

Approved on June 23, 2025, Finance Committee Meeting

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2025, at 1:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Members in Attendance	Chair Cindy Arenberg-Seltzer; Maria Hernandez; Renee Podolsky; Laurie Sallarulo
Members Absent (Excused)	Dawn Liberta; Zachary Talbot
Members Absent (Unexcused)	
Staff in Attendance	Renee Jaffe, CEO; Christine Klima, CAO; Judith Merritt, COO; Howard Bakalar, CPO; Hubert Cesar, CIO; Melody Martinez, Board Liaison & Executive Assistant; Lizbeth DelVecchio, Executive Assistant & Special Projects Coordinator; Amy Moore, Sr. Director of Family Services & Customer Services; Ancel Pratt III, Sr. Director of Communications & Outreach; Andres Calero, Accountant; Kasey LaFrance, Contracts Administration Manager; Megan DeGraaf, Purchasing & Procurement Specialist; Reinier Potts, Financial Analyst; Roy Persaud, Accountant; Sarane Epps, Contract Specialist; Stephanie Landreville, Controller; Daniel Hollenbaugh, AP and Payroll Manager
Others in Attendance	Julie Klahr, Legal Counsel; Dr. Amoy Reid; Monica King; Michael Asseff

Item	Action/Discussion
Welcome & Call to Order	<p>Chair Cindy Arenberg-Seltzer called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. The roll was called, and a quorum was not established at the time.</p> <p>Finance Chair Cindy Arenberg-Seltzer noted that Board Chair Laurie Sallarulo serves on all committees by default and suggested that perhaps her presence should not be counted toward quorum. She emphasized that the Finance Committee faces ongoing challenges in establishing quorum each month.</p> <p>CEO Renee Jaffe shared that the organization is exploring the possibility of reducing the number of Finance Committee meetings and actively recruiting additional members to help meet quorum requirements.</p> <p>Chief Operating Officer Judith Merritt announced that Amoy Reid will officially join the Finance Committee effective May 12, 2025, following the announcement made at the Board meeting.</p> <p>Chair Cindy Arenberg-Seltzer agreed that reducing the number of Finance Committee meetings would be beneficial. Committee members collectively agreed to move forward with decreasing the meeting frequency.</p>
Consent Agenda 1. Approve January 28, 2025, Committee meeting minutes 2. Approve March 4, 2025, Committee meeting minutes	<p>Laurie Sallarulo joined the meeting at 2:19 p.m., at which point a quorum was established. The committee was then able to proceed with voting on action items.</p> <p>A Motion was made by Laurie Sallarulo and Seconded by Maria Hernandez to move the Consent Agenda. The Motion was unanimously approved. Motion Passed.</p>

<p>Regular Business</p> <p>1. FIN256RB1 – Approve March 2025 Interim Financial Statements</p>	<p><u>March 2025 Interim Financial Statements</u></p> <p>The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) presented the March Interim Financial Statements. However, due to the absence of a quorum, no motion could be made at this time.</p> <p>Laurie Sallarulo joined the meeting at 2:19 p.m., at which point a quorum was established. The committee was then able to proceed with voting on action items.</p> <p>A Motion was made by Renee Podolsky and Seconded by Laurie Sallarulo to Approve March 2025 Interim Financial Statements, Pending Approval of an Annual Audit Performed by a Qualified Independent Certified Public Accountant. The Motion was unanimously approved. Motion Passed</p>
<p>2. FIN256RB2 – Approve Budget Amendment #5</p>	<p><u>Budget Amendment #5</u></p> <p>The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) reviewed the Budget Amendment #5. However, in the absence of a quorum, no motion could be taken at this time.</p> <p>Laurie Sallarulo joined the meeting at 2:19 p.m., at which point a quorum was established. The committee was then able to proceed with voting on action items.</p> <p>A Motion was made by Renee Podolsky and Seconded by Laurie Sallarulo to Approve FY2025 Budget Amendment #5. The Motion was unanimously approved. Motion Passed</p>
<p>Unfinished Business</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Matters from the Chair</p>	<p>Chair Cindy Arenberg-Seltzer shared recent developments regarding proposed changes to property taxes. Initially, it appeared that tensions between the Senate, House, and Governor might stall any progress. However, the House has since taken a more aggressive approach, forming a committee to explore significant changes, potentially aiming to eliminate or drastically reduce property taxes.</p> <p>These efforts could lead to a 2026 ballot initiative that may shift funding responsibility for services currently supported by local property taxes such as those administered by counties, municipalities, Children’s Services Councils, hospital districts, or school districts, to other sources. There is concern that this could eliminate local control over critical community services.</p>
<p>Public Comments</p>	<p>There was no discussion.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p><u>June 3, 2025, at 1:30 PM</u></p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 2:29 PM by Maria Hernandez</p>

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 before approval at the next meeting.