



Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

March 17, 2021

A meeting of the Children's Services Advisory Board of Manatee County, Florida, was held at the Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 5th Floor Manatee Room on Wednesday March 17, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: (In Person) Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Kelly Hunt, Kimberly Kutch, Jannon Pierce, and George VanBuren, (Virtually) Hon. Scott Brownell, Amy Diss, Rita Smith, and Gail Wynne. **Absent/Unexcused:** Charlie Kennedy.

Also Present: County Staff: (In Person), Susan Ford, Kristi Hagen, Lawanda Timmons, Chris Handy-Honeycutt, Johanna Beville; Members of the Public: (In Person), Kelly Stasurak (Virtually) Laurel Lynch, Evelyn Almodovar, Sharon Oakes.

Call to Order/Welcome

Debbie Tapp, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

Xtavia Bailey entered at 3:17pm

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for February 17, 2021, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gail Wynne, **Seconded by** Jannon Pierce, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 10, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person) Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Kelly Hunt, Kimberly Kutch, Jannon Pierce, and George VanBuren, (Virtually) Amy Diss, Rita Smith, and Gail Wynne.

Early Learning Coalition Data Update

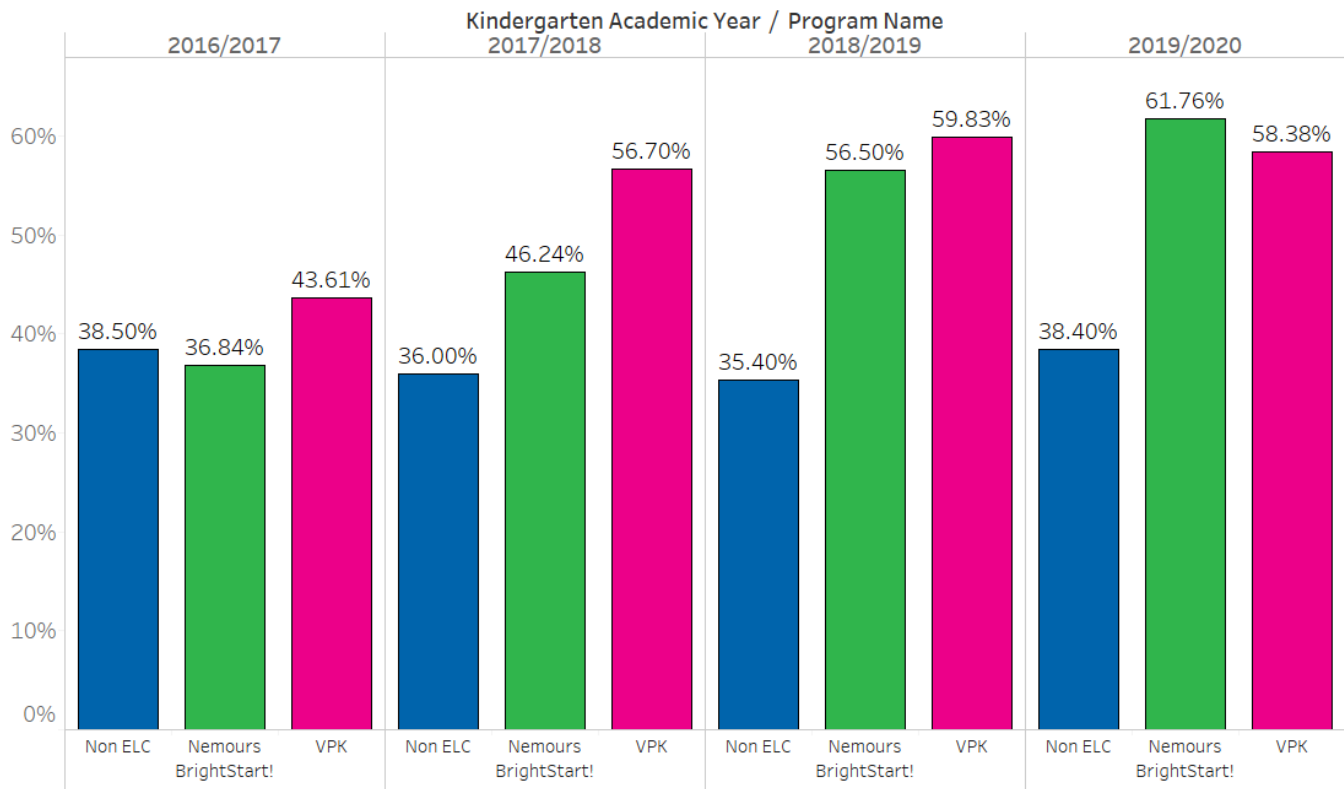
Sharon Oakes, COO for the Early Learning Coalition, provided program description and update on the data that has been collected by the agency. The agency has been utilizing a program "Efforts to Outcomes" that allows them to track children who receive services and their progress and achievement of academic milestones across their 4 programs (PALS, Nemours, STEAM, and CATCH).

As of February 2021, ELC is currently serving 57 classrooms (52 private providers, 5 SDMC schools) totaling 26 programs (22 private providers, 4 SDMC schools), impacting approximately 570 students.

The following data from the Unique ID Number Data Report prepared to the "Big Plan" partners illustrates the program made by Nemours program participants from 2015-2018 in Letter Name and Letter Sound screening and pre/post year assessments from 2015-2019. These children made substantial gains in their reading readiness skills over the 4-year period in the graph below.

(FLKRS) Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener

FLKRS – The Florida Kindergarten Readiness screener consists of two tests given to children entering kindergarten. This test is generally conducted with the first 30 days of enrollment. Children receiving Nemours Reading BrightStart! And VPK have consistently screened better prepared than non-ELC children.



Ms. Oakes fielded questions from the members who asked about the amount of money needed to expand into more classrooms, which will be researched and provided at a future meeting. Plans for future expansion and utilization of the “Efforts to Outcomes” Software to include tracking children’s absences and examining the teachers and director’s educational degrees and testing scores for their classrooms.

Kimberly Kutch inquired as to how many children are on the wait list for at-risk childcare. The ELC’s current wait list was reviewed (at-risk- 0 and below-income-139). Criteria for at-risk does not allow for a wait list.

School Suspensions Update

George Schrier, from the Manatee County School District, previously provided data and information focused on school suspensions for elementary students. Kristi Hagen received additional questions from board members after the February 17th CSAB meeting inquiring about student population for 1st Semester of the 20/21 school year. In response, additional information was provided in a handout: Student Discipline Data-1st Semester 2018-2021. Note: Data for 20/21 school year is impacted by COVID-19, data does not include e-learning students.

Children's Services Advisory Board Review Process for Funding Applications

Kristi Hagen provided an update on the number of applications received for FY 2021/2022 which was 51. There were 3 applications for new programs; one withdrew after not meeting all criteria. The two remaining new program applicants have provided a video, which were emailed to members with a link to the County's YouTube. She also reported the Child Welfare System Advocate program is a special project and no application is required.

Kristi provided guidance on the materials which were handed out: CSAB Results First Rating Tool Scoring Matrix-FY21/22, the CSAB Decision Making Guide-Request for Increased Investment, and the Review Deadlines for Batch 1 & 2. The applications will be emailed to the board in batches and will include the Annual Program Review form completed by Contract Managers. Members will also receive a template to utilize to communicate any questions to Kristi on the applications per batch who will forward them to the agencies for their responses. She clarified that similar programs will be batched together (i.e., Mental Health focused, child welfare, etc.).

An open discussion ensued between the CSAB Members on the application reviewing, scoring, and the due dates for the CSAB to submit their scores.

- Board members are encouraged to review the applications as they are received
- When Board members are inputting scores, they should save but not "submit" until the discussion meeting for each batch are concluded.
- Agency answers to CSAB questions will be provided as an attachment to the meeting notice related to the agency's review date (i.e., Batch 1 answers will be attached to the March 31 meeting notice, etc.).
- Members are asked to submit scores and questions for the applications reviewed by the deadlines outlined on the Review Deadlines for Batches 1&2 worksheet, which was provided at today's meeting.
- Final deadline for all final scores is May 30th. Members do not have to wait until the deadline to submit scores; however, it is strongly suggested to wait until after each program is discussed.

Kristi provided an overview of the schedule for the CSAB funding process:

- **March 31 thru May 12** - Meetings will occur at 3pm on Wednesdays.
- **May 27 (Wednesday)** - Buffer meeting
- **May 30 (Sunday)** – Final scores due
- **June 11 (Friday)** - Recommendation meeting #1 for Priority programs only
- **June 14 (Monday)** - Recommendation meeting #2 for other remaining programs

Debbie Tapp emphasized to members that there must be an in-person quorum because the Executive Order from Governor DeSantis allowing virtual meetings has expired. Kristi Hagen stressed the importance of having all CSAB members physically present for the meetings moving forward and limiting absences and virtual attendance. Staff will be required to cancel any meetings where there will be less than 7 members present in person. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Gail Wynne will be able to attend virtually only for the rest of her term.

Hon. Scott Brownell entered virtually at 3:51 p.m.

Staff Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- Recognition of Susan Ford for her contributions to the Children's Services Advisory Board and for her 26 years of service to the children of Manatee County. This will be the last Children's Services Advisory Board meeting that she will attend as her retirement date is effective March 31, 2021. CSAB all expressed their appreciation for her services and wish her the best in her future endeavors. The Board of County Commissioners will recognize Susan's tenure and

services to the children and families of Manatee County Government during their scheduled meeting on April 6th at 8:30AM, which will be held in the Honorable Patricia M. Glass Chambers, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL.

- Press release from Step Up Suncoast that President & CEO Barbara Patten is retiring from the agency effective August 31, 2021. The Step Up Suncoast Board is doing a regional search and hopes to have a new President & CEO in place by the end of June.
- Dr. Sandra Stone has resigned from the Children's Services Advisory Board effective today. She is resigning due to an increase in demand on her time at USF and feels she cannot keep up with the amount of work the CSAB requires. She has enjoyed working with the CSAB and team and hopes to contribute again at a later time.

New/Old Business

None

Public Comment

None

Next Meeting

March 31, 2021 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Manatee/Osprey Rooms, 5th floor.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Approved

Debbie Tapp, Chair

Date