



BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ANNUAL MEETING APPROVED  
MINUTES

Monday, June 20, 2022, at 3:00 pm  
Hybrid Meeting  
6302 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Suite 100  
Tampa, FL 33619

**MEETING ATTENDANCE**

**Facilitator:** Aakash Patel, Chair

**Board Members Present:**

Cynthia Chipp\*, Dianne Jacob\*, Dr. Daphne Fudge, Carl Harness\*, Dr. Lise Fox\*, Luke Buzard\*, Aakash Patel, Kelley Parris\*, Amanda Jae\*, Dr. Stephie Holmquist Johnson, Adam Giery\*, Lee Bowers\*, Michelle Zieziula\*, Sheila Rios\*, Dr. Shawn Robinson, Allison Nguyen, Beth Pasek, and Tracye Brown, Dr. Jodi Marshall

**Board Members Absent:**

Commissioner Gwen Myers, Dianne Jacob, Dr. Jacquelyn Jenkins, and Dustin Portillo

**ELCHC Staff:**

Gordon Gillette, Megan Folts, Alison Fraga, Gary Meyer, Rick Rampersad, Kelley Minney, Kiyana Scott, Abigail Perez\*, Helen Sovich, Nancy Metsker\*, Hannah Goble\*, Martha Aguiar, Tiffany Skals, Lisette Godwin, Abigail Perez, Kathy Kaaa\*, Sharon Hayes\*, Kimbra Bradley\*, Dominique Watson\*, Naomi Hernandez\*, Shayna Urrabazo\*, Colleen Costa\* Gwyn Feldhake\*, Kristina Connelly\*, Kevin Smith\*, Ruth Deras\*, Kenya Rowe\*, Jessica Sladky, Katia Valdes\*, Lauren Morgan, Nichole Gonzalez, Susan O'Carroll, Meena Saxena, Janet Diaz Montes, Ingrid Sanchez\*, Marci DiPierro\*, Twyla Hartz\*, Annie Brown\*, Erica Turchin

**Other Attendees:**

Frazier Carraway, Nadia Combs, Tracy Knight, Ryan Barack, Lorinda Gamson, Candy Olson\*, Chris O'Donnell\*, Sarah Ashe, Genet Stewart\*, David Adams\*, Laura Villalobos\*, Annette Eberhart\*, Kristina Reyes\*, Jenna Newman\*, Chris Letsos\*, Tonia Williams\*, Neomi Thompson, Kathy Simmons, Terri Fernandez, Karry K, Willie R. Coachman, Niki Carraway, Miriam Ortiz, S. V. Fudge, Gloria R, Arteen Johnson, Kateray Rodriguez, Montavious Morgan, Ted Ollins\*, Andreas Houchin\*, Angela Chowning\*, Dr. Demetria Waddell, Marni Fuente\*, Linda Georgis, Amy McLane\*, Eunice Lopez\*, April Hetrick\*

*\*Indicates attendance via Zoom meeting platform.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Quorum Verification**

Noting a quorum had been established, Chair Patel called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

The Board and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT I**

Lorinda Gamson made a public comment regarding her termination as the Chief Operating Officer.



Ryan Barack made a public comment regarding the Whistleblower Act and Public Records Request.

## Chairman's Report

### A. Mission Moment

Chair Patel introduced Nadia Combs, Board Chair, Hillsborough County School Board. Ms. Combs briefly spoke on the importance of early learning.

### B. Committee Appointments

#### Finance Committee

Lee Bowers, Chair  
Carl Harness, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Jacquelyn Jenkins  
Luke Buzard  
Allison Nguyen

#### Governance Committee

Dr. Stephe Holmquist Johnson,  
Chair  
Dr. Daphne Fudge, Vice-Chair  
Aakash Patel  
Adam Giery  
Dr. Jodi Marshall

#### Service Delivery and Efficiency Committee

Amanda Jae, Chair  
Vacant, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Lise Fox Beth Pasek  
Commissioner Gwen Myers

#### Legislative Affairs Committee

Adam Giery, Chair  
Dianne Jacob, Vice-Chair  
Sheila Rios  
Tracye Brown  
Michelle Zieziula  
Commissioner Gwen Myers

#### Provider Review Hearing Committee

Dr. Jacquelyn Jenkins, Chair  
Beth Pasek, Vice-Chair  
Amanda Jae  
Dr. Shawn Robinson  
Allison Nguyen  
Cynthia Chipp

#### Development Committee

Dr. Shawn Robinson Chair  
Dustin Portillo, Vice-Chair  
Luke Buzard  
Lee Bowers  
Dr. Jodi Marshall  
Dr. Stephe Holmquist Johnson

### C. Board Contact Information Form

Chair Patel informed the Board of Directors to complete and submit the Board Contact Information form by July 6, 2022.

### D. Diaper & Formula Board Challenge

Chair Patel recognized Adam Giery and Dr. Shawn Robinson for donating diapers and formula to help child care providers and families in need. Chair Patel informed the Board of Directors of the diaper and formula challenge, encouraging them to participate.

### E. Gubernatorial Applications

Chair Patel provided an update on Gubernatorial Applications and the process of applying.

### F. Recap of Events

Chair Patel recognized Alison Fraga, Chief Development Officer, on the success of the Splash into A Day of Preschool event. Chair Patel reported:

- Total dollars raised: \$19,403
  - Sponsorships: \$17,500
  - Donations: \$1,903

Chair Patel recognized Stacey Francois, Director, Program Initiatives and Analysis, for Teacher's Night Out & Early Childhood Conference. Chair Patel reported:

- 226 teachers & directors in attendance
- 8 Board members volunteered
- Guest speakers included Board member, Dr. Lise Fox

**G. Recognition of Former Board Member Candy Olson**

Chair Patel recognized Candy Olson for her service on the Board of Directors.

**H. Attendance Policy Reminder**

Chair Patel reviewed the Board of Directors' attendance policy.

**PRESENTATION**

Board Attorney Frazier Carraway provided an oral presentation of the Sunshine Law.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were included under the Consent Agenda:

- June 20, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
- April 18, 2022 Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
- May 2, 2022 Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes
- June 6, 2022 Budget Workshop Minutes

*Beth Pasek made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Dr. Stephie Holmquist Johnson made a second. The motion carried unanimously.*

**ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Approval of revised FY 2022-2023 Executive Committee/Board of Directors Meeting Schedule**

Chair Patel presented the revised FY 2022-2023 Executive/Board of Directors Meeting Schedule. Chair Patel noted that the revisions of the meeting schedule were made to change the annual meeting date to Monday, June 26, 2023, and to add the date for the Budget Workshop on Thursday, June 1, 2023.

*Dr. Shawn Robinson made a motion to approve. Dr. Daphne Fudge made a second. The motion carried unanimously.*

**B. Nomination and Election of Board Officers**

Dr. Shawn Robinson reported that during the last Governance Committee meeting, the Committee recommended the following slate of officers:

- Dr. Shawn Robinson, Vice-Chair
- Luke Buzard, Treasurer
- Dr. Stephie Holmquist Johnson, Secretary

*Dr. Shawn Robinson called for a motion to move that the slate be accepted. Allison Nguyen made a motion. Beth Pasek made a second. The motion carried unanimously.*

Dr. Shawn Robinson relinquished the Chair to Chair Aakash Patel.

**C. Approval of allocation for Provider Rate Increase**

Gary Meyer, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the rate increase will be funded by the proposed FY 22-2023 budget. The rate increase will serve 13,000 children, totaling \$2.7M.

*Dr. Stephie Holmquist Johnson made a motion to approve. Dr. Daphne Fudge made a second. Cynthia Chipp abstained. The motion carried.*

Gordon Gillette, CEO, answered the Board's question regarding the rate disparities between Family Child Care Homes and Centers. Mr. Gillette reported that the rates were set based on a market study and a comparison of private pay rates.

**D. Approval of the Proposed FY 2022-2023 Budget**

Mr. Meyer presented the proposed FY 22-2023. Mr. Meyer highlighted the following:

- VPK revenue increased from \$30M to \$40M
- Total budget exceeded \$200M

Mr. Meyer noted that the proposed budget aligned with the Coalition's three pillars of Access, Quality, and Education.

*Dr. Shawn Robinson made a motion to approve. Carl Harness a second. Kelley Parris abstained. The motion carried.*

Mr. Gillette and ELCHC staff responded to questions from the Board about the proposed FY 2022-2023 budget.

**E. Approval of allocation of funds to School Board of Hillsborough County – Early Intervention & Evaluation Services**

Mr. Gillette stated that the allocation of funds in the amount of \$245,000 would be used to evaluate School Readiness children and provide a pathway for Individualized Education Plans.

*Dr. Stephie Holmquist Johnson made a motion to approve. Beth Pasek a second. Tracye Brown abstained. The motion carried.*

**F. Approval of allocation of funds for INCENTIVE\$ Program**

Mr. Gillette reported that the INCENTIVE\$ program provided teachers with education-based salary supplements to continue their education.

*Dr. Shawn Robinson made a motion to approve. Allison Nguyen a second. The motion carried unanimously.*

**G. Approval of allocation of funds to Hillsborough County Child Care Licensing**

*Dr. Shawn Robinson made a motion to approve. Allison Nguyen a second. Carl Harness abstained. The motion carried.*

Mr. Gillette informed the Board of Directors that funding was provided annually to Child Care Licensing (CCL) to support most of the personnel expenses. Mr. Gillette noted that School Readiness funds are utilized.

There was further discussion on the transition of CCL to the Department of Children and Families.

#### H. Approval of the FY 2022-2023 Anti-Fraud Plan

*Dr. Stephie Holmquist Johnson made a motion to approve. Dr. Shawn Robinson, a second. The motion carried unanimously.*

Dr. Robinson noted a typographical error within the Anti-Fraud Plan.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Service Delivery & Efficiency Committee

Dr. Daphne Fudge reported that the new appointment Chair of the Service Delivery & Efficiency Committee will review any committee items.

#### Governance Committee

Dr. Shawn Robinson informed the Board of Directors that the Governance Committee met on May 23, 2022, to review and discuss the following items:

- Election of Board Officers
- CEO Report
- CEO Performance Evaluation Process
- New Board Member Orientation

#### Finance Committee

Luke Buzard reported that the items reviewed during the June 20, 2022, Annual Board meeting were reviewed and discussed at the June 6, 2022, Budget Workshop.

#### Executive Committee

Chair Patel informed the Board of Directors that the Executive Committee met on June 13, 2022, to discuss the following items:

- Recent updates regarding Child Care Licensing
- Open private sector positions and how best to promote these vacancies.
- Board Matrix/Board Report Card

### CEO REPORT

#### A. State Activities

Mr. Gillette provided a brief update on state activities and highlighted the following:

- School Readiness funding increased from \$950M in FY 22 to \$1.130B FY 23; 18% increase.
- Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) funding increased from \$408M in FY 22 to \$558M in FY 23 due to 37% increase in the base student allotment for VPK and funding for programs that will pay teachers \$15 per hour.
- House Bill 419 Implementation
- Mr. Gillette noted that Chancellor Matt Mears kicked off the first set of cohorts for the Business Leadership Training program.

- Mr. Gillette informed the Board of Directors that the Coalition is working towards holding a Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Tool discussion with community leaders and Chancellor Matt Mears.

#### **B. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grants**

Mr. Gillette reported that the ELCHC team is working to enhance the publicity of the availability of the grants to contracted and non-contracted providers.

Tiffany Skals, Regional Support Specialist, provided an update on ARPA Grants and highlighted the following:

- 724 applications were approved
- \$34M awarded in grants
- 33 applications are incomplete, 23 applications were not eligible for the ARPA grants, and 31 applications were returned to the provider to resubmit,

Ms. Skals responded to questions from the Board regarding

A request was made by Board member Dr. Fudge to ELCHC staff to break down the ARPA grants data by zip code.

#### **C. VPK/K-Readiness Initiative**

Mr. Gillette informed the Board of Directors of a new initiative in partnership with Hillsborough County Public Schools and Hillsborough Education Foundation – Kindergarten Readiness Initiative – that will focus on raising kindergarten readiness rates in Hillsborough County.

Abigail Perez, Director, Impact and Community Relations, reported on the supporting activities for the Kindergarten Readiness Initiative, which include improvements to:

- VPK outreach
- VPK quality
- VPK participation
- Kindergarten transition

There was further discussion on the initiative and community partnerships.

#### **D. Child Care Providers**

Megan Folts, Director, Provider Relations, provided an update on child care providers, and highlighted the following:

- Significant increase in CLASS composite scores; 4.71 in FY 21 to 4.97 in FY 22
- 43% improvement for Instructional Support Services for CLASS scores in Hillsborough County.
- Increased VPK accountability
- Workforce grants; VPK incentives and stipends
- Provider customer service survey results

Board members requested to know how many providers with improved CLASS composite scores participated in the Quality Early Education System (QEES) Conscious Awareness Learning Model (CALM) trainings and what questions were asked on the provider customer

services survey, the number of duplicative respondents, and the percentage of the survey that was returned.

#### **E. Organization**

Mr. Gillette reported that Hannah Goble, Director, Family Services, along with Megan Folts, Director, Provider Relations, and Stacey Francois, Director, Program Initiatives & Analysis, report directly to Mr. Gillette.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Meyer reviewed the FY 2022 financials through April 30, 2022, budget to actual.

Mr. Meyer reviewed the Enterprise Risk Management Plan.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **A. Invitation to Business Leadership Training Graduate Social – Tuesday, June 28th at, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

Mrs. Francois invited the Board of Directors to join the Coalition on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 6:30 pm to celebrate the Business Leadership Training graduates.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT II**

Neomi Thompson made a public comment on the distribution of ARPA funding and the cauterization of Family Child Care Homes.

Terri Fernandez made a public comment on a former employee of the ELCHC.

April Hetrick made a public comment on a former employee of the ELCHC.

Tracy Knight made a public comment on a former employee of the ELCHC.

Willie Coachman made a public comment on the relationship between Mr. Coachman and the ELCHC.

Sarah Ashe made a public comment on the dialogue of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion focus groups and the behaviors of ELCHC staff.

Dr. Demetria Waddell made a public comment on the relationship between child care providers and ELCHC.

The Board of Directors engaged in a brief discussion on addressing public comments and provider site visits.

### **INFORMATION ITEM**

#### **New Board Member Orientation Packet**

Kelley Minney, Donor Relations, Manager, informed the Board of the newly revised new Board member orientation packet. Board members asked staff to include acronyms and definitions in the orientation packet.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Citing no further business, Dr. Stephe Holmquist Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:13 pm. Dr. Daphne Fudge made a second. The motion carried unanimously.*

Read and approved by: Stephanie Holmquist 07/12.2023  
*Dr. Stephie Holmquist Johnson, Secretary* *Date*








# 6.20.2022 Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes\_Approved

Final Audit Report

2023-07-12

Created:	2023-07-12
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