

**Early Learning Coalition**  
**Resource Development Committee**  
**January 19, 2016 – 10:00 AM**  
*Roger Thompson, Chair*

**Committee Members:**

Tammy Hicks	Pam Hagan	Beth Ramirez	Mary Ann Bickerstaff
Roger Thompson	Sissy Carter	Brenda Hardy	Van Mansker

**Staff:**

Vicki Pugh	Dawn Engel	Sarah Whipps	Christy Zukowski
Bruce Watson	Kathy McKechnie	Krystle Aman	Kandee Johnson
Ericka Janssen	Paula Rollins	Bruce Watson	Holly Stratton

**Partners/Public:**

Debbie Layton	Melanie Perritt	Aisha Adkinson	Melissa Jones
Paula Doty	Deborah Goldberg	Drew Hardgrave	

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**I. Welcome and Approval of Agenda**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Mr. Roger Thompson. The Agenda was approved on a motion made by Ms. Brenda Hardy with a second by Mr. Van Mansker.

**II. Public Comments**

No public comments were made.

Mr. Drew Hardgrave presented a donation check in the amount of \$100.00 from the Independent Insurance Agents of Pensacola. They usually donate \$500.00 each year to one charity, but this year they decided to donate \$100.00 to five different charities.

**III. Approval of Minutes of November 1, 2015**

The Minutes of the November 1, 2015 Resource Development Committee meeting were approved on a motion made by Ms. Tammy Hicks with a second by Mr. Drew Hardgrave.

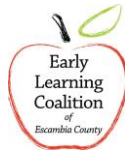
**IV. Program Reports**

**a. Nursing Services Report**

Ms. Pam Hagan reported that the nurses' numbers dropped off in November and December due to the holidays. Numbers were also low due to staff being reduced to one during the holidays. There were 8 educational classes done in November and 4 done in December. Numbers dropping are normal during this time of year.

**b. CCR&R Update**

Ms. Sarah Whipps informed the Committee that there were 67 calls with 38 of them being new callers, 7 of them did not want listings they wanted information only. The majority of the callers



were one adult households and most of them were working. The main inquiries were for schedules, evenings & weekends, cost and transportation.

**c. Program Support Summary**

Ms. Christy Zukowski went over the Program Support Summary. The current focus of the Program Improvement Department is on VPK Gold. Currently there are 58 VPK programs using the program, with 115 classes participating. Out of the 2,058 children enrolled in VPK, 1,655 are currently being observed using VPK Gold. At this time we are waiting to ensure every center as well as classrooms has completed their training modules and entered their information in the State system. OEL expects everyone to be complete by March 2015, so we are double checking all of our programs to make sure we have that information for the contract files. Ms. Vicki Pugh will be going in the field with several of her staff to stress the importance of getting your VPK lead teacher and a Director through the 12-hour module. We are still doing SR Gold. We have 17 Providers that are in Gold but only 6 of those are doing observations. We have 253 children enrolled in the SR Gold. We are continuing to provide these providers Technical Assistance.

**V. Old Business**

**a. Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG)**

See Program Support Summary.

**b. Local training**

There is training on Saturday, January 16 with two sessions available. There are still slots available if anyone would like to sign up. Ms. Vicki Pugh informed the Committee that she did not get re-accredited for CEUs and will not be able to reapply for six months.

**c. QRIS**

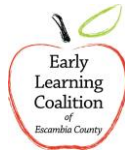
Ms. Vicki Pugh presented to the Committee the QRIS Matrix and the changes that have been made to it. One big change is the Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) course work at the 2 Star level should be the DCF 5-hour literacy. Previous “Wee Read” alumni are being asked to take the DAP DCF 5-hour literacy. Mr. Bruce Watson noted that the biggest change is that a Provider cannot get a 3-4 Star while on probation. And if they have recently been on probation, there is a waiting period to regain their 3-4 Star status. If they lose their 3-4 Star, they do not have to start all over. A motion to accept the QRIS with the changes was made by Ms. Sissy Carter with a second by Ms. Brenda Hardy.

**d. Contracting Summary**

Mr. Bruce Watson will e-mail this report to all Providers before end of the month. The Coalition has contracted with 161 providers this fiscal year. Three of the Providers have gotten out of the business by their own choice. There have been ten contract terminations so far this fiscal year, with several of them due to insurance lapses. Only one of the terminated contract for this fiscal year was due to the Provider exceeding the threshold of DCF violations.

**e. Holiday Reimbursement FY 2016/2017 and Beyond**

There will be no changes to the holiday reimbursement schedule.



## **VI. New Business**

### **a. Committee Name, Chair(s), Membership and Scope**

Mr. Watson discussed that the Eligibility and Provider Payments Committee and the Resource Development Committee were combined and is now called the Resource Development Committee (RDC). Now that the RDC is a larger Committee, we need to define who the membership of the Committee is and does it need one chair or two chairs. The Executive Committee likewise requested the RDC define its' membership, if it will have one chair or two. Mr. Watson suggested the RDC have co-chairs so there are two people out of the RDC represented on the Executive Committee. A motion to have co-chairs was made by Mr. Drew Hardgrave with a second by Ms. Brenda Hardy. A motion to have Ms. Tammy Hicks serve as co-chair was made by Mr. Drew Hardgrave with a second by Ms. Beth Ramirez.

### **b. Committee Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Bruce Watson informed the Committee that the 2016 calendar schedule is in the packet and has been updated for one meeting at 10:00 a.m.

### **c. Early Learning Florida Courses**

Course work will be CEU invested and we will be offering those courses beginning in March for a pilot project in which some of you have already received invitations. The courses will be free with CEUs embedded in them.

### **d. Provider Monitoring and Curriculum Requirements**

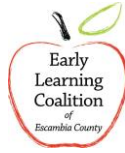
Mr. Bruce Watson informed the Committee that the Coalition is taking a more defined direction with Monitoring to do a better job. Curriculum is becoming a high visibility item. Come the first of July, our Staff will be holding the Providers accountable to use the curriculum they agreed to follow. The first time the Provider is found not to be implementing their curriculum they will receive a corrective action notice, the second time they will be put on probation, and the third time their contract will be terminated.

### **e. DCF Violation to ELC Levels for Exempts Crosswalk**

Mr. Watson and Mr. Thompson compiled a Crosswalk document using the DCF Violation matrix, and then created an equivalency for use with license exempt providers. The Coalition's policy states that if a Provider receives too many Class 1 (Level 1) and Class 2 (Level 2) violations, then the Coalition will not contract with that Provider; however, that section of the policy does not pertain to license exempt providers. Mr. Watson proposed to make the Crosswalk a recommended addendum to the Coalition's policy regarding contracting eligibility. If the RDC approves, then he will rewrite the policy regarding contracting eligibility. On a motion made by Mr. Sissy Carter, with a second by Ms. Brenda Hardy, this addendum will be recommended to the Executive Committee.

### **f. VPK Readiness Rates – What they mean and don't mean**

Mr. Watson announced that the readiness rates came out two weeks ago and we have no Providers on probation now. However, the reason being is that the DOE switched about a year



ago to using a work sampling product to do their kindergarten readiness. Mr. Watson explained what work sampling methodology whose validity is suspect. Even though the readiness scores came out very high for all programs in Escambia County, Mr. Watson feels that one in three children are not ready for kindergarten.

## **VII. Community Partner Updates**

### **a. ARC Gateway**

No report.

### **b. Early Steps**

Ms. Debbie Goldberg will send to the Committee the information on SB 7034. It has been several years since Early Steps has been brought up in legislation.

### **c. School District Academies**

Ms. Aisha Adkinson informed the Committee that she is working with the Coalition regarding the five students that are eligible for their CDA. There will be a ceremony for these students and Ms. Adkinson will keep the Committee informed.

### **d. DCF Licensing**

Mr. Roger Thompson did not have anything to report.

### **e. Pensacola State College**

Ms. Betty Persons would like to build a relationship with Ms. Adkinson so they can inform students about the benefits that the Early Childhood Academies have to offer. Ms. Persons will send to the Committee the information on how to obtain the book titled "Today's Child".

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** March 15, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.