



## Early Learning Coalition of Lake County

Innovative Services For Lake County's Children

Early Learning Coalition of Lake County

Minutes Regular Board Meeting

March 2, 2011

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These minutes summarize the key issues of the ELCLC Board of Directors' meeting on March 2, 2011 held at the Early Learning Coalition of Lake County.

Mr. Pruitt called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. The following members were present: Dr. Hugh Brockington, Ms. Marsha Carpenter, Ms. Erica Mott, Mr. Eric English, Mr. Hays Ginn, Mr. Oscar Palau, Mr. Will Pruitt, Ms. Kathryn Sutherin, Dr. Barbara Howard, Ms. Melissa Lyford, Ms. Michele Rawls, Ms. Jeanie Rowin, Mr. Eddy Workinger and Ms. Porcha Green. The following members were absent: Ms. Marie Carlberg, Ms. Kim Grabert, Mr. Jimmy Conner and Ms. Jennifer Walz. The following guests were present: Ms. Cindy Winkle and Ms. Doreen Chatelier. The following staff was present: Ms. Lesha Buchbinder, Ms. Patricia Pierce, Mr. Bill Hartman and Ms. Denise Lancaster.

### CONSENT CONSIDERATION

Mr. Pruitt presented action item 695 for consideration and asked if anyone had questions or wanted to pull an item for discussion. There were none. A motion was made and seconded to approve action item 695.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Buchbinder provided an update on item 696-A, Provider Rate Increases. This is a follow-up to the action item presented at the January 2011 board meeting. Following the explanation in the updated material, Ms. Rawls shared her concerns regarding centers being paid less for 2 yr old children and PR3s than licensed homes. Ms. Buchbinder and the board members discussed how to bring the percentage of market rate payment for centers to be consistent for licensed homes. Ms. Sutherin left the meeting to meet with Ms. Storman, Fiscal Specialist, to review the market rate for licensed centers with 3 year olds compared to that of the proposed rate for licensed homes. The rate schedule was change for licensed centers for PR3 to make it equal to licensed homes. The board reviewed the current budget to see what could be done. After further discussion a motion was made and seconded to approve the revised Option 1 which will raise the rates for PR3s and 2 year old children to be the same as market rate percentages for licensed homes. Ms. Buchbinder stated that a plan amendment must be submitted to the state and if approved, would be effective March 1, 2011.

Ms. Buchbinder presented item 696-B, VPK Provider Agreement Attachment A. Ms. Buchbinder reported that the revisions on Attachment A are a result of the revisions in the state VPK provider agreements. Ms. Buchbinder asked the Board to approve the recommended revisions as part of the ELCLC VPK Provider Contract Attachment A. A motion was made and seconded to accept the state revisions to Attachment A of the VPK Provider Agreement.

Ms. Buchbinder reviewed the ELCLC SR Match Funds for 2010-2011 that was included in the report. Ms. Buchbinder reported that the Just Match It Campaign has raised to date \$8,700 for a possible draw down of \$140,000 in federal funds.

Ms. Buchbinder referred to a letter that was sent February 28<sup>th</sup> to Ms. Sellars at OEL regarding the CCEP funds that Coalition had requested previously. Ms. Buchbinder reported that the Coalition is not going to be using all of the CCEP funds and asked OEL if we could keep \$15,595 in our budget for the remainder of this fiscal year and de-obligate approximately \$30,000.

Ms. Buchbinder reminded board members that the annual Uniting for Children Conference will be held at Leesburg High School on April 2 and the registration flyer was included in the packets for review. The

information has been sent to providers and will be shared with UCF and Lake Sumter Community College for their students. Ms. Buchbinder commented that the conference is for teachers and parents.

Also included in the Director's report as information only, was a document from OEL regarding VPK Readiness Rates, AWI/DOE Standards for Florida's four year olds, Assessment and Online Reporting and other updates including various VPK forms.

Ms. Buchbinder had distributed information on the Florida Legislative Bills of Interest for 2011 and encouraged members to review the information and asked members to contact their legislators on some of the key issues relating to early education.

#### CHAIR REPORT:

Mr. Pruitt briefly commented on the Early Education Bus Tour and the great opportunities to talk with other coalitions and providers to share his thoughts and ideas on working toward health insurance and retirement plans for child care teachers. Mr. Pruitt reported that there were 11 stops on the tour in multiple counties throughout Florida. Mr. Pruitt commented that sign boards were prepared and at each stop, guests signed their names representing their areas. Mr. Pruitt stated that at the final stop in Tallahassee at the capitol steps, a sign board had been placed in hopes that the Governor would come down and accept the sign. Unfortunately he did not attend the event but there was a live press conference on the steps. Mr. Pruitt commented that board members Mr. English and Mr. Workinger took time to participate in the event, as well as Mr. Hartman, ELC's Business Development Director.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Provider Growth and Development Committee:

Ms. Buchbinder reviewed the revised Environmental Rating Scales (ERS) mini grant application with recommendations received from ELC providers. Some of the recommended changes referred to less information being required for the financial requirements. Also, it was requested that providers receive more information regarding guidelines as to how the funds can be used. Ms. Buchbinder stated that a copy of the revised document was sent to providers so they could review it pending an approval by the Board. Ms. Buchbinder asked the Board for a recommendation to approve the revised document. A motion was made and seconded to approve the revised ERS mini grant application process.

Ms. Buchbinder stated there were no other Committee Reports.

Ms. Buchbinder reminded members that the financial, utilization and program reports were included in their notebooks for review.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

There was no other business. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Patricia Pierce  
Executive Assistant  
Approved May 4, 2011