



Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast

Serving Citrus-Dixie-Gilchrist-Levy-Sumter Counties

Executive Committee Meeting

July 28, 2009

1564 North Meadowcrest Blvd.

Crystal River, FL. 34429

2:00 PM

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Wardlow

Approval of Agenda

Chair Wardlow

Approval of Minutes –June 24, 2009

Chair Wardlow

Action Items

Sonya Bosanko

Action Item # 2009-10-12: Gold Seal Rates

Action Item # 2008-10-13: Board Membership

New/Unfinished Business

Chair Wardlow

Public Input

Chair Wardlow

Public Input is a time set aside for comments from the general public. Comments must be kept to a 3 minute limit and a speaker's card must be completed and submitted to the Council Chair. The Council Chair will open the meeting to public discussion at various times during the meeting at his/her discretion.

Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast
Executive Committee Meeting
June 24, 2009

Members Present:

Phil Bumgarner Tommy Harrington Rob Wardlow

Staff Present:

Sonya Bosanko Amber Donahoe Ingrid Ellis J.R. Gorentz
Glenna McManigell Desirae Rickman

Others Present:

Lori Barnes Penny Hansen Debbie Lattin

Welcome & Introductions

Chair Wardlow called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

Phil Bumgarner motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Tommy Harrington seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes - May 18, 2009

Tommy Harrington motioned to approve the May 18, 2009 minutes. Phil Bumgarner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Action Items

Action Item #2009-10-02 – Board Member Resignation (Janice Johnson)

Tommy Harrington motioned to approve the Board Member Resignation of Janice Johnson. Phil Bumgarner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Wardlow mentioned that Ms. Johnson was a DCF designee and the Administrator will be appointing another person from the agency.

Action Item #2009-10-03 – Administrative Operating Procedure Amendment

Phil Bumgarner motioned to approve the Coalition's Administrative Operating Procedure Amendment presented by the Executive Director. Tommy Harrington seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New/Unfinished Business

Action Item# 2009-10-04 – Board Membership (Marilyn Veldof)

Action Item# 2009-10-05 – Board Membership (Maggie Crane)

Tommy Harrington motioned to approve Action Items #2009-10-04 and #2009-10-05 for the Board Membership of Marilyn Veldof and Maggie Crane. Phil Bumgarner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Bosanko stated that she was pleased to announce that Chair Wardlow has been appointed by the Governor's office to serve as the Chair of the ELC-Nature Coast for another four year term.

Ms. Bosanko also surveyed the committee on the meeting date for the next ELC-Nature Coast Board.

After discussion, Tommy motioned to conduct the next ELC-Nature Coast Board meeting on Wednesday, August 5, 2009. Phil Bumgarner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input

None

Phil Bumgarner motioned to adjourn at 9:02a.m. Tommy Harrington seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

***If additional detail regarding the discussion at the meeting is desired, tapes are available at the Coalition's Crystal River office.**



Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast

Serving Citrus-Dixie-Gilchrist-Levy-Sumter Counties

ACTION ITEM

Action Item # 2009-10-12

Date: August 5, 2009 Subject: Gold Seal Rates

Proposed Board Action

1. Adopt **one** of the following options:
 - a. Reduce the Gold Seal rate from 20% to 17% and discontinue the gold seal payments after the budget has been depleted.
 - b. Continue to pay the gold seal rate of 20% until the gold seal budget has been depleted.
 - c. Repeal (one or more) Quality Initiative programs and transfer the associated budget to the direct services budget.
2. Freeze provider participation in the Coalition's Gold Seal Rate program and authorize the Administrative Committee open enrollment when/if funds become available.

Budget Considerations:

See Background Information

Background Information:

On July 22, 2009, the Administrative Committee discussed issues surrounding gold seal rates and their classification as quality expenditures or direct services expenditures. Specifically, Coalition staff notified the Administrative Committee members that the state classifies gold seal expenditures as quality expenditures instead of direct services expenditures which places a hardship on the Coalition. (When gold seal expenditures are excluded from direct service expenditures the Coalition falls below the 70% minimum expenditures in direct services.)

The Coalition requested the state to change their position on gold seal expenditures; however, the state pointed out several potential issues with reclassifying the expenditures including the requirement for the Coalition to secure matching funds for the gold seal expenditures.

As a result of the state's firm position, the Coalition must take action in order to ensure the direct services expenditures represent no less than 70% of the Coalition's School Readiness budget for FY2009-2010.

Utilizing last year's gold seal expenditures coupled with current enrollment, the Coalition anticipates a maximum gold seal budget of \$515,550; however it is likely the gold seal expenditures will exceed this budget by \$50,000-\$100,000. Consequently, the Board must implement one or more of the following actions to reconcile the gold seal budget:

- Reduce the gold seal rate from 20% to 17% and discontinue the gold seal payments after the budget has been depleted. (Will likely not be depleted until the end of the fiscal year).
- Continue to pay the gold seal rate of 20% until the gold seal budget has been depleted. (This would likely occur in the last quarter of the fiscal year).
- Repeal (one or more) Quality Initiative programs and transfer the associated budget to the direct services budget.

In addition, the Administrative Committee recommended the Coalition Board freeze new Gold Seal Provider participation and directed the finance department to provide monthly utilization reports of gold seal

expenditures. In the event gold seal expenditures are less than anticipated the Administrative Committee requests authorization to enroll Gold Seal Providers from the "Gold Seal Provider Waitlist".

Points of Consideration:

As directed by the Administrative Committee, staff surveyed all contracted School Readiness Providers and requested them to indicate the strategy they believe the Coalition Board should implement to reconcile the Gold Seal budget.

Sixteen percent of School Readiness Providers responded as follows:

- Seventy-five (75%) of the respondents were Gold Seal Providers.
- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of accredited providers (seven providers) stated the Coalition Board should repeal (one or more) Quality Initiative programs and transfer the associated budget to the direct services budget.
- Fifty percent (50%) of non-accredited providers stated the Coalition Board should reduce the gold seal rate from 20% to 17% and discontinue the gold seal payments after the budget has been depleted. The remaining fifty percent (50%) stated the Coalition Board should repeal (one or more) Quality Initiative programs and transfer the associated budget to the direct services budget.
- Overall:
 - Fifty-six percent (56%) of the respondents stated the Coalition Board should repeal (one or more) Quality Initiative programs and transfer the associated budget to the direct services budget.
 - Thirty-one percent (31%) of the respondents stated the Coalition Board should reduce the gold seal rate from 20% to 17% and discontinue the gold seal payments after the budget has been depleted.
 - Thirteen percent (13%) of the respondents stated the Coalition Board should continue to pay the gold seal rate of 20% until the gold seal budget is been depleted.

Effective Date:

July 1, 2009

Supporting AVAILABLE Documentation: Gold Seal Surveys

Prepared by: Sonya Bosanko

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Robert Wardlow III, Chairman

History of Action Item:

Committee or Council	Date of Meeting	Action



Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast

Serving Citrus-Dixie-Gilchrist-Levy-Sumter Counties

ACTION ITEM

Action Item # 2009-10-13

Date: August 5, 2009 Subject: Board Membership

Proposed Board Action

Accept the Department of Children and Families appointment of Jeanie Johnston to serve on the Coalition Board.

Budget Considerations:

None

Background Information:

Florida Statute 411.01 requires Coalition membership to include a Department of Children and Family Services district administrator or his or her designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the department.

On July 14, 2009, the Coalition received an appointment from William S D'Aiuto, Circuit Administrator for the Department of Children and Families, appointing Jeanie Johnston as his designee.

Points of Consideration:

Effective Date:

August 5, 2009

Supporting Documentation: Department of Children and Families Appointment Letter dated July 14, 2009.

Prepared by: Sonya Bosanko

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Robert Wardlow III, Chairman

History of Action Item:

Committee or Council	Date of Meeting	Action



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Charlie Crist
Governor

George H. Sheldon
Secretary

July 14, 2009

John K. Cooper
Regional Director

William S. D'Aiuto
Circuit 5 Administrator

Sonya Bosanko, Executive Director
Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast
1564 North Meadowcrest Blvd.
Crystal River, FL 34429

Re: Coalition Board Appointment

Dear Ms. Bosanko:

In response to your letter of July 9th, I am pleased to appoint Jeanie Johnston, Circuit Operations Manager, to the position designated for the Circuit Administrator on the Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast, Inc. as the Department's Sumter County representative through June 30, 2011. Mrs. Johnston can be reached at:

1601 West Gulf Atlantic Highway
Wildwood, FL 34785
Email: Jeanie_A_Johnston@dcf.state.fl.us
Phone: (352) 330-5515
Secretary: Teresa Bilenski (352) 330-5500

Due to scheduling constraints I regret that I am not able to be an active participant at this time, but I believe that the Coalition will be well served by Mrs. Johnston.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (352) 330-5501.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. S. D'Aiuto'.

William S. D'Aiuto
Circuit Administrator

C: Jeanie A. Johnston, Circuit Operations Manager

Circuit 5
1601 West Gulf Atlantic Highway, Wildwood, Florida 34785-8158

Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency

