



# Early Learning Coalition of Brevard County, Inc.

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting  
Date/Time: Wednesday January 22, 2025, 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, James Box, Terri Barlow, Bill Drexler (V), Shelli Buckley (V), Robin Buckmaster, Dee Helbig, Michael Cadore(V), Carolyn Joseph-Paul, Traci Klinkbeil (V), Phil Scarpelli (V).

Excused/Unexcused Absent: Michael Blake, Linda Graham, Adrea McDonough, Vince Donato, Avida Rosa  
Laura Gambino, Jeannie Williams, Amaris Rosario, Sylvia Thomas

Staff Present:

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	First Friends	
Public Comment	None	
Chair Report	Board meeting minutes November 19, 2024	Terri Barlow makes the motion to approve the November 19, 2024 minutes. Dee Helbig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CEO Report	<div data-bbox="430 37 1263 94"><b>State Board of Education and Division of Early Learning Updates</b></div> <div data-bbox="479 105 1263 388"><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DEL Executive Director update calls – bi-weekly</li><li>• Association of Early Learning Coalitions (AELC) Meetings – Annual Board Meeting Melbourne</li><li>• Florida Chamber Foundation Learners to Earners</li><li>• Department of Education Division of Early Learning - Rule Workshops</li><li>• Florida League of Cities Conference – Mayor Blake, President of FLC 2024-2025</li></ul></div> <div data-bbox="430 451 1263 493"><b>ELCB Coalition Update:</b></div> <div data-bbox="479 493 1263 2005"><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Division of Early Learning for the Department of Education, Chancellor Cari Miller, will be visiting Brevard county (rescheduled from September due to hurricane) on January 30<sup>th</sup>. We are working on tentative schedule of activity to include provider visits, family event and Community Conversation town hall meeting with community partners and leadership. Details to follow. PLEASE HOLD date January 30, 2024 3-7pm for this important visit.</li><li>• Division of Early Learning 2024-2025 Notice of Award expect to generate after the start of the fiscal year. There have been numerous legislative and General Appropriations Act approvals from the Governor’s office and DEL/AELC are working to confirm the allocations for the following: \$46 million for ongoing support SR, \$20 million for Wait List assistance, \$40 million for SR Plus which is a Workforce/Existing Client support program and additional funding for Homelessness Programs. UPDATE: Finance Budget Amendment report.</li><li>• Developing local county, state and federal legislative relationships to increase ELCB awareness, successful outcomes and funding support post-election shift.</li><li>• The Dolly Parton Imagination Library program launched in May/June and our Kickoff Event is today!!!! 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. UPDATE: 5000+ children registered.</li><li>• Giving Tuesday campaign begins this week to help raise local funding support for families and Dolly Parton program. Watch social media and email requests – Board participation critical for helping raise matching funds.</li><li>• LEAD Brevard has chosen ELCB for a Community Action Plan (CAP) program titled Soar by 4! The LEAD Brevard class will work on this CAP project and assist our team with implementing and executing this new program.</li></ul></div>	Laura Gambino, CEO
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L3Harris through the United Way conducted an employee “packing project” benefiting ELCB. We received #100 Bedtime Bundle backpacks to incorporate into our monthly activity and family engagement programming.</li> <li>• Fund Development activity beginning with over \$9,000 raised through meetings and philanthropic efforts. UPDATE: Local fund development efforts approaching \$15,000.</li> <li>• General operations update: staff changes at two director level as well as review of office location changes. Reviewing lease agreements for satellite offices and potential realignment of staff for operational efficiencies.</li> <li>• Brevard Community Foundation grant was awarded and increased to \$10,000 for Families First Initiative. Space Coast Health Foundation has asked us to submit to expand the Pyramid Project to the entire county for grant consideration. Request for \$250,000 has been submitted.</li> <li>• Anti-Fraud Appeals Request – discussion and prospective timeline discussed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Space Coast League of Cities – December 9<sup>th</sup> at City of Cocoa</li> <li>○ Family Literacy Events – 2 on-site, Mims Library</li> <li>○ Holiday Family Festival and Launch into Literacy – SOLD OUT in one day 12/12/24</li> <li>○ Early Learning Soiree Event – January 23<sup>rd</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
CFO Report	Finance Report  Utilization and Budget Projections	Amaris Rosario, CFO
New Business	New meeting schedule. The Board will now meet quarterly on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday. Tentatively, January, April, June (for budget review/approval), September.	
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 5:00	Terri Barlow makes a motion to adjourn. Caitlin Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

January 22, 2025, Board minutes were approved at the April 22, 2025 meeting: