



Early Learning Coalition

Of Brevard County, Inc.

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting

Date/Time: April 28, 2026, 4pm

Location: 2671 W Eau Gallie Blvd. Suite 102, Melbourne, FL 32935

Members Present: Alan Bergman, Terri Barlow, Robin Buckmaster, Caroline Joseph Paul, James Box, Traci Klinkbeil (V), Linda Graham (V), Bill Drexler, Adrea McDonough, Dee Helbig, Avida Rosa (V), Vince Donato (Alexandria Luallen, Michael Cadore, Dee Helbig

Absent: Michael Blake (E), Caitlin Rice (A), Shelli Buckley (E), Phil Scarpelli (E)

Guests:

Staff present: Laura Gambino, Jeannie Williams, Amaris Rosario, Sondra Mofitt

Start Time: 4:00pm

Agenda Item	Summary/Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Welcome and Call to Order	Alan Bergman called the meeting to order at 4pm. Pledge of Allegiance	No Action
Public Comment	None	
Chair Report Alan Bergman	January 20, 2026 - Board Meeting Minutes DEL SR-120 CEO Evaluation Annual Performance Evaluation has been submitted Board Chair asks for a motion to approve Alexandria Luallen as a Private Sector member to replace Vince Donato. Board Chair requests volunteers to form a Nominating Committee for upcoming new members. Terri Barlow, Caroline Joseph Paul and Alexandria Luallen have volunteered.	Robin Buckmaster motions to approve January 20, 2026 minutes. Terri Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. No Action Dee Helbig motions to approve Alexandria Luallen as a Private Sector member to replace Vince Donato. Bill Drexler seconds the motion. No Action

State Board of Education and Division of Early Learning

Updates

- Legislative Session – Feb-March
- Department of Education Division of Early Learning - Rule Workshops
- AELC Board Meetings April 20-24, 2026
- Provider Appreciation County Commission Proclamation – May 19th at 9:00 am

ELCB Coalition Update

- Legislative Session 2026 closed without budgetary approvals. Special session called for 4.28.26 for redistricting efforts; Budget session called for 5.12.26 with full Budget approval needed by 5.31.26. The statewide association “compression model” used last year is expected to be the acceptable method for state legislators and budget staff with an estimated 5% compression amount issued across all coalitions. This is the model being reviewed once budget sessions begin week of 5.12.26. They are also working on maintaining a “back of the bill” concept whereby funds may be set aside to support early learning and workforce programming.
- Staff completed the Results 1st initiative. The results show progress toward setting goals and priorities for key areas of operations including student success, provider success and increased enrollments and family engagement. We would like to extend this program for collaborative session with Board as part of strategic visioning meeting.
- Age of Learning program will launch with Brevard Public Schools this month with over 1600 licenses being activated in public and private VPK classrooms through June. Proposal submitted to Orlando Health to sponsor Age of Learning for entire county = \$139,000 ask. **PENDING**
- VPK Transition to K programs and events for spring and summer time promotions.
- Developing a special Board presentation with Brevard County Manager Jim Liesenfelt on countywide updates and budget outline – hoping for a June date.
- Space Coast Health Foundation grant application in process with the request of \$250,000. The grant process has been enhanced with an expanded application process that identifies organizational and impact results as a priority. **UPDATE:** Second round of in-depth interviews held in early March with expected update or notice to ELCB by April/May.

	Programs and Events February 2026-May 2026 <u>February 2026</u> Children’s Week Feb 22-26 Hanging of the Hands February #4 Launch into Literacy Be My Neighbor Theme with PBS Healthy Start Monthly Webinar and Parent Training <u>March 2026</u> Launch into Literacy – Shamrock and Storytime Annual Provider Conference March 28 – The Science of Early Learning Healthy Start Monthly Webinar and Parent Training <u>April 2026</u> Launch into Literacy – Can you Dig it/Books in Bloom Theme Brevard Public School Parent Student Program Transition to K Programs 922 Crew Book Drives <u>May 2026</u> Launch into Literacy Sparkles and Tieras Provider Appreciation Event and Kindness Initiative – High Hats High Tea with Highlights Mag STEAM Lab start County Commission Proclamation Recognizing Provider Appreciation, May 19,2026 9:00 am <u>June 2026</u> Rachel Giannini Professional Development Father’s Day Event	
COO Report Amaris Rosario	Finance Report	No Action No Action
New Business	Open discussion regarding VPK enrollments and Provider concerns that Brevard Public Schools are campaigning for parents to send their children to VPK at BPS and the effect that could have on Providers.	
Adjournment		Michael Cadore motions to adjourn. Terri Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Next meeting	Tuesday, June 9, 2026, 4pm	

