



**Early Childhood Education Business Partnership Council**

**June 13, 2019**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

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**Attendance:**

Mary Morris	Morris FCCH
Erin Gallagher	Early Learning Coalition
Heather Sargent	Department of Education, Office of Early Learning
Susy Martinez-White	Palm Beach State College, Early Childhood & K-12 Programs
Lucia Adrian	Palm Beach State College, Early Childhood & K-12 Programs
Jennifer Johnson	Palm Beach State College, Early Childhood & K-12 Programs
Ali Eger	Opportunity, Inc.
Celestra Alexander	Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education
Janell Carroll	Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education
Debra Strange	Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education
Marklin Green	Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education
Amanda Wallace	FCCH
Vicki Naubert	Early Learning Coalition, Early Head Start
Sandra Tucker	School District of Palm Beach County
Holly Strawser	Florida Department of Health

The meeting was called to order by Erin Gallagher at 10:20am.

**ITEM 1: Welcome/Introductions (Mary Morris & Erin Gallagher)**

**ITEM 2: Ice Breaker (Kidding Around Yoga, Miss Stephanie)**

Stephanie Dorr from Kidding Around Yoga (KAY) led the council in some mindful activities that practitioners can do with children (feather pass with chopsticks, chime breathing exercise, bowl vs. valley with pom pom, bumble bee breathing). After demonstration was concluded, Ms. Dorr talked about the KAY training program and professional development opportunities for teachers to earn CEUs. She handed out her brochures.

**ITEM 3: Approval of Minutes (Mary Morris & Erin Gallagher)**

Heather Sargent moved to approve the April 12, 2019 meeting minutes. Debbie Strange seconded the motion to approve. All approved.

**ITEM 4: Palm Beach State College, Guest Speaker Series Recap/Survey (Lucia Adrian)**

Discussion: Lucia Adrian provided a recap of the April guest speaker. It was a very successful event with 94 attendees. The event was very interactive and included a book signing and reception. The feedback survey indicated a very positive response from the community. The group discussed several possibilities for next years' guest speaker. Discussion included the possibility of focusing on equity as a good topic. Debbie added that the Race to Equality Summit would be a great opportunity to build on for this event. Erin Gallagher also discussed the National Equity Institute 1-Day Training as a good connection for the event. Heather also had some suggestions on equity guest speakers.

Action: Lucia will continue to research and review feedback surveys as there are several topics of interest including trauma informed care as one of the topics of interest. She will let the council know what is decided at the next business partnership meeting. Next guest speaker will be in April 2020.

**ITEM 5: Palm Beach State College, Private Providers (Lucia Adrian)**

Discussion: Lucia would like the council to promote the need for more private providers for the entry level 40-hour training courses. She currently only has 2 training providers. All curriculum is provided. She also distributed DCF Competency Testing schedule and information.

Action: Those interested in becoming a private provider should contact Lucia Adrian (contact information on the handout provided).

**ITEM 6: Palm Beach State College, Trauma-Informed Care Endorsement (Lucia Adrian)**

Discussion: Lucia discussed the recent DCF 5-Hour course that was developed for center directors. She also discussed the development of the Trauma Informed Care (TIC) Endorsement which will include the 5-Hour TIC online course in addition to the instructor-led 40-Hour course (coming soon). One Goal conference will have a train-the-trainer for this course. Holly Strawser and Heather Sargent added that centers will receive a badge for those who have directors with this endorsement.

Action: None.

**ITEM 7: STEAM Fest (Celestra Alexander and Marklin Green)**

Discussion: Celestra Alexander and Marklin Green update the council on the STEAM Fest 2019 event. This year the event will have staggered registration and 1000 participants are expected. The event will take place at the Lake Worth Campus, NS Building and surrounding courtyard from 10am – 2pm. Heather suggested to have the college clubs get involved and sell snacks

and food and a fund raiser. Vicki Naubert suggested to have tarps or have arts and crafts activity moved inside for easier clean up at the end of the event.

**Action:** Volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact Celestra Alexander if interested in having a table at the event or to sign up to volunteer. Erin Gallagher added that Melissa Mercado at the ELC could give information about how to underwrite the cost of water bottles/food if needed. Celestra will follow-up.

## **ITEM 8: Open Forum**

**Discussion:** Heather Sargent and Erin Gallagher provided a legislative update. Rule development proposed for 3 out of 4 of the area assessments for VPK, children must show a complete gain and then a percentage along with the VPK calculation will be how readiness rates are calculated. What they are looking for is for feedback on what that percentage should be. At that point it will be submitted for approval. There was recently a lot of the coverage on this, it was a bit inaccurate. ELC webinar call-in to providers for feedback on the proposal. Palm Beach County was one of the lowest scoring counties (school district and private). Feedback is needed. There is a concern about how the test is given (children do not know how to use a mouse or how to click and drag). Ali Eger added that charter schools should be included in this because they are not counted. Erin discussed the summer-slide component of this assessment issue. Heather added that there are a lot of districts having summer reading programs with their libraries, coalitions, etc. Heather has discussed with MJ Steele what the school district can do to help. Library free lunch spots are a great opportunity for these programs and adding technology. Ali also discussed the importance of mental health and the correlation to test taking especially among the low-income children. Holly asked how screen time is determined in the classroom depending on age because of regulations for the centers. Ali added that screen time when used for instruction could have a lot of purpose for learning and interaction. Screen time with purpose is a learning tool.

Debbie discussed the second BAS cohort information session coming up for the Fall 2020-1. There are 30 students enrolled so far to attend. The first cohort is expected to graduate in December 2019. She also updated the council on her new role with the Head Start State Board and can provide an update at the next meeting. There are no updated for Strong Minds for the upcoming fiscal year.

Susy Martinez White asked what the councils thoughts were regarding the training in PB County. There has been a significant decrease in enrollment in the certificate programs. Ali said that she does not hire teachers or assistants that do not have their staff credential. She says that she does not think there is a lot of turnover. Debbie suggested surveying the pulse of the providers at the next ELC provider meetings regarding this topic. She said that the Institute is still seeing turnover, but they may already have their credentials. Erin added that Head Start requires them to have their credential so that may be another reason for the low enrollment in the programs. Holly added that ratio requirements may help with enrollment because once they reach the threshold they need another lead teacher to have their credential. So those that have been getting away with teachers not having their credentials

may now need to get trained. Jennifer also added about the quality of the program. She discussed the private providers offering fast track classes that are not necessarily quality programs.

Holly discussed rule revision meetings. This process is a lot of updating (background screening, etc.). Some of the new changes are that child care training requirements will be able to include AYD (Advanced Youth Development) as well as fire extinguisher training. She also discussed potentially having child care personnel getting on a registry or a license of some kind to work in a child care facility. This is still in the discussion stages. The vision is to track the completion of the steps for clearance to work in a facility. Council asked questions about this registry also being able to track violations of staff. The owner and the director are responsible for that; however, this could help to prevent repeated violators from going from center to center. Holly would like to see a staff management component added to the child care management program on how to review staff performance and violations.

**ITEM 9: Next Meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2019 10:00am – 12:00pm (Friday)**

Discussion: Vicky Naubert motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lucia Adrian seconded the motion. All approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:01pm.

Susy Martinez-White

Scribe