



ELC Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, February 5, 2024; 9 A.M.
2555 Ponce de Leon Blvd.
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Meeting ID: 845 1208 0002
Passcode: 802984

MINUTES

Board Attendees: Matthew Bruno; Dr. Daniel Armstrong; Loreen Chant; Jenni Roig; Dr. Lawrence Richie Tandoc; Denisse Barrera; Sandi Bisceglia; Dr. Eileen Fluney; Chuck Mohr; Iris Strachan; Gilda Ferradaz; Chereen Coile; Lisa Taylor; Aaron Slavens; Alfred Sanchez; Holly Raschein; Dr. Riestra; Rick Beasley; James Haj; Lynn Maceyras; Laurie Joasil

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres; Angelo Parrino; Mercy Castiglione; Sandra Gonzalez; Michelle Meilan; Jacqueline Dominguez; Ahmed Mitwalli; Miguel Alfonso; Paloma Lopez-Barcena; Fiorella A. Chrisite; Anabel Espinosa; Ana Sejeck; Belkis Torres; Ana Rodriguez; Aileen Suazo; Alex Sanchez; Laurie Dunn; Lissandra Curbelo; Iliana Vallejo; Ahmed Mitwalli; Andrea Penton; Jose Hernandez; Victor Caballero; Miguel Alfonso; Dessiree Aguilera; Spanish Interpretation

General Attendees: Bob de la Fuente; Carla Fry

I. Welcome & Introductions

Matthew Bruno

A. Roll Call

- A. M. Bruno called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- B. Quorum was established with 22 voting members.

II. Approval of Minutes

Matthew Bruno

A. Motion to approve the November 6, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

- A. Sanchez moved to approve the minutes.
- R. Beasley seconded the motion
- Motion passed unanimously

Mission: To promote high-quality school readiness, voluntary pre-kindergarten and after school programs, thus increasing all children's chances of achieving future educational success and becoming productive members of society. The Coalition seeks to further the physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs of Miami-Dade and Monroe County children with a priority toward the ages before birth through age 5.



III. Chairman's Report

Matthew Bruno

The following was presented by the board chairman:

- I would like to remind all board members that in February, you will be receiving an email in reference to the Customer Service Survey Project conducted by the University of Florida. This is a yearly survey to ensure a quality experience for coalition boards. This information is ultimately sent to the legislature and the governor's office. I want to remind you how important this survey is, so please be on the lookout for it in February and make sure you answer it carefully and accurately because it can impact the Coalition's performance level. (Scott Richards will be on the zoom listening in if you want to introduce him.) We have a new board member to vote on this morning who will be filling the DEL required Monroe County Health Department Director position. (Dr. Fry will be on Zoom)
- **Dr. Carla Fry -Monroe Administrator and Health Officer, PhD, MSN, RN**

I would like to introduce Dr. Carla Fry, Monroe Administrator and Health Officer for The Florida Department of Health. Dr. Fry, after today's board vote, will fill the board position of Monroe County Health Department Director which is a DEL requirement. Dr. Fry has over 35 years of experience in the medical field. She got her start as an Army Medic assigned to the 4th Infantry Division. During her time in the military, Fry worked as a first responder and became a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Fry, as Director of Nursing at The College of the Florida Keys (CFK), worked closely with The Florida Department of Health in Monroe County (DOH-Monroe) on a number of community outreach initiatives focused on protecting the health of residents and visitors to the Florida Keys. She was Assistant County Health Administrator, then appointed by the Florida Surgeon General to the position of Administrator and Health Officer for Monroe County in February 2023.

When she's not at work, Fry loves to play and listen to music. She spends time boating, fishing, and diving in the beautiful Florida Keys.

Symeria Hudson, President and CEO, United Way of Miami: We are fortunate to have Symeria Hudson, President and CEO of the United Way of Miami join us this morning. As you all know, the United Way is one of our strongest advocacy partners. Symeria is going to share with us many of the great projects and initiatives that they have underway and the difference they are making for our children, families and community.

Chairman's Distinguished Service Award

I would like to recognize Board Secretary, Iris Strachan, for the Chairman's Distinguished Service Award. Ms. Strachan is the Chair at Miami Dade College School of Education. Iris also serves as board Secretary. She has joined us on most of our provider visits and is always ready to contribute to the mission of the Early Learning Coalition. We commend her on her responsiveness, and her overall involvement with the board. We appreciate your dedication.



IV. Chairman's Partner Spotlight

Matthew Bruno

Paloma Lopez-Barcena introduced Silvia Arrastia from Silvia's School.

V. Guest Speaker

Evelio Torres

- Symeria Hudson, President and CEO United Way Miami presented to the board.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee Report 12/4/2023

Matthew Bruno

A. 12042023-01RFP External Fiscal Monitoring (Award)

Action Requested: Approval of the Evaluation Committee's award recommendation for Request for Proposal (RFP) #ELCMDM2023-10 (External Fiscal Monitoring Services) and authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute a contract with the selected vendor.

B. 12042023-02 RFP Teaching Pyramid Infant-Toddler Observation Scale (Award)

Action Requested: Approval of the Evaluation Committee's award recommendation for Request for Proposal (RFP) #ELCMDM2023-05 (Teaching Pyramid Infant-Toddler Observation Scale Services) and authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute a contract with the selected vendor.

C. Resolution for \$3M County Grant Opportunity

- M. Bruno asked for a motion to approve the resolutions.
 - Motion to approve by L. Chant
 - Dr. Armstrong seconded the motion
 - Motion passed unanimously

B. Finance Committee Report 1/25/2024

Loreen Chant

C. Monroe Advisory Committee Report 1/18/2024

Sandi Bisceglia

D. Provider Services Committee Report 1/25/2024

Rick Beasley

E. Legislative Committee Report 1/24/2024

Alfred Sanchez



F. Program Committee Report 1/29/2024

Chereen Coile

A. **01292024-01 EHS Self- Assessment Report and Improvement Plan**

Authorize the President and CEO to submit the 2023-2024 Early Head Start Self-Assessment Report and Action Plan with the Early Head Start grant application and implement the Action Plan.

B. **01292024-02 EHS Recruitment and Selection Plan**

Authorize the President and CEO to implement the Early Head Start 2024-2025 Recruitment and Selection Plan.

- C. Coile asked for a motion to approve the resolutions.
 - Motion to approve by Dr. Fluney
 - J. Haj seconded the motion
 - Motion passed unanimously

G. Bylaws Committee Report

Chuck Mohr

VII. **Community Report**

Evelio Torres

- Screening and Child Assessments
- Professional Development Institute
- Communications/Outreach Activities

VIII. **Public Comments**

Matthew Bruno

XII. **Adjourn**

Matthew Bruno

Meeting Dates:

- **Executive Committee Meeting: Monday, March 4, 2024; 9 A.M. via Zoom**
- **Board Meeting: Monday April 1, 2024; 9- 11 A.M. in person or via zoom**