



**Program Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting**  
**Monday, February 27, 2023; 9 A.M.**  
**Meeting ID: 821 2516 0628**  
**Passcode: 754576**

## **MINUTES**

**Committee Attendees;** Chereen Coile, Sandi Bisceglia, Jim Haj, Dr. Fluney, Joycelyn Lawrence, Denise Barrera,

**Board Attendees:** Dr. Armstrong; Gilda Ferradaz

**Committee absentees:** Suzette Frazier

**Staff Attendees:** Fiorella A. Christie, Lissandra Curbelo, Victor Caballero, Michelle Meilan, Alex Sanchez, Dr. Espinosa, Pamela Hollingsworth, Angelo Parrino, Evelio Torres, Andrea Penton, Lisney Badillo, Sandra Gonzalez, Mercy Castiglioni, Ahmed Mitwalli

### **I. Welcome & Introductions**

**Chereen Coile**

- A. C. Coile called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- B. K. Gregory called roll and quorum was established with six voting members.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

**Chereen Coile**

- A. Motion to approve January 23, 2023 minutes.
  - Motion to approve S. Bisceglia
  - Motion Seconded Dr. Barrera
  - Motion unanimously passed.

### **III. Making a Difference**

**Dr. Anabel Espinosa**

Dr. Anabel Espinosa with the Inclusion, Screening and Child Assessment Team shared a story from the field, highlighting the supports offered to children and families.

### **IV. CLASS® Assessments Update**

**Fiorella A. Christie**

- Fiorella A. Christie provided CLASS® Assessments Update Information.

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.



## V. American Rescue Plan Act Update

**Fiorella A. Christie and  
Victor Caballero**

- A. F. Altare reported the most updated statistics on the ARPA Round 2 applications and awards. V. Caballero reported on the ARPA Workforce Notice of Award.

### Round 1 Applications

- Awarded 1,278 programs totaling \$83,187,761.25
- 1st installment – \$27,729,253.75 – 100% completed
- 2nd installment - \$27,346,779.56 – 99% completed
- 3rd installment - \$18,476,125.65 – 67% completed

### Round 2 Applications

- Received 1235
- Approved 947 programs totaling \$59,828,024.76

### Notice of Award Round 2 \$118,973,311

- Award amounts and eligibility requirements for round 2 are the same as those for round 1, although the application format has changed
- Payments will be made in one lump sum
- Applications opened Oct. 31, 2022
- Applications will close Feb. 28, 2023

### American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Build a World CLASS® Workforce

- The Division of Early Learning (DEL) prioritized investments that will build the knowledge and skills that drive high-quality adult-child interactions. These investments extend from the newest teacher to the most experienced teachers and program directors.
- Over 400 early care and education partners have applied.
- More information available on our website and YouTube Channel
- Upcoming Grants

### Grants Currently Available:

#### Recruit and Train New Teachers

- **\$700 Health and Safety bonus**, upon completion of Department of Children and Families (DCF) Health & Safety training.\*
- **\$500 Recruitment bonus**, upon completion of background screening and at least 120 hours of employment.\*



**VI. Early Head Start**

**Belkis Torres**

- A. Attendance
- B. Meals
- C. Early Head Start Annual Report
- D. School Readiness Goals Update
- E. Program Goals Update

B. Torres reported that The Early Head Start program continues to show progress in the three goals:

- Goal 1: Increase the selection pool of eligible children in the community.
- Goal 2: Increase teacher motivation and self-confidence by becoming peer trainers and coaches, which can contribute to teacher retention.
- Goal 3: Develop a comprehensive wellness program to promote healthy lifestyle choices for parents, children, and staff.

School Readiness Goals Update:

- Compared to last year, the program has seen a decrease in the number of children meeting or exceeding in the areas of Approaches to Learning; Cognition; and Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development. The program will analyze the data to determine factors contributing to the decline in these particular areas of development.

Annual Report was reviewed:

The 2021-2022 Annual Report covers the following information:

- Funding Sources
- Expenditures
- 2022-2023 Proposed Budget
- Program Enrollment
- Special Needs Enrollment
- Child Outcomes
- Professional Development
- Family Engagement and Outcomes
- Medical, Dental, Nutrition, and Mental Health Services
- Financial and Federal Review Results

**VII. Professional Development Institute**

**Ana Sejeck**

- A. Super CLASS® Saturday On the Road April 29, 2023 information was provided by Ana Sejeck.

**VIII. Public Comments**

**Chereen Coile**

**IX. Adjourn**

**Chereen Coile**



**Next Meeting:**

**March 27, 2023; 9 A.M.**