



**Program Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
Monday October 24, 2022; 9 A.M.
Meeting ID: 978 4236 8061
Passcode: ELC102422**

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|--|----------------------|
| I. Welcome & Introductions | Gladys Montes |
| II. Approval of Minutes | Gladys Montes |
| A. Motion to approve September 26, 2022 minutes | |
| III. Early Head Start | Belkis Torres |
| A. Attendance | |
| B. Meals | |
| C. Enrollment | |
| D. Incident Report | |
| E. Program Highlights | |
| IV. Professional Development Institute | Ana Sejeck |
| A. Child Development Associate (CDA) Update | |
| B. Super CLASS Saturday Update | |
| V. VPK | Cindy Cabrera |
| A. Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Update | |
| B. Review of VPK Provider Readiness Rates and Plan to Improve Update | |
| VI. Public Comments | Gladys Montes |
| VII. Adjourn | Gladys Montes |

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.



Program Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
Monday September 26, 2022; 9 A.M.
Meeting ID: 969 1137 0244
Passcode: ELC082922

MINUTES

Committee Attendees: Sandi Bisceglia; Jim Haj; Denise Barrera; Mara Zapata;

Board Attendees: Dr. Daniel Armstrong

Committee absentees: Chereen Coile; Gladys Montes

Staff Attendees: Michelle Meilan; Belkis Torres; Angelo Parrino; Lisney Badillo; Ana Sejeck; Evelio Torres; Pamela Hollingsworth; Sandra Gonzalez; Victor Caballero; Fiorella A Christie; Alex Sanchez; Natalia Gamundi; Dr. Hicks; Vanessa Aguilera; Mercy Castiglione; Lisney Badillo; Cindy Cabrera; Victor Caballero; Thalia Daumy

I. Welcome & Introductions

Jim Haj

- A. J. Haj called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- B. K. Gregory called roll and quorum was established with Five (5) voting members.

II. Approval of Minutes

Jim Haj

- A. Motion to approve August 29, 2022 minutes
 - Motion to approve by S. Bisceglia
 - Motion seconded by M. Zapata
 - Motion unanimously passed.

III. Early Head Start

Belkis Torres

- A. Attendance is at an increase from last month at 85.5%.
- B. Meals-
 - Breakfast served is up from previous month at 99.38%
 - Lunch served is down from previous month at 99.79%
 - Snacks served is down from previous month at 98.8%

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- C. Head Start Program Information Report
 - B. Torres reported that on August 31, the program submitted the Program Information Report (PIR) to the Office of Head Start. This is submitted annually by all programs on the same day. The PIR is a snapshot that captures the services offered by the program in the previous year. The Program Information Report slide provides a summary of the children and families served and the services they received. It also includes information on the staff Providing services.
- D. Early Head Start Health and Safety Screener
 - B. Torres explained that every Head Start and Early Head Start program must conduct a Health and Safety Screener on every site within 45 days from the start of the school year. The tool consists of 53 items that must be met. The two (2) Health and Safety Screener slides provide:
 - The top items found noncompliant by 25% or more of the partners.
 - The breakdown for finding by partners
- E. Partner Updates were provided by B. Torres. Two new EHS programs entered the partnership. 7th Heaven in Perrine and Jitta Bug Family Childcare Home in Liberty City.
- F. Dr. Zapata provided Policy Council Updates.

IV. Professional Development Institute

Ana Sejeck

- A. Child Development Associate (CDA) Updates were provided by Ana Sejeck. Training opportunities were discussed including Super CLASS[®] Saturday.
- B. Details were given on the success of the Monroe Conference Be the Star of Your own Life in Marathon.

V. VPK

Cindy Cabrera

- A. Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Updates were provided by C. Cabrera
- B. Review of VPK Provider Readiness Rates and Plan to Improve Updates were provided by C. Cabrera. She provided a list of supports provided by the Early Learning Coalition. (Provided in Program Policy and Strategy Committee packet).

VI. Public Comments

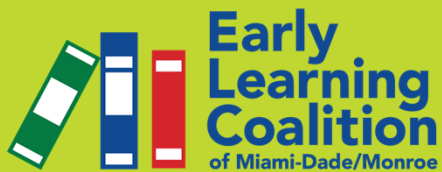
Jim Haj

VII. Adjourn

Jim Haj

EARLY HEAD START

Program, Policy, and Strategic Committee



Early Head Start Slides Summary

Enrollment

The program continues to make steady progress with meeting enrollment. The program is currently 97% enrolled.

Child Incident Report

The Office of Head Start issued an Information Memorandum on September 27, 2022 clarifying the reporting of child incidents.

Incidents must be reported with no delay and no later than 7 calendar days from the incident occurring.

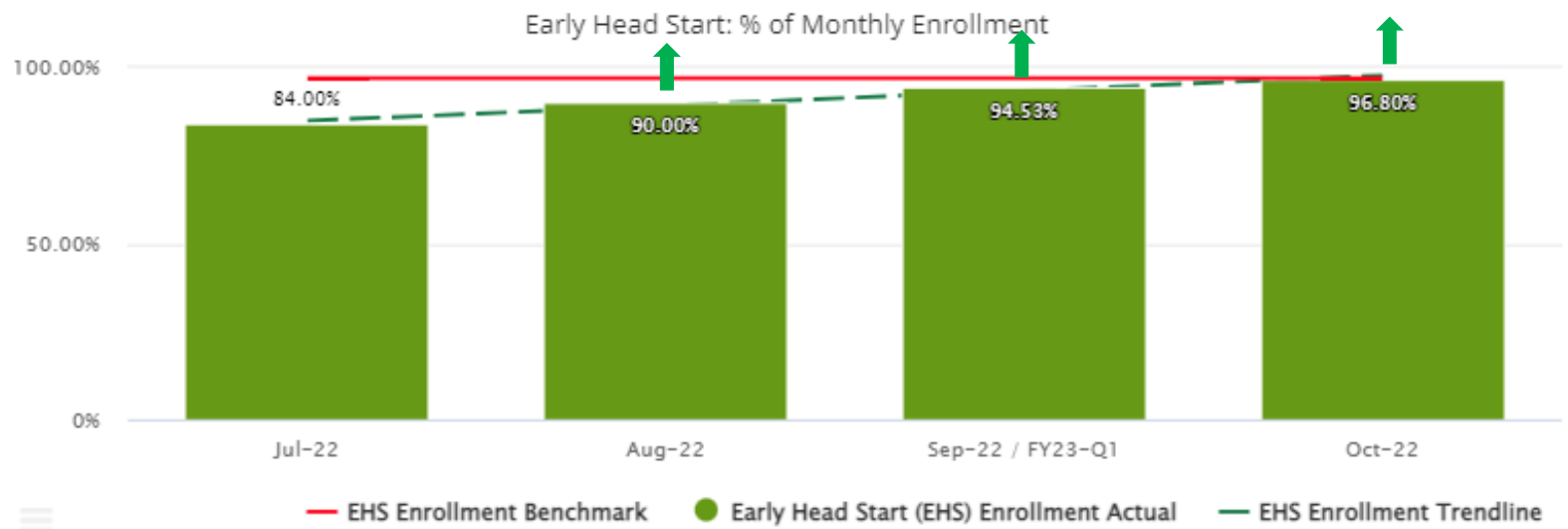
Failure to report will result in a noncompliance, which may include a deficiency.

Program Highlights

- Ten percent (10%) disability enrollment requirement has been met.
- Online application on Parent Hub has been launched.
- Online monitoring in the Partner Hub is in testing mode.
- Jennifer Lescano and Zephania Peacock were guests of Dr. Mara Zapata and the Mayor's Children Summit.

Enrollment

% of Monthly Enrollment (Upward Trend is Good)

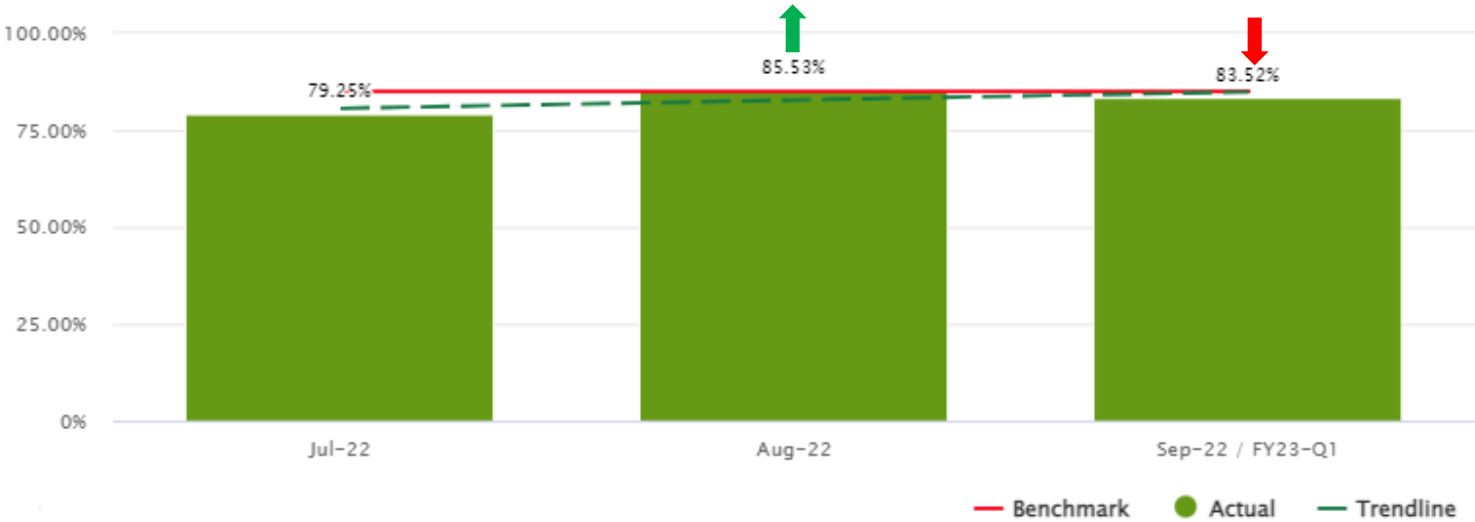


- ↑ Increase from the Previous Month
- ↓ Decrease from the Previous Month
- ↔ No change from the Previous Month

Source: ChildPlus

Attendance

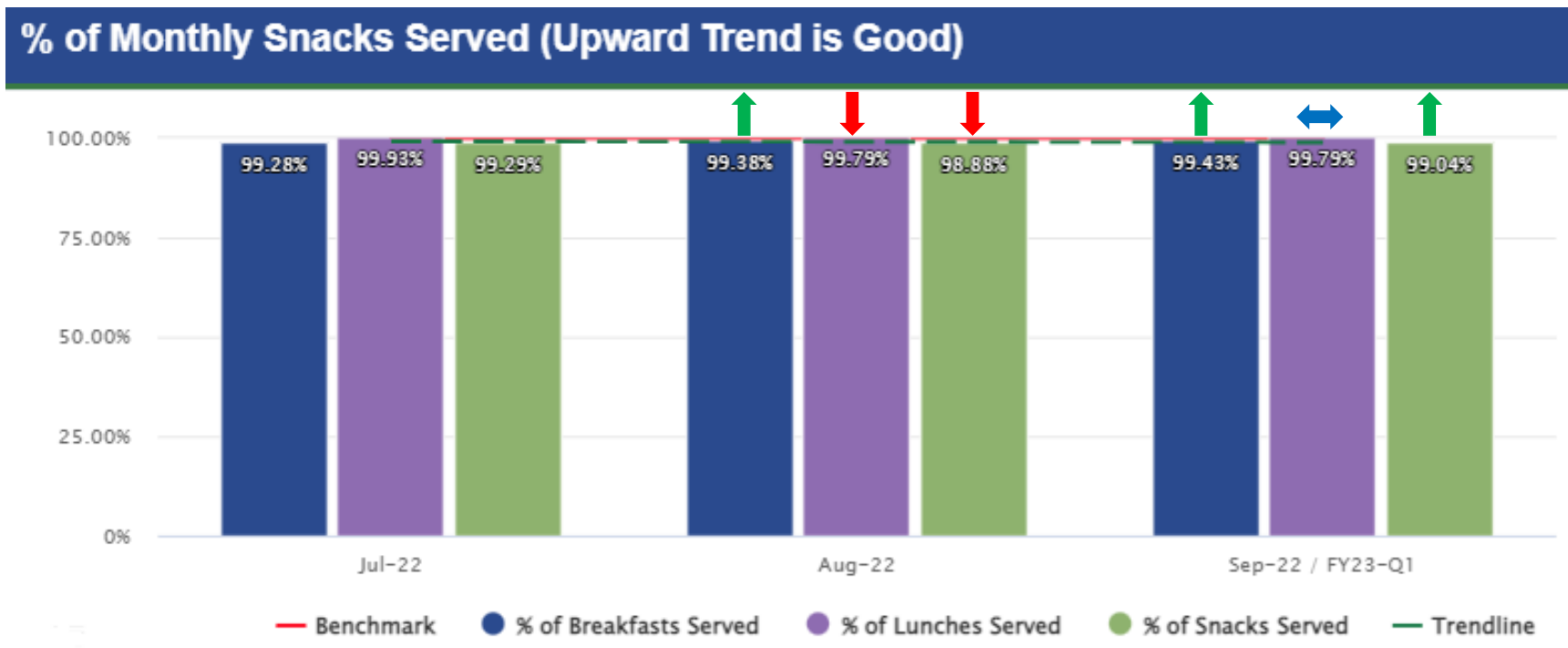
% of Average Monthly Attendance (Upward Trend is Good)



- ↑ Increase from the Previous Month
- ↓ Decrease from the Previous Month
- ↔ No change from the Previous Month

Source: ChildPlus

Meals



- ↑ Increase from the Previous Month
- ↓ Decrease from the Previous Month
- ↔ No change from the Previous Month

Source: ChildPlus

Information Memorandum

Information Memorandum from the Office of Head Start: ACF-IM-HS-22-07

Intent: Clarification on reporting significant incidents affecting the health and safety of program participants.

Timeframe: Immediately or as soon as practicable, which means with no delay but no later than seven (7) calendar days following the incident.

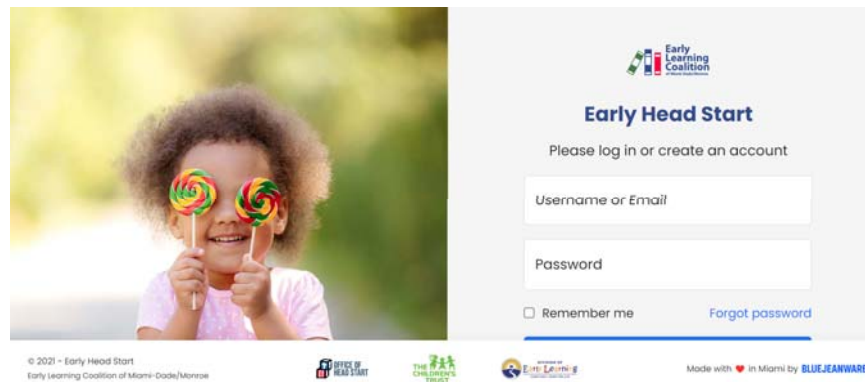
Failure to Report: Will result in a monitoring finding, which may include a deficiency determination.

Reportable Incidents:

- Child Injuries requiring hospitalization or emergency room medical treatment
- Inappropriate discipline
- Potential child abuse and maltreatment
- Lack of supervision
- Unauthorized release

Program Highlights

- The program met the 10% requirement of disability and is almost at 11%.
- New online application was created in the Parent Hub. A soft launch was done on 7/27/22.



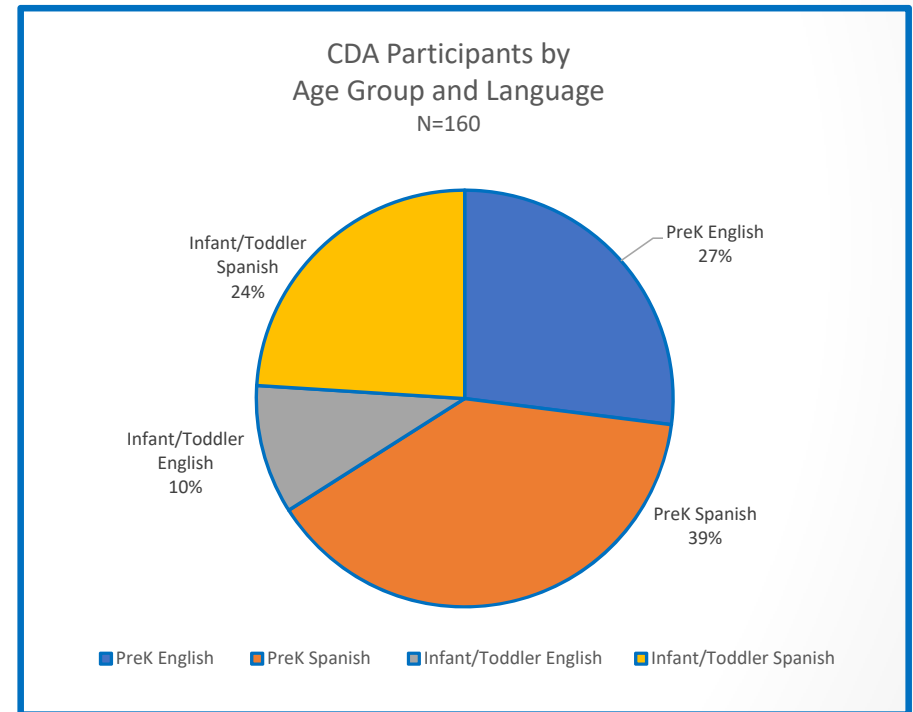
- New online monitoring in the Partner Hub is in the testing phase.
- Ms. Jennifer Lescano, Policy Council Member, and Ms. Zephania Peacock, Director of Step Above, were guests of Dr. Mara Zapata at the Mayor's Children Summit.



Program, Policy & Strategy Committee
Professional Development Institute
Lead Manager: Ana Sejeck

National Credentialing Program Child Development Associate (CDA®) Fall Term 2022

- Fall 2022 Course Enhancements/Highlights
 - Highly specialized faculty (graduate degrees)
 - Linguistically diverse student body
 - Crosswalk with the CLASS® Observation
 - Focus on dual language learners
 - Digital Portfolio - Competency Reflective Statements and Collection of Resources
 - Becomes a catchment for various learning and expansion of knowledge
- Community Partnerships:
 - Early Learning Career Center, funded by The Children's Trust
 - The Children's Forum
- Waitlist for Fall 2023



Super CLASS® Saturday!

10/15/2022

- Registered: 656 / Attended: 467 (72%)
- Inclusive approach for all age groups/positions
- Live Interpretation
- Participants reported 9 languages served in their programs
- CLASS® Observer Roundtable – Dispelling myths
- Teachstone® (The “source” for CLASS® Observation)
 - Strategies to Support Dual Language Learners
 - Relationship Equity in Your Classroom

Next Super CLASS® Saturday!
January 21, 2023



Poverty Simulation

In Observance of Poverty Awareness Month

January 2023

- ELCMDM connection for 12 years
- Relaunch after 2 ½ year hiatus
- Action based tool simulates '30 days in the life'
- Participants walk in the shoes of families, single parents, persons with disabilities, children and senior citizens
- Each participant must provide food shelter and other basic needs for themselves and their loved ones
- Ready to deliver community wide!

VPK FAST AND READINESS RATES

Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) using STAR Early Literacy



Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) using Star Early Literacy

s. 1002.68, F.S., s. 1008.2125, F.S.



Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) programs (public and private) will be required to implement **FAST using Star Early Literacy** beginning in the 2022-2023 VPK Program Year.

- ❑ **FAST** will replace all components related to the Florida VPK Assessment and the Bright Beginnings Online Reporting System.
- ❑ It is a computer, adaptive assessment that will be administered the beginning, middle, and end of the year to track child progress.
- ❑ Will be administered to all VPK Program students enrolled with valid certificates of eligibility.
- ❑ Results must be shared with families within 7 days of administration

[FAST-Star Early Literacy FAQs VPK Program Admins 8.3.22](#)

[FAST-Star Early Literacy FAQs VPK Teachers 8.3.22](#)

Running Instructions: [AdministrationResources](#) and [Reports](#)

Additional Information:

<http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/vpk/fast>

Progress Monitoring Assessment Deadlines

- **Progress Monitoring 1 (PM1)**- First 30 Instructional Days of VPK
- **Progress Monitoring 2 (PM2)**- Mid Program Year (Between 40%-60%) of the program hours)
- **Progress Monitoring 3 (PM3)**- Last 30 Instructional Days of VPK

All VPK Children must be entered into the EFS Mod Roster as soon as possible. Child Data will be transferred from EFS Mod to the Renaissance System.

Renaissance Place Help Desk and Technical Assistance Team at 1-800-338-4204 or by email at FAST_Star@renaissance.com.

Some Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) using Star Early Literacy

- **Non-English Speakers and the Star Early Literacy Assessment**
 - .All students with a first language other than English should be given the opportunity to complete the practice items, if they pass, they continue and complete the assessment. They should be given two additional attempts to pass the practice items.
 - If the student fails the practice items, then the student should receive a **Non-Participation Status** of “**Non-English Speaker.**”
 - **Timing Accommodations** are available for the Assessment (90 sec. to 270 sec.)
- **If children enroll late, should they still be assessed?**
 - Best practice is to assess the student whether it is in a Progress Monitoring period or not so teachers may have a baseline score for students.
- **When will the Renaissance Training on FAST appear on my DCF transcripts?**
 - Providers who did not give the correct first name, last name, and DCF student ID at the time of registration were unsuccessful imported to DCF. Providers can email the Division of Early Learning at VPKFAST@oel.myflorida.com.
 - [FAST Star Early Literacy Renaissance-U Enrollment Guidance](#).

FAST Miami Dade and Monroe Updates

Tableau Report as of 10/20/2022

Coalition Name	Test Name	Students Tested	Students Not Tested	Total Students	% Tested	% Not Tested
ELC of Miami-Dade/Mon..	PM1	18,272	1,254	19,526	93.58%	6.42%

County Name	Test Name	Students Tested	Students Not Tested	Total Students	% Tested	% Not Tested
Miami-Dade	PM1	17,847	1,233	19,080	93.54%	6.46%
Monroe	PM1	425	21	446	95.29%	4.71%

Supports For Students Who Might Not Be Scoring at Grade Level on FAST

- If there is a developmental or behavioral concern with a child in your classroom please contact the **Warm-Line** at 786-433-3095 and an Inclusion Specialist will contact you to discuss your concerns and determine next steps.
 - The Warmline can provide classroom accommodations, intervention strategies, and referrals to other agencies.

- **Smart Start** : Link: https://renaissance.widen.net/s/lxl77bvw52/smart-start-landing-page_210318
 - Introductory videos and resources to help teachers master basic navigation and essential best practices.
 - Use students' Star results to **plan personalized instruction** in three initial steps
 - Teachers will be introduced to
 - administering the test
 - using data from screening to group students accordingly
 - gleaning insights from the program to inform instruction.

- **Training Supports for Teachers** in different areas such as Standards, Emergent Literacy, and Curriculum through PDI

Provider VPK Readiness Rates Support Plan





Readiness Rates now changed to Performance Metric

House Bill 419/7011

- For the 2022-2023 program year, each private prekindergarten provider and public school participating in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program must participate in the **coordinated screening and progress monitoring program** in accordance with s. 1008.2125.
- The program assessment (**Classrooms Assessment Scoring System-CLASS**) shall measure the quality of teacher-child interactions, including: emotional support, classroom organization, and instructional support for children.
- Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program accountability will be in place of VPK assessment (**Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) using Star Early Literacy**).
- Beginning in the 2023-2024 program year, the accountability system will assign VPK providers a **performance designation**.

VPK Accountability Assessment Measures for 2020-21 – 2023-24

[s. 1002.68, F.S.](#)

VPK Program Year	Assessment Measures
 2020-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPK Assessment pre and post • Statewide kindergarten screening-FLKRS(Star Early Literacy) (Fall 2021) <p><u>Readiness Rates:</u> No negative impact, as a provider may not be newly placed on probationary status. A provider on probation meeting the minimum threshold will be removed from probation.</p>
 2021-2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPK Assessment pre and post <p><u>Readiness Rates:</u> Based on VPK Assessment –cannot include statewide kindergarten screening in calculation. No available methodology to calculate readiness rates on only the VPK Assessment. Current guidance is that there will be no 2021-22 Readiness Rates.</p>
2022-2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring Assessment (beginning, middle and end of year) • Program Assessment (CLASS) (one time per year and can impact 2023-24 VPK provider eligibility) <p><u>Performance Metric:</u> Results will be used to determine and adopt the methodology for calculating a provider’s performance metric/designation. No metric/designation issued.</p>
2023-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring Assessment (beginning, middle and end of year) • Program Assessment (CLASS) (one time per year and can impact 2024-25 VPK provider eligibility) <p><u>Performance Metric:</u> Performance metric/designation will be assigned within 45 days after the conclusion of the VPK school year program. VPK programs can be placed on probation based on scoring.</p>

VPK and The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

s. 1002.68, F.S, HB419

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

measures the quality of adult-child interactions including emotional support, classroom organization and instructional support for children ages 3-5.

Each VPK Classroom will be assessed every year for both public and private providers

For a VPK Contract in the 2023-2024 School year, the Assessment Composite score must meet minimum contracting score.

Minimum contracting score: **4**

Comprehensive List Support Available to VPK Programs from the Coalition

□ Professional Development Institute

- Multiple free training sessions available (English/Spanish):
 - National Child Development Associate (CDA®): Preschool (Fall classes start September 19th)
 - CLASS® Training: CLASS® 101 for Administrators, teachers, and MDCPS Principals, , Intro to CLASS PreK, Toddler and Infant, Group Coaching (Making the Most of Classroom Interactions-MMCI)
 - Super CLASS® Saturday! - Saturday, October 15, 2022
 - CLASS® Observers Roundtable
 - Teachstone® Presents: Strategies to Support Dual Language Learners:
 - Teachstone® Presents: Relationship Equity in Your Classroom:
 - Curriculum Training: The Creative Curriculum®/ GOLD/High Scope
 - Phonological Awareness for Preschoolers 2021
 - Transition to Kindergarten (in partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools)
 - Best Practices in Inclusive Early Childhood Education (BPIECE)
 - Free subscriptions available for myTeachstone®
 - Office hours every week with Institute training specialists

□ WARM Line

- Technical Assistance available to providers and families for children with special needs/disabilities
- Inclusion supports and technical assistance to providers caring for children with special needs/disabilities (**Best Practices in Inclusive Early Childhood Education (BPIECE) Support Services**)
- Additional resources to families for children with special needs/disabilities through VPK –Specialized Instructional Services (**VPK-SIS**)
- Additional resources to providers caring for children with special needs/disabilities through the Special Needs Rate

□ MDCPS Transition to Kindergarten Ambassadors

- Free Workshops for VPK Teachers
- Ambassador Visits to centers
- Technical Assistance available to centers
- Free resources for Directors, Teachers, and Families

□ Additional Technical Assistance and Coaching

- VPK Monitors available for technical assistance
- 2 Coaches currently available from the Quality Initiatives Team

Support Available to VPK Programs from the Coalition

□ Teacher Stipends and \$15 initiative

- **911 out of 1,008 (About 90.4%)** contracted VPK Providers have opted in
- Teacher Stipends for Trainings

□ Posting of Teaching Positions Available

- Posting of positions through the Professional Development Institute
- Key Largo Chamber of Commerce and Islamorada Chamber of Commerce has posted the add on their sites.



□ City of Miami Beach Prekindergarten Scholarship Program for Interested Miami Beach Family Residents

- Extend VPK wraparound services to all families who live on Miami Beach

□ Social Media

- Used social media to further reach families and providers with information and support available to their programs and the children.
- Post relevant upcoming trainings and workshops, tips for teachers and families, and examples of developmentally appropriate activities that can be used at home with families.

Support Available to VPK Programs from the Division of Early Learning

□ Division of Early Learning Regional Facilitators

- Free FL Standards, Emergent Literacy, and Mathematics trainings
- Class Group Trainings
- Multiple free activity plans that align with the Standards are available in English and Spanish on the FL Standards Birth to Kindergarten Website

□ Flamingo Early Learning

- Free Courses in Emergent Literacy available to teachers in English and in Spanish



VPKteam@elcmdm.org