



PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY

December 6, 2019

1. **Compensation Summit** – I attended the Alliance for Early Success Summit in October along with Rep. Vance Aloupis and Madeleine Thakur of the Children's Movement. There were various initiatives discussed – some of which were more appropriate for states that had a state income tax, e.g. Louisiana that gives tax incentives to those working in ECE and parents who get tax breaks if their child is in a quality center. We also presented on our ECE INCENTIVE\$ efforts. The most valuable part was having time to discuss compensation issues more thoroughly with Vance and Madeleine.
2. **Legislative Session** – As folks know, the session begins early this year in January. Early learning and K-12 education will be getting attention this year. While salaries for K-12 teachers are on the forefront, it hasn't translated to strategies for addressing the Birth to Kindergarten teachers. We are expecting our Early Childhood Educators' INCENTIVE\$ legislation to be picked up in Representative Grall's bill but we haven't seen a copy of it yet. We submitted legislative language to Representative Aloupis' office. Also expected to be addressed in Representative Grall's bill is child assessment in VPK programs with increased accountability in VPK.
3. **Child Assessment** – The Forum completed work on a report for the Office of Early Learning providing recommendations for consideration on Child Assessment. The final report will be formatted and submitted by the end of the month. While we were required to present options, our favored approach would be to build on the work of Dr. Jason Anthony at USF adding the portions not covered in current assessments (executive functioning and social/emotional) and then the state would own the assessment rights rather than contracting with a third-party company. It would likely be more affordable plus more easily updated as appropriate.
4. **Professional Development System** – The Forum also completed work on Florida's Professional Development System by updating the Standards, Competencies, and Career Pathway. This work required facilitation of many stakeholders in its final recommendations. There will be rules promulgated this month to incorporate the PD recommendations.
5. **Building Update** – The renovations and process have taken much longer than anticipated or promised. There have been delays with subcontractors and projected dates not met. We have a list of "must haves" before we will accept the building as complete that has been forwarded to the real estate agent and owner. At present, it looks like we'll be moving after the first of the year if everything has been completed. Our staff have been wonderful, in spite of the challenges this represents.