Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting
December 7th, 2015; 8:00 a.m.
ELC Board Room

Board Attendees:
Adrian Alfonso (chair); Imran Ali; Tina Carroll-Scott; Robert Eadie (treasurer); David Lawrence Jr (via conference call); Dr. Judy Schaechter; Alan Eckstein (via conference call); Dr. Mara Zapata; Rick Beasley; Abilio Rodriguez; Shaleen Fagundo, Alexander Soto; Lucy Pineiro (via conference call); Gladys Montes (via conference call); Gerald Schwartz; Theresa Axford; Russell Benford; Gilda Ferrada; Philip Gassman; Magaly Abrahante; Helene Good; Heather Carruthers (via conference call)

Board Absentees:

Staff Attendees:
Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Angelo Parrino; Lisa Sanabria; Jackye Russell; Fred Hicks; Wilfredo Ayala; Mercy Castiglione; Fiorella Altare; Ana Rodriguez; Dr. Anabel Espinosa; Mercy Castiglione; Lucy Shrack; Ileana Vallejo; Kerry Allen; Molly O’Doherty; Jose Hernandez; Juan Castillo; Paloma Lopez-Barcena; Tatiana Canelas; Miranda james; Hubert Cesar; Miguel Alfonso; Lisney Badillo; Michelle Meilan; Sandra Gonzalez

General Attendees:
Santiago Echemendia, Shutts & Bowen LLP; Jackie Romillo, Citrus; Demetrio Perez, Lincoln Marti; Sandi Biscoglia, FAEMSP/FASA; Emma M. Munez, CHN; Gail Gregg, FIU; Juanita Walker, Sheyes of Miami; Audelia Martinez, LeJardin; Sonya Williams; Jennifer Vazquez, A Sunny Start Preschool; Amelia, Hanan’s Academy; Abby Thomas, UF; Betty Aguiar-Perez, Miami Children’s Museum; Shelia Dudley, Room 2 Bloom; Sarah Brazin, Liberty Academy; Marisol Diaz, MDCPS; Andina Hoyos, Lincoln-Marti; Susan Galeria-Millian, Citrus Health; Cindy Montes de Oca, Horeb Christian School; Jodie Knofsky, Cener of Social Change; Rachel Spector, TCT; Little Superheroes; Rosa Fernandez, Play and Learn; Arlene Weissberg, Scholastic

I.  Welcome and Introductions
Adrian Alfonso

- A. Alfonso called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

- L. Sanabria called roll and a quorum was established with sixteen (16) voting members.

- A. Alfonso stated that if anyone has a conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board, to declare the conflict and see Lisa Sanabria for a form.

- A. Alfonso thanked Scholastic and their CEO Greg Worrel for providing home libraries to all students at Hannan Child Development Center located in Opa-Locka. Over 90 bags of books will be delivered on December 10th to the families.

- A. Alfonso stated that in the board packet there is a copy of a news release where Governor Scott announced the 2016-2017 Florida First budget which recommends $1.1 billion in funding for the Office of Early Learning, an increase of approximately $51.7 million. These investments will help put Florida on track to improve the quality of early care and education programs. Highlights of the proposed budgeted are:

  - $398.6 million for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program: The Governor’s budget includes a $9.3 million increase for VPK, raising the base student allocation $50 per child in the school-year program (from
$2,437 to $2,487) and $43 per child in the summer program (from $2,080 to $2,123). This amount get us closer to the 2007-08 level of $2,677 for the school year.

- $20.3 million to reduce the School Readiness program waiting list: Florida served approximately 216,000 children in School Readiness last year and had an average of more than 61,000 children on waiting lists statewide.

- $15.5 million for Early Learning Performance Funding: Performance-based funding improves outcomes for children in School Readiness by providing special training and incentives to child care providers and instructors.

A. Alfonso stated that the Nominating committee was unable to meet due to lack of quorum and requested that the board to approve the second term for Dr. Magaly Abrahante.

- S. Fagundo moved to approve nomination
- T. Axford seconded the motion
- Motion was passed unanimously

A. Alfonso stated that there is a group of providers who are being recognized for achieving first time accreditation.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Alfonso called for the approval of the meeting minutes from November, 2015.

- M. Zapata moved to approve the minutes.
- J. Schaechter seconded the motion.
- Correction to the minutes was made H. Carruthers was present.
- Motion was passed unanimously.

III. Finance Committee Report

Resolution 12012015-01 authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract with Automated Data Processing Payroll Services (ADP, Inc.) to extend the date and increase the contract amount. Also to release a request for proposal, negotiate and execute a contract for Payroll Services. The information for both requests is stated in the background of this resolution. Fiscal Impact: The contract amount increases by $35,337.60, for a total contract amount of $61,675.20, which is subject to the availability of funding.

- Motion to approve resolution by R. Eadie
- Motion seconded by G. Schwartz
- Motion was unanimously passed.

Resolution 12012015-02 authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to extend Contract PSA15-50 until June 30, 2016, for the Teenage Parent Program (TAPP) technical assistance services with Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership, Inc. Fiscal Impact: The contract amount increases by $20,000.00, for a total contract amount not to exceed $49,975.73 for the fiscal year 2015-2016, which is subject to the availability of funding.

- Motion to approve resolution by R. Eadie
- Motion seconded by G. Schwartz
- Motion was unanimously passed.

Resolution 12012015-03 authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute an amendment to the contracts listed in the background section of this resolution for Quality Materials. Fiscal Impact: The total contract amounts increases by $1,000,000.00 which is subject to the availability of funding.

- Motion to approve resolution by S. Fagundo
- Motion seconded by J. Schaechter
- Motion was unanimously passed.
- Resolution 12012015-04 Authorize the President and CEO to release two Requests for Proposal, negotiate and execute two contracts for General Repairs/Improvements and for Playground and Playground Equipment for our Early Head Start child care centers. Fiscal Impact: The contracts are not-to-exceed a total amount of $1,200,000.00 for fiscal year 2015-2016, may extend beyond the state fiscal year, pending approval from the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start.
  - Motion to approve resolution by R. Benford
  - Motion seconded by R. Beasley
  - Motion was unanimously passed.

- B. Eadie reviewed the finance statement and stated that it was business as usual and that trends are on a normal tract as compared to other fiscal years.

- E. Torres stated that the Wait list for Miami-Dade County is not reflecting 0 because packets were sent out after the report generated. Monroe County’s Wait list remains at 0.

IV. Programs and Policy Committee Report

Dr. Judy Schaechter

Dr. Judy Schaechter stated that the ELC staff provided an update on the following:

- The Neighborhood Place for Early Head Start including program enrollment, referrals of children and families to Jackson Health System and plans for continued development of the Early Head Start Policy Committee. E. Torres and the Early Head Start team participated in a conference call with the Head Start Regional Office on November 20th, to discuss school readiness policies and procedures and enrollment and recruitment into the Early Head Start program.

- Inclusion and Assessment provided updates, including ongoing reduction in ASQ3 past due providers. ASQ3 past due numbers are down from 370 in October to 316 in November.

- The Inclusion and Assessment department also reported on the status of implementation of recommendations from the Inclusion Work Group. The recommendations include the creation of a process flow for intake and referral for families expressing concerns about their child’s development and enhancements to the School Readiness data system (known as the EFS system) to document parent concerns and children with a diagnosed disability. These actions are now complete with ELC Eligibility staff training planned for later this month.

- The Professional Development Institute provided an overview of training efforts which include Teaching Strategies Gold, which Florida now mandates as a pre and post assessment for Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) providers.

- The Professional Development Institute also reported on Home Instruction for Parents of Youngsters (HIPPY). HIPPY continues to ramp up and hire staff. HIPPY will begin delivering services in Monroe County in January 2016.

- Quality Counts provided an overview of its current waitlist, which is at zero and lead a discussion of current ratings for the Learning Environment and Staff qualifications. Quality Counts is currently revising its processes.

- The Performance Funding Pilot, a program that is testing models for tiered reimbursement for providers in high poverty communities is being run by the Office of Early Learning and implemented throughout the state of Florida. The Performance Funding Pilot is in its second year with 29 programs actively participating in Miami-Dade and 2 programs actively participating in Monroe.

- Quality Assurance reported on the most recent Accountability Monitoring issued by the Office of Early Learning. The Accountability and Monitoring Report included services delivered for School Readiness Eligibility Services from January through March 2015, for VPK during the 2014-2015 program year and the Coalition’s operations from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2015.
A possible pilot program was discussed: Sunbeatables- sun safety curriculum to teach children about sun protection. This program is a potential partnership with the MD Anderson Cancer Center (University of Texas) and the CATCH Global Foundation. The Programs Committee asked that the staff perform due diligence locally to be sure there would be no duplication of efforts. Action for the Sunbeatables pilot was tabled until the December Programs Committee Meeting.

V. Provider Services Committee Report

Rick Beasley

- Rick Beasley stated that the Children’s Academy #1 was issued an “Emergency Suspension Order” by the Department of Children and Families due to serious licensing violation that posed an immediate and serious danger to the health, safety or welfare of the children in their care. The licensing violation were discovered during a renewal inspection conducted on September 25, 2015 and a follow-up inspection conducted on October 1, 2015. During the follow-up inspection, DCF found that conditions previously noted had not been corrected, but had worsened. The provider has obtained counsel and are appealing these violations. While the termination still stands and they are not serving any School Readiness children, the Provider Services committee decides to table the final decision until said hearing had occurred. The provider and counsel were advised that if DCF did not revoke a substantial sum of the violations, the termination would stand. The results of the DCF hearing will be available by the end of January.

VI. CEO Report

Evelio Torres

http://www.elcmdm.org/about_us/Board/minutes/Board/CEO%20report/CEOR12072015.pdf

VII. Public Comments

Adrian Alfonso

VIII. Adjourn

Adrian Alfonso