



Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County

Resource Development Committee (RDC) Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

RDC Members in Attendance

Roger Thompson (Chair/Board)	Cindy Kirk (Board/PSC)
Melissa Sidoti (Board/DCF)	Lindsey Cannon (Board/ECT)
Shacondra Primm (Board)	Tarae Donaldson (Board/ESCAROSA)
Bambi Sealy (Board/DCF)	Tammy Hicks (Board)
Brian Wyer (Board/Minority Chamber)	Jessica Czuprynski (Partner Member/ECSD)
Shirley Kelley (Partner Member/HMG)	Melinda Maiterth (Partner Member/ESCAROSA)

Coalition Staff in Attendance

Bruce Watson	Dawn Engel	Nina Daniels
Melissa Jennings	Renee Maxwell	

Providers and Non-RDC Member Partners in Attendance

Shaunna Bailey (Provider)	Hitomi (Provider)	Deborah J. (Provider)
Deirdre (Provider)	Sherrell Thomas (Provider)	

Public in Attendance

None

I. Welcome, and Call to Order

Notification of the Resource Development Committee meeting for October 15, 2024, was sent to the Pensacola News Journal for publication and posted to the Coalition's Public Calendar Board on October 1, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Roger Thompson, Committee Chair.

II. Public Comments

None.

III. Approval of Agenda and Minutes for July 9, 2024

Upon a motion made by Ms. Kirk and seconded by Ms. Czuprynski, the Agenda and the Minutes of July 9, 2024, were approved without objection.

IV. Community Partner Updates

a. ARC/Help Me Grow

No report.

b. CareerSource ESCAROSA

Ms. Maiterth provided the following:



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- CareerSource ESCAROSA is having a Career Evolution Expo on October 16, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hilton on Pensacola Beach.
- CareerSource ESCAROSA will be a partner in the Florida Paychecks for Patriots 2024 initiative that will be held on November 7 from 10 a.m. to 1p.m. at Olive Baptist Church.
- Ms. Maiterth provided a flyer for the “HOPE Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity” program.

c. DCF - Regulation

Ms. Sealy stated that there were no new updates at this time.

d. DCF - Community Development

Ms. Sidoti stated that Activate Hope is current and ongoing in areas that were affected by Hurricane Milton. Hillsboro County still has over 100 schools without power.

e. Escambia Children’s Trust

Ms. Cannon provided the following:

- ECT received approval to fund the Healthy School Academy. The Healthy School Academy will start off with 2 schools involved and 4 more schools to be added next year.
- Formal approval has been given for the ELC/ECT contract.

f. Head Start

No representative was available to report.

g. Pensacola State College

Ms. Kirk provided the following:

- Professional Development Day for High School Seniors was held at Washington and Tate High School. About 40 Seniors attended the event.
- PSC courses are going well. There are 228 students enrolled this semester.

h. Ready Kids!

No representative was available to report.

i. School District VPK

Ms. Czuprynski reported that there were no new updates at this time.

V. Program Reports

a. Medical Support Services Report

Ms. Jennings reported that from July through September 2024:

- 182 vision screenings were done, and 15 referrals were made.
- 189 hearing screenings were done, and 122 referrals were made.



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b. CCR&R Update

Mr. Jennings reported that from July through September 2024:

- 135 new interviews conducted were conducted.
- The Coalition participated in 4 outreach events.
- A total of 3,130 books were distributed.

c. Program Support Summary

Ms. Engel provided the following:

- 10 trainings have been conducted from July through September 2024.
- Monitorings for FY 2024-2025 are being conducted as scheduled.

d. SR/VPK Status Report and Contract Activity Summary

There are 2,308 children enrolled in the School Readiness Program. The last pull from the Wait List was on May 21, 2024. There are 788 children on the Wait List. To date, there are 2,067 children approved for the 2024-25 VPK program, of which 1,655 are enrolled.

There are 81 School Readiness Providers and 71 VPK Providers.

VI. Old Business

a. SR Plus Program in fiscal Year 2024-25

The State is implementing a new program to allow parents who are already in the SR program to remain past 85% SMI up to 100% SMI. Their parent fees will be higher, but it will help ease the transition from subsidized child care as their incomes increase.

b. SR Provider Rates Impact on Fiscal Year 2024-25 Funding

The funding allocations for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 have been received from the DEL. At this point if the State does not allocate more funding, the Coalition will be \$2.5 million short for the year. Projections indicate that if no additional funding is received to balance the budget the Coalition would have to reduce the number of children enrolled in the SR program by at least 300 children.

VII. New Business

a. Resignation of the Board Chair, Acting/Interim Chair

Mr. Mansker has requested full disclosure of events that led to his resignation be presented at the Board Meeting in November. Mr. Mansker has decided he will not be in attendance when this matter is discussed. There will be an appreciation award presented to Mr. Mansker at the Board meeting in February 2025. The approval of Ms. Nickinson as the Interim Chair is on the agenda for the November Board meeting.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.



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Next Meeting: January 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Joyce Griffin Room for Professional Development and Testing at the Early Learning Coalition Office, 1720 West Fairfield Dr. Suite 100/400, Pensacola, Florida 32501