



**Program Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
Monday August 28, 2023; 9 A.M.
Meeting ID: 865 3398 9007
Passcode: 596169**

Committee Attendees; Sandi Bisceglia, Dr. Fluney, Jim Haj, Dr. Riestra

Board Attendees: Dr. Armstrong, Holly Raschein

Committee Absentees: Dr. Barrera, Dr. Lawrence,

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres, Angelo Parrino, Mercy Castiglione, Fiorella A. Christie, Lissandra Curbelo, Carolina Carrion, Belkis Torres, Michelle Meilan, Alex Sanchez, Dr. Espinosa, Pamela Hollingsworth, Andrea Penton, Lisney Badillo, Sandra Gonzalez, Mercy Castiglioni, Ahmed Mitwalli, Matthew Zaldivar, Sheyla Perez, Vanessa Aguilera-Viera, Victor Caballero, Ahmed Mitwalli, Paloma Lopez, Cindy Cabrera

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chereen Coile

- A. Dr. Fluney called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- B. K. Gregory called roll and quorum was established with four voting members.

II. Approval of Minutes

Chereen Coile

- A. Motion to Approve May 30, 2023 minutes.
 - Motion to approve S. Bisceglia
 - Motion Seconded J. Haj
 - Motion unanimously passed.

III. American Rescue Plan Act Update

Fiorella A. Christie

Fiorella A. Christie provided the most recent ARPA updates and information.

Public Comment: Dr. Fluney asked about any providers not being paid as of yet. Fiorella reported that all rounds 1,2, and 3 have been disbursed. An email was provided if any provider has questions about their payment.

IV. American Rescue Plan Act Discretionary Grant Program

Evelio Torres

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.



Evelio Torres presented information on the grant and the funding requirements. July 6, 2023 the Coalition held a session with 160 providers to discuss the grant. Mr. Torres stressed the importance of the items being reasonable, allowable, and necessary. The committee was provided the committee with the list of items the

- A. Motion to Approve by C. Coile:
- Motion to approve Dr. Fluney
 - Motion Seconded Dr. Riestra
 - Motion unanimously passed.

Public comments: Both Dr. Fluney and S. Bisceglia congratulated the Coalition on the efforts made for the planning and application for these dollars. S, Bisceglia asked about shade in playground.

V. Early Head Start

Belkis Torres

Belkis Torres reported that enrollment remains at 100% since reaching this goal in December. (if you are able to fill a vacant slot within 30 days, Disability is at the goal of 10%. Last year ended at 19% of the enrollment for children with special needs.

- A. Enrollment- Belkis Torres reported that enrollment remains at 100% since reaching this goal in December. (if you are able to fill a vacant slot within 30 days, Disability is at the goal of 10%. Last year ended at 19% of the enrollment for children with special needs.
- B. Attendance- Explained the goals of attendance. Main reasons for absences were fever/vacation.
- C. Meals- information was provided.
- D. Incident Reports-informed the committee of 3 incidents that needed to be reported to Regional Office.

Public Comments: Evelio Torres congratulated the EHS staff on achieving the goal with the enrollment. Mr. Torres reminded the committee that any incident takes place at one of our contracted providers, it affects the Coalition as well. Professional development is very important in prevention of incident.

Dr. Fluney suggestion a campaign on having no phone use in the classroom.

VI. Professional Development Institute

Ana Sejeck

- A. Super Literacy Saturday! Recap- Ana Sejeck reported on the success of the training. The sessions are recorded and will be on the PDI site for others to watch. A. Sejeck reported that there were 385 attendees. Sessions are in English and Spanish. The next event will be in December.



- B. National CDA Registration- Ana Sejeck provided updates on CDA information. Sessions are in English and Spanish. Creole interpretation is available by request. She invited committee members to join any classes.

Public comment: Evelio Torres expressed the importance of advocacy, especially the business owners to create awareness and to let them know they have a powerful voice locally and in Tallahassee. It is important for policy makers to hear from them. This is one of the goal of the Professional Development Institute.

VII. Public Comments

Chereen Coile

VIII. Adjourn

Chereen Coile

Next Meeting:

Monday September 25, 2023; 9 A.M.