



EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
Fantasy World Academy: Appeal Hearing Minutes
November 1, 2018
12:30 pm

Purpose: Review the Coalition’s decision to terminate the School Readiness and VPK contracts with Fantasy World at 5513 Eight Street West, Lehigh Acres, FL 33971.

Executive Committee Members Present:

- Dr. Denis Wright, Chair-Nomination and Bylaws Committee, Appeals Committee Chair,** Interim Dean – School of Health Professions, Florida SouthWestern State College (Required member)
- Victor Mraz, Vice-Chair and Interim Board Chair,** *Financial Representative, Blue Chip Financial of SWFL* (Business Member)
- Damaris Boone, Chair-Program Committee,** *Early Education Outcome Analyst, Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) (Provider Representative)*

Appellant (s) Present: Fantasy World Academy: Ms. Sulye Cruz, Director, Susy Jimenez, Parent, Tamika Neval, Grandparent; Jean Cvervah, Parent; Charrelle Paulk, Parent; Nicole James, Parent; Jacqueline Chang, Guardian ad Litem

Coalition Staff Present: Susan Block, CEO; Gayla Thompson, Chief Officer; Gayla Thompson, Chief Quality Officer; Michelle Irizarry, Director, Risk Management and Ginger McHale, Executive Administrative Assistant to CEO

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action/Assignments
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson, Dr. Denis Wright, led introductions. 	
Review of Hearing Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairperson reviewed the appeal hearing procedure, referring to the agenda provided to all participants. • Ms. McHale, Notary Republic, administer the swearing in. 	

<p>Presentation by Early Learning Coalition Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gayla Thompson, Chief Quality Officer, reviewed the background of the Coalition’s Decision to terminate the School Readiness (SR) and VPK contracts with Fantasy World Academy and provided the basis for termination • Ms. Block further explained that the termination of the food program by Child Care of SWFL and the refusal of DOH to contract due to the previous termination provide is grounds for moving this aspect forward. 	
<p>Presentation of Appeal by Fantasy World Academy</p>	<p>Fantasy World Academy (FWA) presented their appeal. The key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of the food program was hard given the complexity of the computer system report. Ms. Cruz said she did not intentionally misrepresent her records to the food program • Was on a corrective action plan and got off it by being responsible for reposting. • .Five parents/guardians spoke about the quality of care, cleanliness and importance of the center. They testified that hours are extensive compared to other centers. 	
<p>Conclusion of Appeal Hearing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee considered the documentation and presentations by both the ELC and Fantasy World Academy. 	.
<p>Committee Decision</p>	<p>The Committee decided to overturn the ELC decision and modify the ELC actions. The Provider is allowed to enroll children effective November 2, 2018.</p> <p>The Committee instituted this decision based on the following rationale The Committee specifically stated these reasons in support of its decisions:</p> <p>Details of Correction Action Plan include:</p>	<p>Motion to overturn the ELC decision to terminate School Readiness and VPK contracts and modify the ELC response by Damaris Boone. Second by Victor Mraz. Motion approved.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ELC will provide technical assistance regarding sign-in and sign-out protocols; 2. The ELC will closely monitor the program and offer appropriate technical assistance; 3. The Provider is responsible to meet contractual obligations; 4. The Provider should request assistance from the ELC when necessary. 	
Preparation of Appeals Hearing Committee Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee prepared a final draft of the minutes of the appeals hearing and signed, following the motion to accept the minutes, as drafted. 	<p>Motion to accept the minutes by Victor Mraz. Second by Damaris Boone. Motion Approved.</p> <p>The Committee charged Ms. Block with typing of the minutes, as written. Ms. Block will post the approved minutes to the Coalition's website.</p>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairperson thanked the members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 1:50 pm. 	