis for the framework in the new SR contract requirements. A drawback to these requirements and mandates by the state is that the Coalition and Providers may see a decrease in teacher numbers.

**VI. New Business**

**a. New Chair -Mr. Van Mansker**

Governor Rick Scott appointed Van Mansker of Pensacola as the new Chair of the Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County on August 30, 2018. Mr. Mansker's term is from August 30, 2018 to April 30, 2021 and comes to the Coalition with enthusiasm and new perspectives and ideas. With his prior experience as an owner of a child-care facility in Chicago and as the former Vice Chair, the Coalition is looking forward to a very exciting and interesting term. Welcome Aboard Mr. Mansker!

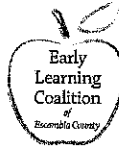
**a. Eligibility Priorities**

At the last meeting Mr. Watson had asked the Committee to give input on eligibility priorities for future discussion and action. Presently this action is on hold because the AELC is looking into collectively hiring an agency for the entire state to over-see a needs assessment that encompasses and meets that requirement. If the Coalition needs to submit a change it is necessary to first have a needs assessment completed. So, in the best interest of the Coalition this needs assessment via an agency would best benefit waiting because no cost would be involved for the Coalition. More information to follow

**VII. Community Partner Updates**

**a. ARC Gateway**

Ms. Bickerstaff reported that they are in partnership with Corry Child Development Center, Corry Station. For the next 2.5 days beginning on September 19, 2018, there will be speech therapy services, and screenings conducted on site. This is an ideal setting to reach many people who do not have access to receive these free services. Also the partnership with WSRE has significantly helped promote build awareness in the community and many issues are being addressed which will allow this team to assist families who normally would not be exposed to these services or could not afford them.



**b. Early Steps**

Ms. Kimberlee Spencer is the new Program Manager at Western Pan Handle Early Steps.

**b. Florida Association for Infant Mental Health (FAIMH)**

Ms. Goldberg was unable to attend the meeting but reported via email that their local chapter is helping to host a training on Circle of Security (COS) in February. It is a four-day training to become a certified facilitator for COS parent training. It is a great relationship-based program that may be a benefit for the families that Early Learning Coalition serves. For more information contact [deborahgoldbergphd@gmail.com](mailto:deborahgoldbergphd@gmail.com).

**d. Department of Health 5-2-1-0**

No representative was present to report.

**e. School District Academies**

Ms. Adkison announced that the School District Academies primary focus was on assisting students with their CDA and FAFSA concerns. To further assist these students there are DCF modules bought and ordered as part of the program. However, with incomplete testing numbers and the 40 hours of instruction not being completed or annotated on transcripts this has led Ms. Tizol and Ms. Griffin to put an active system in place by October 2018 so that instruction hours can be validated early. For further information on testing issues and instruction hours contacted Ms. Tizol at 850-832-9726 or email at [www.eeckids.org](http://www.eeckids.org)

**f. DCF Licensing**

No representative was present to report.

**g. DCF Outreach**

No representative was present to report.

**h. Gulf Coast Kids House**

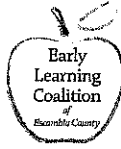
No representative was present to report.

**i. VPK School District**

No representative was present to report.

**j. Pensacola State College**

Ms. Kirk shared that September at Pensacola State College (PSC) has been a very busy month. During Orientation several questions were raised about the CDA license, the 40-hour state training requirements, the CDA national exam and credentialing and how to navigate the DCF's website. Additional assistance was to guide students through the FASFA process and obtaining school ID's. Other events during the month are the Professional Development Day to be held September 21, 2018 and on September 27-28, 2018 there will be a network meeting connecting PSC with other colleges throughout state involved with CDA credentialing.



**VIII. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** November 20, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.