

PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Agenda Item #:  
**3A-5**

BOARD APPOINTMENT SUMMARY

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**Meeting Date:** February 7, 2017  
**Department:** Administration  
**Advisory Board:** Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County

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**I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF**

**Motion and Title:** Staff recommends motion to approve: appointment of Tammy K. Fields, Director of Youth Services to the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc., effective February 7, 2017.

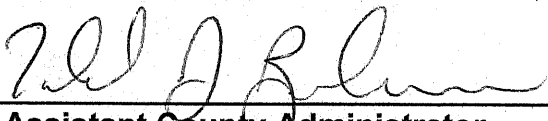
**Summary:** The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc. (Coalition) is established pursuant to Section 1002.83, Florida Statutes. Section 1002.83(3), Florida Statutes, requires the Governor to appoint the chair and two other members. Pursuant to Section 2 of the Bylaws of the Coalition, the following members are required: Department of Children and Families Services Circuit Administrator, or designee; Palm Beach County District Superintendent of Schools, or designee; Regional Workforce Development Executive Director, or designee; Palm Beach County Health Department Director, or designee; Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County Chair or Executive Director; an agency head of a local licensing agency as defined in Section 402.302, Florida Statutes, where applicable; a central agency administrator, where applicable; a Head Start Director from Palm Beach County; the president of Palm Beach Community College, or designee; a member appointed by the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners; a representative of programs for children with disabilities under the Federal Individual with Disabilities Education Act; a representative of faith-based child care providers; a representative of private for profit child care providers; a parent with one or more children who are being served in an early care and education program; and a representative from the western Palm Beach County area. The duties of the Coalition include, but are not limited to planning and implementing a school readiness program and the voluntary prekindergarten education program. The Board has 22 seats filled and a diversity count of Hispanic-American 3 (14%), African-American 4 (18%), and Caucasian-American 15 (68%). The gender ratio (female: male) is 12:10; Ms. Fields' appointment will not change the diversity of the Coalition. Mayor Burdick served in this position in 2016. Countywide (HH)

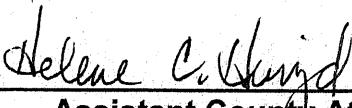
**Background and Justification:** The Coalition's mission is building community-wide commitment for comprehensive, high-quality early learning environments that benefit the children and families of Palm Beach County. Given the mission of the Coalition, the Director of Youth Services should be the County's representative on the Coalition.

**Attachment:**

1. Section 1002.83, Florida Statutes

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**Recommended by:**  1/24/17  
Assistant County Administrator Date

**Approved by:**  1-24-17  
Assistant County Attorney Date

Select Year:  

## The 2016 Florida Statutes

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Title XLVIII  
K-20 EDUCATION  
CODE

Chapter 1002  
STUDENT AND PARENTAL RIGHTS AND  
EDUCATIONAL CHOICES

[View Entire  
Chapter](#)

### **1002.83 Early learning coalitions.—**

(1) Thirty-one or fewer early learning coalitions are established and shall maintain direct enhancement services at the local level and provide access to such services in all 67 counties. Two or more early learning coalitions may join for purposes of planning and implementing a school readiness program and the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

(2) Each early learning coalition shall be composed of at least 15 members but not more than 30 members.

(3) The Governor shall appoint the chair and two other members of each early learning coalition, who must each meet the same qualifications as private sector business members appointed by the coalition under subsection (5).

(4) Each early learning coalition must include the following member positions; however, in a multicounty coalition, each ex officio member position may be filled by multiple nonvoting members but no more than one voting member shall be seated per member position. If an early learning coalition has more than one member representing the same entity, only one of such members may serve as a voting member:

(a) A Department of Children and Families regional administrator or his or her permanent designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the department.

(b) A district superintendent of schools or his or her permanent designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the district.

(c) A local workforce development board executive director or his or her permanent designee.

(d) A county health department director or his or her designee.

(e) A children's services council or juvenile welfare board chair or executive director, if applicable.

(f) An agency head of a local licensing agency as defined in s. [402.302](#), where applicable.

(g) A president of a Florida College System institution or his or her permanent designee.

(h) One member appointed by a board of county commissioners or the governing board of a municipality.

(i) A Head Start director.

(j) A representative of private for-profit child care providers, including private for-profit family day care homes.

(k) A representative of faith-based child care providers.

(l) A representative of programs for children with disabilities under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

(m) A central agency administrator, where applicable.

(5) Including the members appointed by the Governor under subsection (3), more than one-third of the members of each early learning coalition must be private sector business members, either for-profit or nonprofit, who do not have, and none of whose relatives as defined in s. 112.3143 has, a substantial financial interest in the design or delivery of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program created under part V of this chapter or the school readiness program. To meet this requirement, an early learning coalition must appoint additional members. The office shall establish criteria for appointing private sector business members. These criteria must include standards for determining whether a member or relative has a substantial financial interest in the design or delivery of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program or the school readiness program.

(6) A majority of the voting membership of an early learning coalition constitutes a quorum required to conduct the business of the coalition. An early learning coalition may use any method of telecommunications to conduct meetings, including establishing a quorum through telecommunications, provided that the public is given proper notice of a telecommunications meeting and reasonable access to observe and, when appropriate, participate.

(7) A voting member of an early learning coalition may not appoint a designee to act in his or her place, except as otherwise provided in this subsection. A voting member may send a representative to coalition meetings, but that representative does not have voting privileges. When a regional administrator for the Department of Children and Families appoints a designee to an early learning coalition, the designee is the voting member of the coalition, and any individual attending in the designee's place, including the district administrator, does not have voting privileges.

(8) Each member of an early learning coalition is subject to ss. 112.313, 112.3135, and 112.3143. For purposes of s. 112.3143(3)(a), each voting member is a local public officer who must abstain from voting when a voting conflict exists.

(9) For purposes of tort liability, each member or employee of an early learning coalition shall be governed by s. 768.28.

(10) An early learning coalition serving a multicounty region must include representation from each county.

(11) Each early learning coalition shall establish terms for all appointed members of the coalition. The terms must be staggered and must be a uniform length that does not exceed 4 years per term. Coalition chairs shall be appointed for 4 years in conjunction with their membership on the Early Learning Advisory Council pursuant to s. 20.052. Appointed members may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. When a vacancy occurs in an appointed position, the coalition must advertise the vacancy.

(12) State, federal, and local matching funds provided to the early learning coalitions may not be used directly or indirectly to pay for meals, food, or beverages for coalition members, coalition employees, or subcontractor employees. Preapproved, reasonable, and necessary per diem allowances and travel expenses may be reimbursed. Such reimbursement shall be at the standard travel reimbursement rates established in s. 112.061 and must comply with applicable federal and state requirements.

(13) Each early learning coalition shall use a coordinated professional development system that supports the achievement and maintenance of core competencies by school readiness program teachers in helping children attain the performance standards adopted by the office.

(14) Each school district shall, upon request of the coalition, make a list of all individuals currently eligible to act as a substitute teacher within the school district, pursuant to rules adopted by the school district pursuant to s. 1012.35, available to an early learning coalition serving students within the school

district. Child care facilities as defined in s. [402.302](#) may employ individuals listed as substitute instructors for the purpose of offering the school readiness program, the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, and all other legally operating child care programs.

**History.**—s. 17, ch. 2013-252; s. 177, ch. 2014-17; s. 46, ch. 2016-216.

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