



Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast

Serving Citrus-Dixie-Gilchrist-Levy-Sumter Counties

Provider Alert #48

Date: November 19, 2008
Subject: Teacher Incentive Payment (TIP) Program Workgroup

I am pleased to report that the Teacher Incentive Payment Program Provider Workgroup met last night to begin discussion on the revision of the TIP Program.

The Workgroup briefly reviewed the history of the program, the work of the Joint Advisory Council, the current program funding in each County, and the results of the TIP Teacher/Provider surveys conducted earlier this fiscal year.

Utilizing the variety of information the Workgroup voted unanimously to develop a recommendation to revise the TIP Program that would include, at a minimum, the following:

1. A revision to the goal of the program to **promote longevity and training**
2. A revision to the stipend schedule to award teachers based on longevity and training
3. A revision to the eligibility requirements to ensure
 - a. Stipends target school readiness teachers (including directors) who have indicated a commitment to the School Readiness Program (employed for one year – completed state mandated training, etc.)
 - b. Stipends are paid to school readiness teachers who attend training when off duty (teacher does not receive hourly pay or salary pay for attending the training)
 - c. Stipends are paid only when no other funding or program (except the Coalition's Professional Development Program) are supporting the teachers' efforts.

The next step for the Workgroup is to develop a draft stipend schedule based on longevity and training. The Workgroup must consider the current program budget in each county, the number of eligible teachers, and the longevity of employment for each eligible teacher to determine an appropriate stipend schedule. To complete this task the Workgroup needs your help!

If you are a **SCHOOL READINESS PROVIDER** please complete the attached TIP Program Survey #3 (a short three question survey) as accurately as possible and email it to sbosanko@elc-naturecoast.org, mail it to 1564 North Meadowcrest Blvd. Crystal River, FL 34429, or fax it to (352) 563-5933.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IN ORDER FOR THE WORKGROUP TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION THAT IS APPROPRIATE AND IN THE BEST INTEREST OF YOUR EMPLOYEES AND THE SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS SURVEY IS NECESSARY AND CRITICAL.

It is the goal of the Workgroup to receive responses from 100% of school readiness providers. Please help us achieve this goal by completing and submitting your survey on or before **November 26, 2008**.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Sonya Bosanko at sbosanko@elc-naturecoast.org or (352) 563-9939.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this survey.

Sonya Bosanko



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Teacher Incentive Payment Program Survey #3

Facility Name: _____ County: _____

Have you held a contract to provide school readiness services for one year or more? _____

How many teachers do you currently employ? _____

Teachers are defined as any individual including the owner/director that works with children for more than 20 hours per week. This may include owners, directors, lead teachers, assistant teachers, and cooks/support staff who work with children during meal times, etc.

Please indicate the number of years each teacher included in the above number has work in your facility?

Less than one year _____

Four Years _____

Eight Years _____

One Year _____

Five Years _____

Nine Years _____

Two Years _____

Six Years _____

Ten Years _____

Three Years _____

Seven Years _____

More than 10 Years _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS SURVEY!

Please return this survey to sbosanko@elc-naturecoast.org , 1564 North Meadowcrest Blvd. Crystal River, FL 34429, or fax to (352) 563-5933 on or before **November 26, 2008**.

If you have any questions please contact Sonya Bosanko at sbosanko@elc-naturecoast.org or (352) 563-9939