

Summary for Board of Directors Meeting

Date/Time: May 17, 2023 – 8:30 A.M.

Location: ELCAC Training Room and via Zoom

Members Present: Lisa Armour (Zoom), Patrick Bizub, Brenda Brown (Zoom), George Dix (Zoom), Laura Gillman (Zoom), Donna Jones, Marsha Kiner,Carolynn Komanski (Zoom), Candi Morris (Zoom), Misty Smith (Zoom), Cheryl Twombly (Zoom), Michael Williams (Zoom)

Members Absent: Phyllis Marty, Dr. Patricia Snyder (Excused), Autumn Tomas (Excused)

Staff Present: Jacki Hodges, Kelli Williams, Steve Harris, Terrie Robinson

Guests Present: None

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Summary/Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
Call to Order	Board of Directors Meeting	Called to order by Patrick Bizub at 8:42 AM.
Declaration of Conflict of Interest	None	
Approval of Agenda	Members reviewed the agenda.	A Motion was made and seconded by (Kiner/Jones) to approve the agenda. Motion was approved.
Approval of Minutes	Members reviewed the board minutes of March 22 nd minutes.	A Motion was made and seconded by (Armour/Morris) to approve the 3/22/23 minutes. Motion was approved.
CEO's Report	<p>CEO Report – May 2023</p> <p>May 17, 2023</p> <p>We are closing the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year <i>Fully</i> staffed....YAY. I am excited to introduce our new Program Director, Terrie Robinson, to our team. Terrie started with the ELCAC on April 24th and she has early childhood education experience working many years with the Head Start program. We currently</p>	

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	<p>have 29 employees for the ELCAC. The CEO introduced the new Director of Programs, Terrie Robinson.</p> <p>Now that we have a new Chancellor for the Division of Early Learning and we have past pandemic experiences, the DEL is working with our Association of Early Learning (AELC) to getting back to more in person and regularly scheduled meetings.</p> <p>My colleagues and I have asked DEL about any potential provider rate increases (DEL has complete authority to approve /deny rate increases). The legislature allocated \$750,000 to complete a study for “Cost of Care”. This survey deadline for completion is January 2024.</p> <p><u>Legislative Watch</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Updates – Early Learning Budget Conference closed out with the following exciting highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$100 million increase to SR recurring base funding, for a total of \$889 million ○ \$77 million to fill funding gaps in communities and sustain current enrollments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>We will continue to enroll as usual and make requests to DEL if our coalition needs to “tap into” the \$77 million non-recurring funds to keep our enrollment stable.</i> ○ \$2.6 million increase to Help Me Grow statewide ○ \$20 million increase to VPK funding, which equates to approx.. \$148 increase to VPK BSA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>VPK \$15/hour for staff was not approved; however, the BPK Base Student Allocation (BSA) went up. The 2023-24 school rate is \$2,941 per child and \$2511 for summer program. The new 2023-24 VPK rates were based on the Estimating Conference and workload. Unfortunately for the providers that opted into the program will see an overall decrease of \$469/child.</i> ○ \$750,000 set aside for cost of care study ○ \$315 million in ARPA discretionary funding for coalitions/providers to address local initiatives to meet unique community needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The nonrecurring sum of \$315,000,000 from the</i> 	

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	<p><i>American Rescue Plan Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund are provided to the Department of Education to implement the Discretionary Grant Program. Grantees include Early Learning Coalitions and School Readiness Providers. The Department of Education shall develop an application process.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Grant funds may be used for the following purposes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Increasing/Building the Supply of Child Care,</i> – <i>Training and Professional Development Activities,</i> – <i>Workforce Initiatives,</i> – <i>Local Initiatives/Pilot Projects to Improve Kindergarten Readiness,</i> – <i>Community Outreach and Family Engagement,</i> – <i>Mental Health Supports, and Equipment,</i> – <i>Supplies,</i> – <i>Classroom/Child Care Materials,</i> – <i>Curriculum,</i> – <i>Business Administration Computer Software, and</i> – <i>School Readiness Learning Computer Software.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SB 676 – Background Screenings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Passed both House and Senate, Ordered Enrolled (prepared to be sent to the Governor)</i> ▪ Aligns disqualified offenses for level 2 screenings ▪ Moves certain VECHS users (qualified entities) and screenings into ACHA clearinghouse by Jan 1, 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allows for open alerts of screened individuals ○ Fingerprints would be retained so wouldn't need to be re-fingerprinted for 5-year rescreens ○ Shared staff or transfer of already screened individuals between rosters (wouldn't have to be rescreened as long as there isn't a break in service greater than 90 days; would reduce cost and duplicative screenings). ○ HB 443 – Education (EL Pieces) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Passed both House and Senate, Ordered Enrolled</i> 	

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(prepared to be sent to the Governor)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires DCF to submit a report by December 31, 2024 (and every 5 years thereafter) to Governor, the Senate President, and the Speaker of the House that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training requirements and coursework offered by the department to child care personnel. ○ The report must include the results of a reliable and valid survey of child care personnel regarding training and coursework. ▪ Requires that the statewide information system include the capability for a parent to find early learning programs online, including the performance profile, which also must be integrated into the online portal. ▪ Clarifies the Gold Seal requirement related to the number of the same violation a provider can have before losing their accreditation status. <p>○ HB 7039 – Student Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Passed both House and Senate, Ordered Enrolled (prepared to be sent to the Governor)</i> ▪ Requires Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) performance standards and curriculum and courses in emergent literacy for prekindergarten instructors be grounded in the science of reading. ▪ Requires any private prekindergarten provider or public school that fails to meet the minimum learning gains to use state approved curricula. ▪ Expands the New Worlds Reading Initiative to pre-k students. ▪ Provides that a VPK student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in early math skills, based upon the results of the administration of the final coordinated screening and progress monitoring, must be referred to the local school district and may be eligible to receive intensive interventions before entering Kindergarten. <p>○ SB 2502 – Implementing Bill (section 5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Passed on Senate floor, sent to House for approval 5/5/23</i> 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extends the development timeline for the performance metric as well as the timeline to which the first designation will be applied. ▪ Removes the provisions that would disqualify a VPK provider based on a failure to meet minimum program assessment composite scores. ▪ These changes expire and revert back to current language in one year. <p><i>“VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN EDUCATION PROGRAM. Amends s. 1002.68(4)(a)(f), (5), F.S., to extend the timelines for the development and implementation of methodology relating to performance metrics for VPK providers and removes the provision that disqualifies VPK providers based on a failure to meet minimum program assessment composite scores.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HB 5101 – Education Conforming Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Passed on Senate floor, sent to House for approval 5/5/23</i> ▪ Renames District Cost Differential to “Comparable Wage Factor” throughout ▪ Expands incentives for micro-credentials to anyone that works in child care/early learning settings. ○ SB 1188 – Contract Liability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Passed both House and Senate, Ordered Enrolled (prepared to be sent to the Governor)</i> ▪ The bill requires all contracts for services in excess of \$35,000 to include a provision limiting vendor liability for direct damages to the greater of \$100,000, the dollar amount of the contract or purchase order, or two times the charges rendered by the contractor under the purchase order. ▪ This limitation of liability clause does not impact other contractual provisions relating to indemnification for any contractual services or insurance coverage for professional services contracts. ▪ This requirement also applies to purchases by the early learning coalitions. 	

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Public Input	None	
Adjournment		The Meeting was adjourned by Patrick Bizub at 9:25AM.