



Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING & QUALITY
COMMITTEE MEETING

The Landings, Blue Awning
 Monday, September 29, 2008

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Kathleen Sullivan
 Candy Exline
 Lynne Weinick
 Yvette Robison
 Malikah Dawkins

Mary Wolf
 Dianne Rose Lawrence
 Cindy Wentzel
 Jill Jacoby
 Jackie Fountaine

Dr. Ginny Myers
 Venise Duchesne
 Marjorie Fondacaro
 Dr. Goldstein

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting commenced at 10:08 am, called to order by new Chair of the Committee, .Kathleen Sullivan.

2. OLD BUSINESS

Minutes from the September 8, 2008 meeting were approved by unanimous vote pending the addition of Cindy Wentzel and Dianne Rose to the list of attendees.

Professional Development Report

Ginny gave a brief history of the statewide core competencies initiative from its inception as the Pathways to Professionalism and then reviewed the Palm Beach Core Competency overview, which describes objectives by skill level in each of the 7 Palm Beach core competency domains. The Professional Development Initiative Steering Committee has been meeting in Tallahassee and will soon have finalized a statewide model, incorporating many of the elements from Palm Beach, including objectives differentiated by educational level of child care providers.

▪ Training Levels:

1. **Entry level** includes the knowledge and skills expected of a professional new to the early care and education field, with minimal specialized training/education.
2. **Level 1** includes the knowledge and skills commensurate with completion of the state-mandated training,
3. **Level 2** includes level 1 plus the knowledge and skills commensurate with a Child Development Associate credential (CDA) or a Child Development Associate Equivalency Certificate (CDAE).
4. **Level 3** includes levels 1 and 2 plus the knowledge and skills commensurate with an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood.
5. **Level 4** includes level 1, 2, and 3 plus the knowledge and skills commensurate with a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education or a related field.

- Areas of Training in Palm Beach model:
 1. Child Development and Learning
 2. Building Family and Community Relationships
 3. Teaching Assessment
 4. Teaching and Learning
 5. Professional Development and Leadership
 6. Health, Safety, and Nutrition
 7. Program Management and Administration
- Discussion of Core Competencies:
 - * Training announcements could include the level for which it is designed.
 - * Training could be repeated yearly, each time with a higher level, with previous classes as a pre-requisite.
 - * Jackie Fountaine asked how we would know the level of the person registering
 - * Kathleen asked if we want to form a sub-committee to examine qualifications/expectations for trainers and for participants. Consensus was: not now, but a goal next year.
 - * Mary commented that this year it will be enough to implement the practice of requiring Follow-up Activities.
 - * Marjorie asked if we can start giving a level description of “Basic” or “Advanced” for trainings offered this year. Consensus was that level could be included in training descriptions for this year, and recommendation was made to describe 3 levels: Foundational, Intermediate, and Experienced
- Other Discussion:
 - * DCF now has a Credential Calculator (myflorida.com/childcare) that will tell a provider when their credentials need to be renewed.
 - * Ginny stated that each post/pre-test form needs 3 objectives and the 2 questions on the bottom do not need to be multiple choice, could be short answer. She also suggested that we keep the follow-up assignments practical.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Brainstorm for ELC Annual Conference

- Location: Pine Shores Conference Center
Saturday, January 31, 2009
- Theme: Look for the Stars
Venise suggested adding “Quality Through a Child’s Eyes”
- Possible Key Note/Closing Speakers:
 - * Becky Bailey
 - * Pam Schiller
 - * Pam Phelps
 - * Suzanne Gellens
 - * Louise Boothby
 - * Sean Brown
 - * Barbara Keiser (keynote at ECE this year)
 - * “Mr. Happy” for closing
 - * The Learning Station for closing
- Possible Topics:
 - * Establishing Professional Relationships, Respectful Communication with Parents, Conversations with Children, Family Involvement
 - * Power of Play, Math, Transitions, Open-ended Art, Promoting Diversity, Cultural Sensitivity, Outdoor Classrooms, Multi-Age Groups
 - * Infant/Toddler
 - * Marketing, Forming a Business Plan, Customer Service, Career Lattice, Learning Styles

- * Recognizing Child Abuse
 - * Challenging Behaviors, Aggression & Hyperactivity, Sensory Issues, Special Needs
 - * DECA, ITERS/ECERS/FCCERS
 - * Brain Development, Easter Seals Training – Lynne has a contact for this
 - * Use directors/teachers as presenters (Sue Loncaric and Renee Hatfield were suggested)
 - * Information to be included in binders:
 - * Community resources for parents
 - * Toy safety information
- There was a discussion of how to incorporate follow up activities as part of the Conference. One suggestion was for roundtable discussions to be used as a reflective wrap-up activity with committee members as moderators. Discussion of the best time to hold roundtable rather than at the end of a long conference day - lunchtime, during a session, or an evening a few weeks after the conference. Could also do a follow up at the Directors Connection.
 - In-service Credit & CEUs: 5 hours of in-service credit to be given for attendance at conference. .75 CEUs to be given for conference and Roundtable attendance and a completed pre/post test.

4. OTHER DISCUSSION

The goal for the next meeting is to finalize the keynote and closing, breakout topics, and discuss interactive tables. Committee meeting dates through December will be October 27, November 17, and December 15.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 27th, 2008, at The Landings, as the regular meeting schedule is resumed.

Submitted by Marjorie Fondacaro