



**PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, January 14, 2015, 8:30 a.m.**  
**15506 County Line Road, Suite 103**  
**Spring Hill, FL 34610**

**Committee Members Present: Angela Porterfield, Chair**

**Committee Members Present via Phone: Josh Kelly, Jean Rags**

**Committee Members Excused: Diane Rowden**

**Committee Members Unexcused: Marsha Carpenter**

**Coalition Staff Present: Kim Borrego, Jim Farrelly, Jak Jakubauskas**

**Others Present: None**

**I. Welcome and Call to Order**

Ms. Porterfield called the Program Committee to order at 8:34 a.m. and welcomed Committee members.

**II. Review/Adoption of Draft Minutes from September 10, 2014**

Ms. Porterfield requested a motion to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2014 meeting. Ms. Rags so moved and Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. All were in favor with no abstentions and the motion carried.

**III. Discussion, Centers Below and Above Monitoring Standards**

Ms. Borrego reported on the following assessments:

- All About Me – minimum requirements met;
- Beyond Learning – minimum requirements met;
- Kid Station – classroom not meeting minimum requirements was closed, but staff will continue to monitor to make sure the classroom remains closed;
- A Brighter Future – minimum requirements were met;
- Footprints-Hudson – follow up was rescheduled as a new teacher was in the classroom; follow up re-scheduled for early January;
- Clinton Academy – minimum requirements met;
- Little Peoples Christian – follow up scheduled in early January;
- Adventure Learning – follow up scheduled in early January;
- Victorious Life Academy – follow up scheduled at end of January;
- Gulf Coast Christian – revised CAP has been received;
- Discovery Point #31 – CAP is due next week.

Additionally, another 44 providers were assessed and scored 85% or above and a total of 40 CLASS assessments were conducted. The second CLASS follow up assessment is scheduled to begin in the spring.

Mr. Farrelly explained that with QRIS, a third level of reporting will be presented to this Committee in addition to the regular assessments and CLASS.

Ms. Porterfield inquired when the data from the CLASS assessments will be presented. Ms. Borrego explained data would be presented at a later Program meeting as this year's data will not be available until the spring. She reported that three (3) years of data will be available on 3-4 providers some of whom have retained the same classroom teacher.

Ms. Porterfield announced that Pasco school's Head Start program recently had a federal audit on CLASS, as VPK is blended with Head Start, and the program scored above the national average.

#### **IV. Update, Performance Funding Pilot Project**

Ms. Borrego explained this is the state's \$10.2 million quality initiative and six (6) local providers were chosen to participate, one of which has opted out of the program. The remaining providers have completed the first two (2) benchmarks and are working on the third which is due in March. She reported that because the program was rolled out so quickly, issues have arisen, but they are being worked through. The data should show that providers in the pilot program who are receiving training versus the comparison group who are not have significant outcomes. The project is expected to be completed in June.

#### **V. Consideration, VPK Letter of Support**

Ms. Porterfield explained the concerns related to the VPK Assessment tool and how skills learned in kindergarten are now being assessed in VPK. She reviewed the seven (7) recommendations that are being offered to the state for consideration.

Mr. Farrelly explained this item was placed on the agenda for informational purposes should the Committee wish to send a similar letter of support. Ms. Rags inquired if there had been any response from the letter dated October 16, 2014 and recommended that a 1-page letter be drafted. Mr. Farrelly and Ms. Borrego will draft a letter with a possible attachment to present to Committee.

#### **VI. Presentation, Quality Rating Improvement System**

Ms. Borrego reviewed the information contained in the QRIS information packet that was emailed to Committee members. She explained that twenty-five (25) providers were invited to a VIP round table discussion during the last conference and fourteen (14) of those providers have expressed interest in participating in a pilot program. Ms. Borrego explained the plan is to roll out QRIS in three (3) phases to maximize opportunities for providers to participate. The first phase will consist of Staff

Qualifications – Professional Development and Learning Environment and Teacher-Child Interactions. Ms. Rags inquired if there will be a way for providers to mentor others who may need additional assistance and if any funding would be provided for professional development.

A brief discussion followed on centers being able to maintain quality while sustaining their programs without additional incentive funding. Improved scores for QRIS should be attributed to monitoring and the primary incentive of QRIS is the economic survival of providers and improvement of their economic status. Mr. Farrelly explained that many providers have openings for additional children and high quality providers will continue to do well while others will have to improve or possibly lose their business.

Further discussion followed on funding as some center teachers do require financial assistance for additional trainings. As the financial impact of QRIS to the Coalition is still unknown, funding for an item such as training may not be sustainable long-term. Ms. Borrego explained that providers do have opportunities to obtain state grants.

Ms. Borrego explained that today the Program Committee is being requested to approve the name of the QRIS program – “Sunshine Stars – Pasco Hernando’s Quality Rating Improvement System”, approve the draft tool and approve its presentation to the full Board at the January meeting. Board members will be presented with the entire QRIS packet to review.

Ms. Rags moved to approve the three (3) stated recommendations and Mr. Kelly seconded. All were in favor with no abstentions and the motion carried.

**VII. Public Input**

None.

**VIII. Next Meeting Date – March 18, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.**

The next Program Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

**IX. Adjournment**

Ms. Porterfield requested a motion to adjourn; Ms. Rags so moved and Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. This meeting of the Program Committee was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. without further discussion.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Ramute “Jak” Jakubauskas  
Administrative Assistant