



ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
HEAD START
POLICY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES



Holden Heights Community Center
1201 20th Street
Orlando, FL 32805
January 16, 2025

Call to Order by: Octavia Gibson, Chairperson at 6:40
Roll Call by: Shondra Greggs, Secretary

Attended By:

Stephanie Soler	Aloma	Representative
Nicole Charette	Aloma	Alternate
Alicia Bermudez	Bithlo	Representative
Nayeli Macuare	Dover Shores	Representative
Yairalee Bonilla	East Orange	Representative
Nayisha Goldwire	Engelwood	Representative
Briyuana Ayala	Hal Marston	Representative
Chassity Florence	John Bridges	Representative
Chai'neal Jarvis	John Bridges	Alternate
Taiyana Harris	Lila Mitchell	Representative
Viviana Escalante	McCoy	Representative
Daniella Santander	McCoy	Alternate
Marie Registe	Millennia	Alternate
Shondra Greggs	Pine Hills	Representative
Luisa Acevedo Morillo	SOYMCA	Representative
Lucia Vasquez Castillo	Three Points	Representative
Tytiana Francis	W/S ELC	Alternate
Jada Moore	WS Elementary	Representative
Fitta Jeanniton	West Oaks	Representative
Octavia Gibson	Past Parent	Community Rep

Guests:

Steve Martin	Vystar Credit Union
Foidette Guerrier	Parent

Staff:

Jennifer Birch	Main Office
Valentine Palmer	Main Office
Sandra Moore	Main Office
Avis McWhite	Main Office
Natalie Colon	Main Office
Sonya Hill	Main Office
Zhor Elmekali	Lila Mitchell
Yolanda Soto	Millennia
Limarys Rivera	Main Office
Polly Boulter	Hal Marston

Dwayne Horne
Regina Temple

Main Office
Main Office

Chairperson Gibson called for a motion to adopt the agenda

Motion: Lucia Castillo, Three Points Representative

Second: Marie Registe, Alternate

Motion carried with no objections

Secretary's Report by Shondra Greggs

Chairperson Gibson called for a motion to accept the Secretary's report

Motion: Jada Moore, W/S Elementary Representative

Second: Fitta Jeanniton, West Oaks Representative

Motion carried with no objections

HR Report by Avis McWhite – Ms. McWhite listed terminations and vacancies by center. There were also recommendations for hire with qualifications presented to the group.

Chairperson Gibson called for a motion to accept the HR report

Motion: Yairalee Bonilla, East Orange Representative

Second: Briyuana Ayala, Hal Marston Representative

Motion carried with no objections

Budget Report by Sonya Hill

Director Report by Sonya Hill –

- Enrollment is at 98.17% which is above the 97% requirement from OHS
- Staff participated in the Design Thinking Crash Course professional development program and continued to attend the Trauma Smart program training.
- Attended the Florida Head Start Association Conference. Ms. Hill submitted a paper and presented it with partners. Sandra Ruff, Fiscal Program Manager, presented on Financial Literacy for Head Start parents in collaboration with Vystar credit union.

Old Business:

Program Performance Summary Report Final Notification – 12/18/24

The program has received a deficiency as a result of leaving a child unattended in a classroom as discussed in a previous meeting. Head Start has 30 days to correct the deficiency from the date of the notice, however, since the winter break delayed the receipt of the notification, Ms. Hill will be requesting an extension to correct the deficiency. A corrective action plan has been developed and uploaded to the Head Start Enterprise System.

Community Representative Vote – Steve Martin, from Vystar Credit Union submitted an application. He listed his experience and personal history that qualifies him to serve as Community Representative. He also served on the 2023-2024 Policy Council and has been actively supporting Head Start for the last 8 years, providing financial literacy information. There was a unanimous vote to accept him in the role.

Unit Updates:

ERSEA by Natalie Colon

PFCE by Dwayne Horne

Nutrition by Regina Temple

Education by Limarys Rivera

Mental Health and Disabilities by Jennifer Birch

Health by Valentine Palmer

Maintenance by Sonya Hill

Congratulated Natalie Colon, Sr. Family Services Worker on her promotion to Program Manager in Tennant Services.

Chairperson Gibson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Motion: Jada Moore, W/S Elementary Representative

Second: Luisa Acevedo Morillo, SOYMCA Representative

Motion carried with no objections

Meeting Adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Next Policy Council Meeting: February 20, 2025