



APPROVED ON DECEMBER 16, 2022, PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

Program Review Committee Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2022 – 10:30 am

Virtual Meeting

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| Members in Attendance | Chair, Monica King; Dawn Liberta; Renee Podolsky |
| Members Absent | Cindy Arenberg-Seltzer; Richard Campillo; Laurie Sallarulo |
| Staff in Attendance | Renee Jaffe, CEO; Christine Klima, CAO; Hubert Cesar, CIO; Howard Bakalar, CPO; Judith Merritt, COO; Melody Martinez, Board Liaison; Amy Moore, Senior Director of Family Services and Provider Relations; Allison Metsch, Director of Education & Quality Initiatives; Stephanie Templin, Education Manager; Ayme Hamoui, Quality & Education Manager; Ancel Pratt, III Senior Director of Communications & Outreach; Celcia Pratt, Family Service Specialist; Christopher Rivera, Communications Manager; Gracy Haladjian, Family Services Training Manager |
| Others in Attendance | Melody McDonald; Julie Winburn |

| Item | Action/Discussion |
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| Welcome & Call to Order | Chair Monica King called the meeting to order at 1:39 PM. Roll was called, and a quorum was not established. Because a quorum was not established Committee Chair suggested that Howard Bakalar, CPO, discuss regular business. |
| Chair Report | Nothing to report. |
| CONSENT AGENDA 1. Approve April 20, 2022, meeting minutes | A quorum was not established. There was no discussion or voting on Consent Agenda. |
| REGULAR BUSINESS 1. PRC231RB1 – School Readiness Enrollment/Redetermination Update (Goal 1 of Strategic Plan) | <p>Amy Moore provided an update on School Readiness Enrollment and Redetermination. So far, this fiscal year we have enrolled 1,588 children in school readiness services. We continue to target and serve families in the zip code 33311 area. We don't see any signs of having met the need that is required in the community. We just did another pull of the applications, and it was still over 200 families, and families are still applying for services week by week.</p> <p>Chair, Monica King, asked about a strategy to get a sense of which types of marketing efforts are more/less successful in recruiting families applying for School Readiness.</p> <p>Howard replied yes. Ancel and Chris branched out the QR code. Whenever you scan the QR code, it takes you to the website for that event. Ancel has a running list of numbers we see from different types of events. So we are able to track each specific event.</p> |

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| <p>2. PRC231RB2 – VPK Enrollment (Goal 2 of Strategic Plan)</p> <p>3. PRC231RB3 – Education/Quality (Goals 3 and 4 of Strategic Plan)</p> <p>a. Current CLASS Score</p> | <p>Ancel Pratt, added that we are trying to segment the 3 main services that we are promoting this year as much as possible which are SR, VPK, and Bookworms. Currently, our bookworm outreach is the most scanned code. Second is school readiness thru our Broward County Public Schools. We created a QR code for when we went to a particular school. When we did Back to school, we went out to about 20 schools and printed around 9K flyers, and handed out 200 – 300 per school. Those got a lot of scans.</p> <p>Howard stated that this year, through our partnership with M Network, we have billboards promoting School Readiness in different areas of the County. One billboard is on 441, close to Commercial Blvd, and another billboard is close to Hard Rock Casino.</p> <p>Dawn Liberta asked what the current School Readiness caseload per ELC Family Services Specialist is, and what is our ideal caseload.</p> <p>Amy replied that currently, our caseload runs between 80- 125 children a month. Ideally, our caseload is between 55-60 children. This way they can follow up with the family enough to get all the documentation to determine eligibility and complete the process by the determined due date. We have enough slots for the staff to do this work. We just need to complete the higher process, which we are close.</p> <p>Amy provided an update on VPK Enrollment. This year we have approved over 15K applications for VPK, of that 15,062 for the school year program and 201 for the summer. While that’s not were we ended last year, it’s not very far off. We hope that providers as they partake in some of the incentives related to voluntary pre-kindergarten, they can open up additional VPK classroom. We do see some resurgence of VPK and VPK attendance coming back to Broward School.</p> <p>Provider Representative Melody McDonald shared that is was a rough start this year. There was a lack of communication with the classes and in general. Questions on the \$15 an hour pay and there are still centers that don’t have all their training done.</p> <p>Allison Metsch provided an update on Education and Quality. Per DEL we are required to use CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) tool to assess School Readiness (SR) Providers who have more than 20% School Readiness enrolled children and/or those who have received a CLASS 1 violation. This tool looks at the interaction between the children and the teachers. We observed over 300 of our SR sites. The tool is a score between 1 – 7, and per DEL you must maintain a score of 4 or higher to maintain your SR contract. This year, if you scored between 4 and a 4.49, you are not receiving a differential. One of our big focuses is about helping raise the level of quality/CLASS scores throughout Broward. Last year, the average CLASS score in Broward was a 5.01, and our 5 year goal is to have a countywide average of 6.0.</p> |
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| <p>Deep Data Dive</p> <p>b. Broward Above and Beyond Update</p> <p>c. VPK and CLASS Update</p> <p>4. PRC231RB4 – Additional Stimulus Funds Update</p> | <p>Hubert shared a presentation on CLASS Scores by Provider. the vast majority of our providers are above a 4.5. The goal is to help providers to continually improve their scores.</p> <p>Allison added that we had our first score of 7.0.</p> <p>Renee Podolsky asked what about those who have less than 4.0.</p> <p>Allison replied that starting this Fiscal Year, we no longer have schools on a quality improvement plan. Thre schools were carried over because last year they were put on a quality improvement plan where we work with them and provide 20 hours of coaching and training. In a few months, they will have their year of training with their Quality Improvement Plan, and we will reassess them. This year they will come off QIP and must score higher than a 4, and we will keep you posted on how they do.</p> <p>Allison provided an update on Above and Beyond. We are moving to our initiative to recruit retain and upscale our community. Allison introduced Stephanie Templin, who is transitioning as a manager and has done an amazing job hiring 5 new coaching staff, and 2 career job specialists. We had over 500 educators that are part of the above and beyond. We will be sending out and above and beyond survey to see what is working, and where we can improve.</p> <p>Chair, Monica King added that she is looking forward to hearing the feedback on the survey that will be sent out in October.</p> <p>Allison shared on VPK and CLASS. We will now be assessing every VPK classroom in the county. This includes classes that have a morning program and an afternoon program; regardless of the teacher being the same, we are still going out to see both classrooms. This is the first time we will be collecting the VPK CLASS data. In a year we will have the SR data and VPK data.</p> <p>Renee Jaffee shared that there is no update on this. At this time, there has been no official notification concerning the approval/rollout of the ARPA discretionary funds.</p> |
| UNFINISHED BUSINESS | There was no discussion. |
| NEW BUSINESS | There was no discussion. |
| MATTERS FROM CHAIR | There was no discussion. |
| PUBLIC COMMENT | There was no comment. |
| NEXT MEETING DATE | TBD |
| ADJOURN | A Motion was made to adjourn at 11:37 AM. |

These minutes contain the action items of the Board meeting of the Early Learning Coalition of Broward. They do not include all of the Committee's discussions or comments on each matter or issue raised during the meeting. A tape recording of the meeting is held in the Coalition office. Corrections from the Committee will be taken prior to approval at the next meeting.