



APPROVED AT THE EXECUTIVE/ FINANCE MEETING AUGUST 23 2018

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County  
 Special Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
 July 5, 2018 – 5:00 PM  
 6301 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Way, Suite 3400, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

- Members in Attendance: Laurie Sallarulo (Phone), Chair; Ellie Schrot (Phone); Renee Podolsky (Phone); Nicholas Kaniaris (Phone); Twan Russell (Phone)
- Members Absent: Cindy Arenberg Seltzer; Michael Asseff
- Staff in Attendance: Renee Jaffe, CEO; Christine Klima, CAO; Howard Bakalar, COO; Hubert Cesar, IT Director; Megan DeGraaf, Accounts Payable
- Others in Attendance: Jacob Jackson, legal; Herman Lipkis (Phone), Holland and Knight; Natalie Williams (Phone)

Item		Follow-up
Welcome & Call to Order	Laurie Sallarulo called the meeting to order at 5:12 PM A roll call was conducted and quorum was established.	
Approve Ad Hoc Site Expansion Committee Recommendation to	Jacob Jackson provided the termination process of the current lease at Lakeside Plaza, which requires nine-month notice to the current landlord.  <b>Motion to Approve</b> the Ad Hoc Site Expansion Committee Recommendation to	

<p>Execute Crown Center lease.</p>	<p>Execute Crown Center lease was made by Twan Russell, <b>seconded</b> by Ellie Schrot and <b>unanimously approved</b>.</p>	
<p>VPK Update</p>	<p>Renee Jaffe, CEO, provided an update on the Kindergarten Readiness Rates. The CEO reminded committee members of the provider’s concerns over the readiness rate, new assessment tool, and timeframe for the assessment. The providers are also concerned that the new assessment tool, STAR literacy is a skills-based assessments and does not account for executive functioning, motor-skill, and other social emotional learning, and does not take in account the learning gains throughout the VPK year. The provider’s concerns also include that not all children were tested, and providers objected that the test was administered during the first month of the Kindergarten year and does not take in account the “summer slide” or new classroom environments with computers. The providers also questioned whether a score of 500 can be justified as developmentally appropriate.</p> <p>The Board Chair informed members she drafted a letter to the Governor however expressed concern about the tone. She also questioned whether the letter should be going to the outgoing Governor. The Provider Board Representative expressed her concern on the timeline for the drafted letter, which was written as a result of a motion made and approved at the June 2018 Board meeting in an effort to support the concerns of the Broward providers. Executive members discussed submitting the letter to OEL instead, as well as the Governor. The CEO stated her concern about ELC Broward submitting the letter to OEL, which is their primary fund source. Following the discussion, the Board Chair stated she would update the letter (based on the discussion) to include that the new STAR Assessment does not measure cognitive and motor skills, as well as other social-emotional learning; that the Assessment does not measure learning gains; the Assessment excludes students who attend private elementary schools; the Assessment is given after summer slide, and in the first month of kindergarten using technology potentially unfamiliar to the children; and, the STAR Assessment is used as the only published measure of kindergarten readiness. The letter also suggests implementing the recommendations contained within the Committee for Early Grade Success’ report for procuring a kindergarten readiness assessment that aligns VPK Accountability with readiness across all domains, including learning gains, and is inclusive of all children. The</p>	

	<p>assessment should be administered at least twice (in the beginning and end of the VPK year) as well as at the start of the Kindergarten year. The Chair stated once completed she will have the ELC email the draft letter to the rest of the Executive committee members to review and submit comments to the CEO by July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Once all corrections have been made, the finalized letter will be mailed to OEL with a copies to the Governor, Britney Birkin and Pam Stewart.</p> <p><b>A Motion to Approve</b> a Letter Expressing Broward County Provider Concerns was made by Ellie Schrot, <b>seconded</b> by Twan Russell and <b>unanimously approved</b>.</p>	
New Business	There was no discussion.	
Matters from the Chair	There was no discussion.	
Matters from the Committee	There was no discussion.	
Public Comment	There was no comment.	
Next Meeting Date		
Adjourn	A motion to adjourn was made by Twan Russell at 6:18 PM	

These minutes contain the action items of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Early Learning Coalition. They do not include all 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.