



Early Childhood Education Business Partnership Council Minutes

August 17, 2018

CBP208 / 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attendance:

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
Vicki Naubert	Early Learning Coalition, Early Head Start
Erin Gallagher	Early Learning Coalition
Debra Strange	Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education
Mary Morris	Family Child Care Home Association & FCC Director/Owner
Heather Sargent	Department of Education, Office of Early Learning
Holly Strawser	Florida Department of Health
Ali Eger	Opportunity, Inc.
Kim Reckley	PNC Bank
Kat Lai	Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education
Celestra Alexander	Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education
Gina Carello	Early Learning Coalition
Amanda Wallace	Early Learning Coalition, Early Head Start
Junnell Hughes	Palm Beach County School District

The meeting was called to order by Susy Martinez-White at 10:10 a.m. Mary Morris thanked everyone for participating on the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Business Partnership Council (BPC) and asked everyone to introduce themselves and what organization they represent.

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes

Discussion: Heather Sargent motion to approve ECE BPC meeting minutes from June 14, 2018. Ali Eger seconded the motion. Approved.

Action: None.

ITEM 2: STEAM-y Ice Breaker

Task: Everyone was divided into groups of 3 and given a stack of index cards. The task was to build the highest tower that could hold a pen. This activity was fun and very appropriate to talk about the STEAM Fest event.

ITEM 3: STEAM Fest

Discussion: Kat Lai discussed some of the logistics of the STEAM Fest event and showed the group the flyer that was developed for the event. Expected turnout is approximately 300 people for the first year (pilot year) and create a buzz to then grow the event. In the future the committee hopes to extend to more businesses and school district. Kat passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers. She is in need of 20 volunteers.

Event Information:

- September 22, 2018
- 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth campus; Natural Science building (NS129) and in the surrounding courtyard

Objective: To create an interest in and excitement for STEAM in children in order to help them become the scientist, inventors, creators and innovators of our future.

Partners:

- Palm Beach State College, Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education – presenting “contraptions” and “tinker station” (interactive explorations of physics, color, light/shadow, and creativity and problem solving geared to young children, but fun and informative for all ages)
- South Florida Science Center and Aquarium – presenting up to 20 STEAM activities (virtual reality, dry ice experiments, robotics, etc.)
- Dr. Chandra’s (PBSC Professor) STEM Saturdays Team – presenting up to 20 STEAM activities (sheep heart investigations, mathematics puzzles and toys, botany exploration and more)

Volunteers:

- Host exhibits/activities
- Help facilitate existing exhibits
- Crowd control and hospitality
- Kat will put together a volunteer form for students. Heather will reach out to the school district to find out what process will be needed to offer volunteer hours to high school students.

Promotional/Marketing: Kat discussed how invitations will go out to all of the centers who work with the college to control the numbers of participants. The event will be marketed to STEAM schools to invite their school community. This event will not be marketed to the general public during the pilot year to control the number of participants.

Action: The STEAM Fest is taking place before the next BPC meeting. Volunteers should contact Kat Lai directly for information about the event and volunteer instructions. Her contact information is 561-868-3608 laik@palmbeachstate.edu.

ITEM 4: Follow-up on Creating Crosswalks with Trainings (STEAM, CLASS, GOLD)

Discussion: Susy emailed Cassie Wilbanks to assist in explaining ways to have an intentional link with trainings and college courses. Unfortunately, Cassie has not returned from summer hours yet.

Action: Susy will follow-up with Cassie and ask her to discuss at the next ECE Business Partnership Council meeting and the possibility of creating a crosswalk with the trainings discussed.

ITEM 5: Follow-up on “Birth to 22 PBC”

Discussion: At the last BPC, Kim Reckley asked if we knew about “Birth to 22 PBC” that includes SDPBC, Center for Youth Services, Health Department, ACHIEVE PBC, CSC. They created a team to focus on early learning and it would be beneficial to partner or participate and bring back information to ECE BPC meetings. Susy researched the website and it seems to have been inactive since 2017. Susy sent an email to the contact on the website to find out more information but has not heard back.

Action: Kim and Erin said that they believe the work has been divided into the subcommittees and they will find out more information to bring back to the business partnership council.

ITEM 6: Open Forum

Discussion: Erin Gallagher discussed updated on the Early Learning Coalition. The first update was the launch of the new database for parents and providers in July 2018. They have had all the issues associated with a new database system, troubleshooting, etc. This database allows families to apply for scholarships online and puts providers in the “driver’s seat” to complete the business end of the process. Things are looking good.

The second update was about eh HB1091 regarding class observations available to all school readiness programs. This will ensure quality from statewide providers including infant/toddler/PreK observations. Score could result in an incentive payment. The goal is to have the observations lead to planning using one of the 3 tools (Galileo, CLASS and High Scope). Teams are available to help with training which is where Palm Beach State College can assist. ELC will work with PBSC. Training videos are available online to assist.

Ali commented on the narrative being removed from the CLASS assessment. Erin replied with the explanation that it is no longer required but can be provided if needed. Heather suggested to Ali to give feedback if narrative is still needed. Ali explained that when you do not understand the score the narrative can help to provide ways to improve.

Kim Reckley asked how many of the approximately 800 providers in PBC will not meet the requirement. Erin explained that some will be given a score of a 2 which is considered “at

risk". Each program is provided technical support for hard to reach and hard to serve programs to get reassured. The goal is to move up in tiers based on improvement plan.

Kim commented on how early care quality in PBC is considered high as a result of the opportunities that the CSC and PBSC training programs have provided to providers.

Mary Morris asked what is being done for parent training. Erin discussed the ELC's Adult Learning Opportunity available to parents through PBSC's TRiO EOC program. TRiO EOC information connects ELC Adults to furthering their education. Kat suggested to invite TRiO EOC to the next ELC provider meeting.

Heather gave examples of resources for helping parents with kids.

Mary explained that they needed help with just going back to school. Ali discussed the Opportunity Center Inc. new Family Development Center that includes the Parent Resource Center.

Junnelle Hughes discussed how the district will continue to offer National CDA to ECE career pathway students in high school.

Action: Kat will ask Ana from TRiO EOC for information to share with the business partnership council as well as to connect her with Gina Carello to speak at one of the next provider meetings.

ITEM 7: Next Meeting

Discussion: The next meeting will take place on October 19, 2018 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. A list of all of the meeting was distributed to the council.

Kim Reckely motion to adjourn the meeting. Vicky Naubert seconded the motion. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Susy Martinez-White
Scribe