



# Early Learning Coalition of Brevard County, Inc.

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting  
 Date/Time: Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 4:00 p.m.  
 Location: Early Learning Coalition of Brevard, Conference Room, 2671 w Eau Gallie Blvd. Suite 102, Melbourne FL 32937

Members Present: Alan Bergman, Caitlin Rice, Priscilla DeNino, James Box, Dee Helbig, Shelli Buckley, Linda Graham (V), Traci Klinkbeil (V), Michael Cadore, Phil Scarpelli, Vince Donato, Linda Halpin

Excused/Unexcused Absent: Michael Blake, Bill Drexler, Robin Buckmaster, Marci Murphy, Terri Barlow

Staff Present: Laura Gambino, Jeannie Williams, Amaris Rosario, Harriet Paredes, Paige Hoskins, Kelly O'Toole

Guest/Public:

Agenda Item	Summary/Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Called to Order:	Alan Bergman called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm	
Mission Moment	New Beginnings Childcare	
Public Comment	None	
Chair Report	<p>Board meeting minutes February 20, 2024</p> <p>Congressman Posey Local Project</p> <p>Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)</p>	<p>Caitlin Rice makes the motion to approve the January 16, 2024 minutes. Priscilla DeNino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

**State Board of Education and Division of Early Learning Updates**

- DEL Executive Director update calls – bi-weekly
- Association of Early Learning Coalitions (AELC) Meetings
- Weekly ARPA Spend Plan call AELC/DEL
- Department of Education Division of Early Learning - Rule Workshops

Laura Gambino, CEO

**ELCB Coalition Update:**

- American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) 2023-2024 Grant Funding allocation is \$5,141,312 for additional support to stabilization of childcare and provider support. The application for ELCB approved and included seven “funding” buckets for items including curriculum, professional development, building supply and others. **ONGOING – developing a spend plan for April through June 30, 2024.**
- Additionally, Governor DeSantis has identified a \$10 million dollar funding initiative for homelessness and underemployed individuals. The application from DEL was completed in one week and approved on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. The award to ELCB is \$631, 157 and we will be partnering with Head Start and Family Promise and Homeless Coalition to execute to the best of our ability. **UPDATE: Hired an experienced homeless coalition representative to lead this specific grant initiative.**
- Healthy Families Brevard has submitted a Request for Application to all nonprofit agencies eligible to be a Lead Agency. This grant has been held by the United Way for 24 years. ELCB team is submitting a proposal to act as Lead Agency; the total grant is \$1,017,000. Healthy Families is a voluntary home visiting program with success in parent and child engagement and building self-sufficiency for all families with children in the 0-5 range. The application is due to Healthy Families Florida by April 19<sup>th</sup> and the award notification is expected on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Community Foundation of Brevard county has awarded ELCB \$8,500 for a first time application based on Families First Brevard. This will support efforts and partnership with Family Promise of Brevard in identifying families and children in the 32922 zip code as high need and support. **UPDATE:** Grant funding is 89% spent; interest from Federal Congressional Research team with US Congressman Bill Posey’s team for a Sustainable Homeless Initiative grant/project funding.
- Marketing and Communications efforts increasing with activities and events scheduled as well as Little Free Libraries installations throughout the county.

	<p>Additionally, the Hispanic Chamber has identified local interest story and event support for ELC Brevard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VPK Registration begins January 1<sup>st</sup> and certificate processing from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> - March 30<sup>th</sup> is over 2300 in the first three months.</li> <li>• Little Free Libraries are getting built and installed all over Brevard county. We have installed #4 Little Free Libraries including the most current one in Taylor Park in City of Cocoa. We have #5 more installations planned for next three months.</li> <li>• The Dolly Parton Imagination Library program will also be launched by summer. With a population of 27,000 of children under age of 5, the program will enable every child who registers to receive a FREE book delivered to the home each month emphasizing reading and literacy in the home. Estimated participation is 4,000-6,000 in the initial project year. Launch expected by June of 2024.</li> <li>• Procured with The Krizner Group a Total Compensation Review to establish and sustain pay practices and competitive recruitment and equitable compensation. With this study, ELCB will be able to establish a comprehensive compensation and benefit system that meets Florida Statutes and Federal Fair Labor Standards Act as well as creating a fair and equitable compensation system, relevant market conditions are met, organization-wide professional, consistent and objective practices and is easily manageable, after implementation, in a manner that preserves and enhances integrity, validity and reliability of the system. <b>ONGOING</b></li> <li>• Annual ELCB Provider Conference DATE has been set – SAVE THE DATE – Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Rialto in Melbourne. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Space Coast League of Cities Monthly Meetings, Second Monday each month</li> <li>○ Viera Business Regional Alliance Networking – Urban Prime May 14<sup>th</sup></li> <li>○ Mayor’s Breakfast May 17<sup>th</sup></li> <li>○ March – National Reading Month and Women’s Month – Green Eggs and Ham Reading!</li> <li>○ Women Who Rock – WeVenture Event</li> <li>○ Family Literacy Events and Outreach</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Finance Report	Monthly Budget Report  Single Audit Financial Statement year ending 6.30.2024  Annual Tax Return (990) 2022 completed/filed	Amaris Rosario, CFO

New Business	None	
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 5:00	Caitlin Rice makes a motion to adjourn. Vince Donato seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

April 16, 2024, Board minutes were approved at the May 21, 2024 meeting: