October 28, 2026
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Early Learning Coalition of Duval
In Person/Zoom Call

Agenda

11:30 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.	**Welcome**	Marcus Rowe
	Chair Report Approval of September 2, 2026, Minutes	Marcus Rowe
11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	**CEO Report** 1. Provider Small Group Meetings 2. NAACP Education Meeting 10/26/26 3. Pinellas County Literacy Work 4. UNF FIE Pilot Update 5. Late ASQ 6. Staff Highlights	Angel Carro
12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	**Committee/Workgroup Updates**	
	Finance Committee	Melanie Patz
	Appeals Committee	Sarah Hulsberg
	Legislative Committee	Jason Roth/Karen Feagins
	DELDN	Carla Whiteside
12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	**Professional Development Presentation**	Catina Jones, Michelle Williams, Jessica Roland
1:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	**Public Comment/Other Business/ Announcements**	

Next Meeting – December 16, 2026

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

In-Person/Zoom Board Meeting 11:30 am

Quorum met: 17 of 21 members present

Board Members Present: Marcus Rowe, Melanie Patz, Sarah Hulsberg, Jason Roth, Dr. Tara Haley, LaTanya Wynn-Hall, Maria McNair, Carla Whiteside, Chrity Gillis, Karen Feagins, Fionnuala Geoghan, Cheryl Taylor, Dana Kriznar, Dr. Maribel Monsalve, Dr. Vicki Waytowich, Katarwa Buckman, Theresa Little

Non-Voting Board Member Present: Amber Holley

Board Members Absent: Christopher Bernier (excused), Carl Smith (excused), Chelsea Harris (excused), Dr. Letisha Jefferson-excused

Guests: Gabriela Silva (Reach out and read), Sonya McSwain (DCPS), Jeanne Dillard (ECS4Kids), Theresa Matheny (ECS4Kids), Dr. Gracie Bell-Kearse McCastler (NAACP), Dr. Constance Hall (VPK, NAACP), Dr. Stafford (NAACP), Barney Roberts (NAACP), Kenneth Manuel, Delores Beamon

ELC Staff Present: Angel Carro, Lashonda Hicks, Cheryl Benveniste, Lisa Zenoz, Heather Mooney, Kathy Wentworth, Cathie Odom, Katy Droubie, Charlene Gross, Tinesha Byrd, Bobby Steely, Lori Ryals, Catina Jones, Laurie De La Cruz, Ann Thompson, Maria Luna, Khalida Bendolph, Johnna Daniels, Keisha Croft, Latrice Roberts

Marcus Rowe began the meeting by welcoming everyone.

The June 24, 2026, meeting minutes were reviewed, and Marcus Rowe called for a motion to approve the minutes. Jason Roth made a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE JUNE 24,2026, MEETING MINUTES

Dr. Tara Haley seconded; approved by all voting members

Angel Carro presented the CEO report as follows:

- DEL Chancellor
- SR Funding
- Read Jax
- VPK Provider Performance Metrics
- Staff Highlights

Melanie Patz communicated the following financials:

- We are currently serving 9,363 children in SR
- We are currently serving 5.078 children in VPK
- We have 1,088 children on the waiting list and pulling weekly
- VPK enrollments are through August 17, 2026, and families are continuing to enroll through the month. We have approved 8,373 certificates as of August 18, 2026.
- We are currently sending enrollment packets weekly. We are currently sending packets to families through the following application dates:

- Children *Birth through Five Economically Disadvantaged (BG8 Priority 3)*: 7/29/2026
- Children *Over Age Nine At Risk DCF Referrals (BG1 Priority 5)*: 6/24/2026
- Children *School Age Economically Disadvantaged (BG8 Priority 6)*: 5/29/2026

- In July, we distributed 705 Wage Incentive checks to our eligible Guiding Stars of Duval teachers totaling
  $3.2 million.
- The total statewide SR carryforward balance from 2025-2026 to 2026-2027 is not yet available to ELCs.

Melanie Patz shared the Coalition-requested Action Item #1 2026-2027 School Readiness Budget Adjustment
Finance Committee made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 School Readiness Budget Adjustment.

MOTION: TO APPROVE ACTION ITEM # 1 SCHOOL READINESS BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Theresa Little seconded, and approved by all voting members

Sarah Hulsberg gave the Appeals Committee update with no appeals to report.

Carla Whiteside shared that DELDN is gearing up for the Fall conference, Little Learner Big Waves on September 19, 2026.

Angel Carro gave an overview of the Task Force Report.

Angel gave an update on the Strategic Plan.

With no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Tinesha Byrd

CEO Report – October 28, 2026

Provider Small group Meetings

We held two provider small group meetings last week to get feedback from providers. The main concern coming from providers at both meetings centered around providers needing help with special needs children.

NAACP Education Meeting

On Monday October 26, I presented at the NAACP education meeting. I covered how our funding works, how many children we are serving, and the quality programs we have.

Pinellas County Literacy Work

I attended a Chamber Webinar that highlighted the steps that Pinellas County has taken to increase their kindergarten readiness scores. The main difference is the focus of their coaching. They received a 1.2 million grant to help expand literacy coaching in 3- and 4-year-old classrooms.

UNF FIE Pilot Update

We have slowed down the coaching pilot with UNF-FIE. Our staff is working together with UNF-FIE to come up with strategies that can be expanded to serve more centers.

Late ASQ

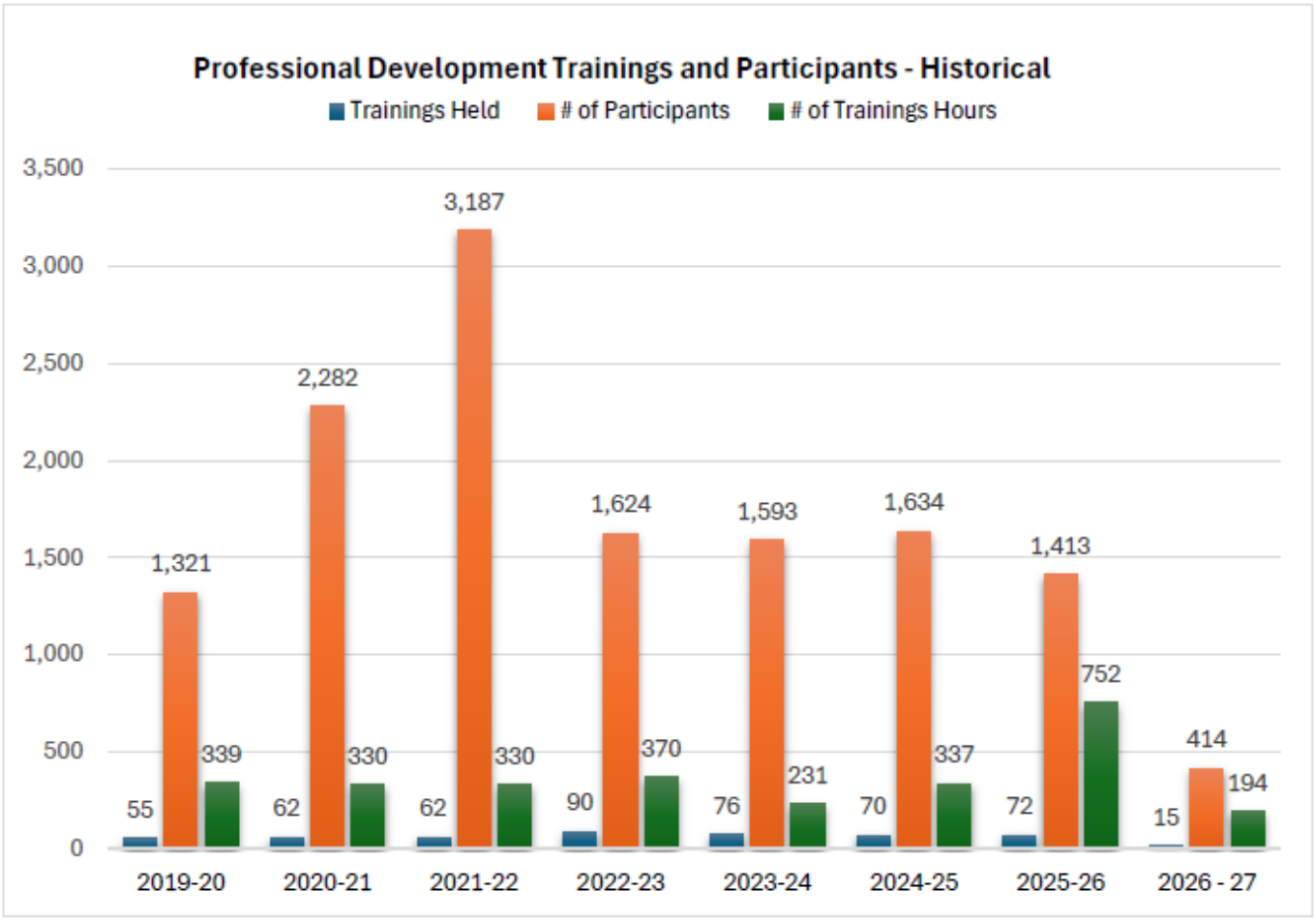
We are dealing with more ASQ's not being submitted on time. We are working on a policy to bring to the board in December holding on ways to try and prevent late ASQ's from dragging on.

Staff Highlights

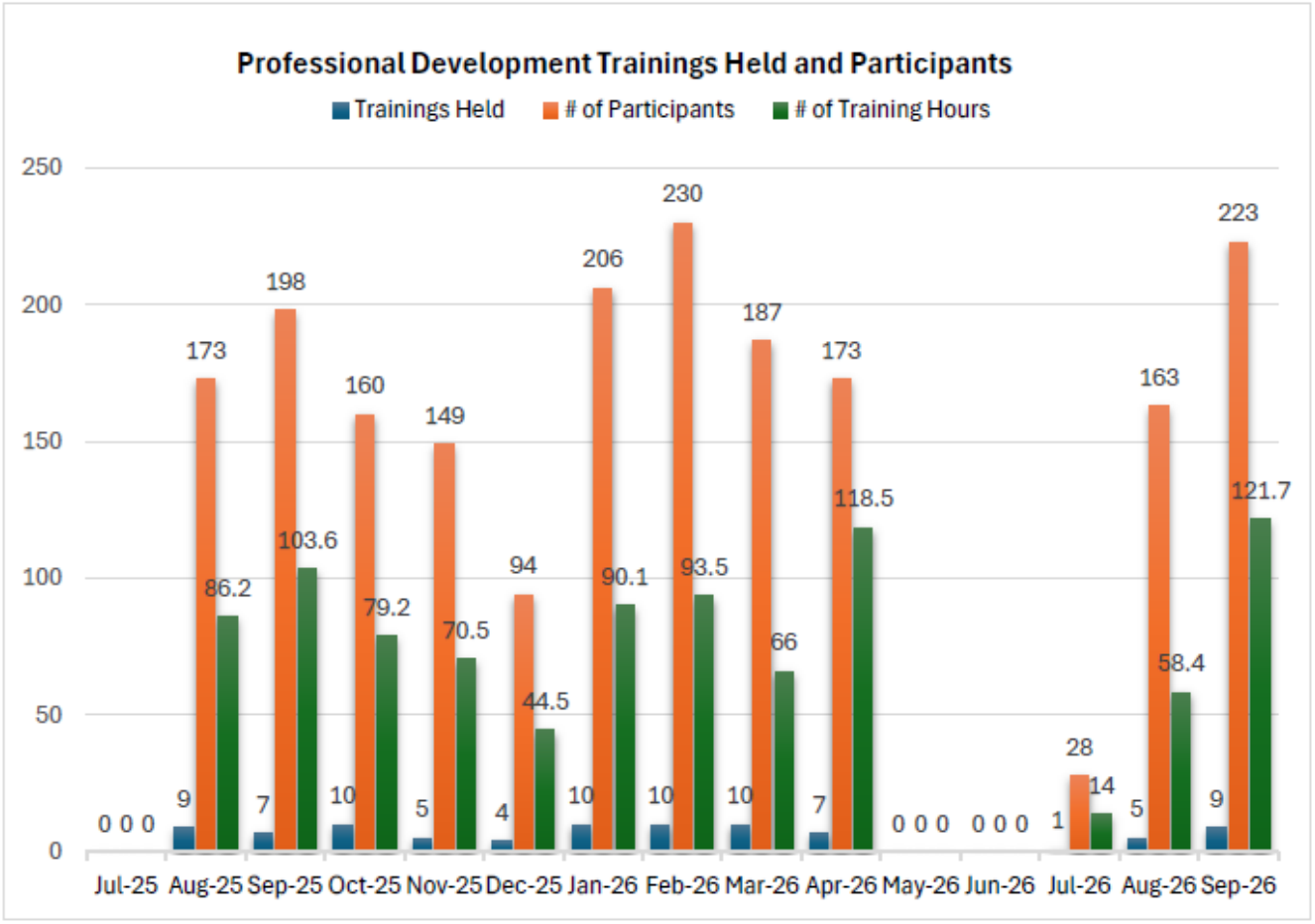
- Alexia Lombel, Heather Mooney, and Latricia Gillis presented at the Christian Educator Conference at Trinity Chirstian Academy
- Our Finance team concluded their state fiscal audit with no findings or observations.
- We earned the Silver WINGS Award at the 2026 TOOTRiS WINGS Summit for Help Me Grow. Adriana Bonilla presented the initiative before an audience of 300 Child Care leaders and industry partners attending WINGS.
- ELC staff and KPMG are planning to help 100 Calloway Cove children, ages 0-12 with something from their wish list during the holidays. If any board member would like to participate, please contact Charlene Gross at cgross@elcduval.org. We will have the children's names, ages, and some of their needs/wants by the week before Thanksgiving. There is no maximum amount of monetary value. We just ask that if you sponsor a child, the minimum is a $20 gift. Wrapped gifts will be due to the Southside office by Thursday, 12/10, and will be delivered to Calloway Cove on Tuesday, 12/15.

Early Learning Coalition of Duval

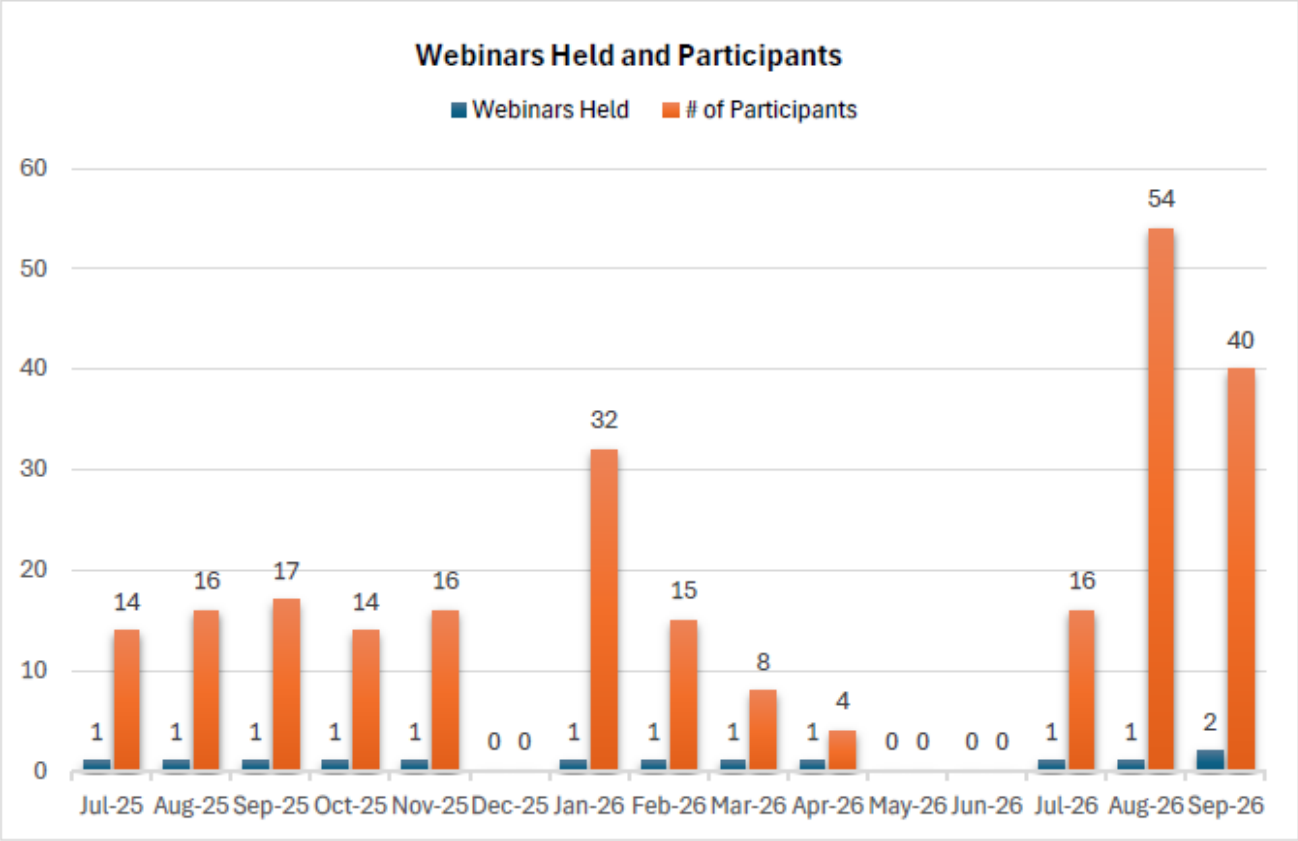
ELC Dashboard



Early Learning Coalition of Duval



Early Learning Coalition of Duval



Early Learning Coalition of Duval
Finance Summary
September 2026

Child Care:

Children Served	September 2026	September 2025	% Change
School Readiness with Match	9,269	8,763	5.8%
SR Plus	31	21	47.6%
VPK	7,348	7,131	3.0%

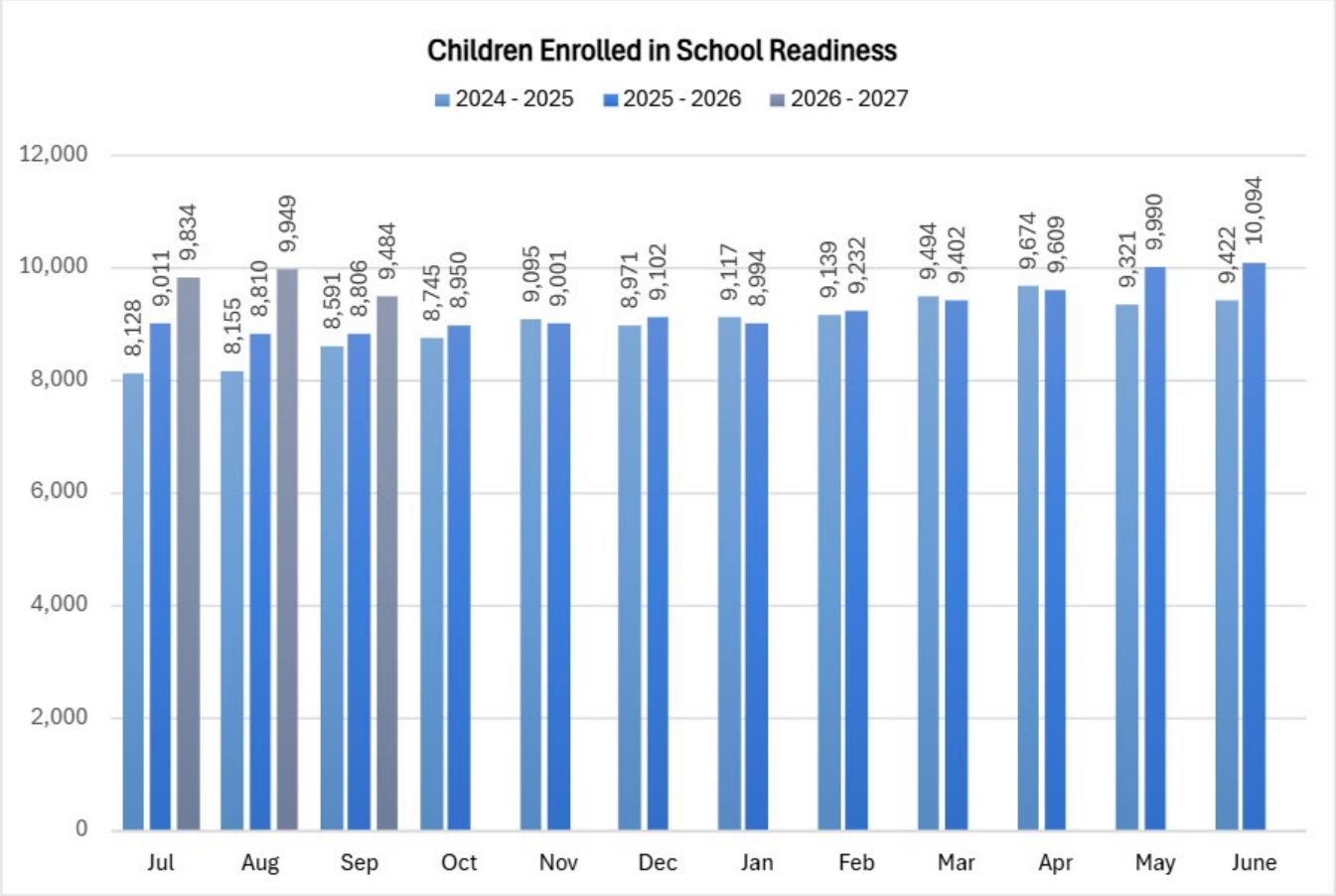
School Readiness	October 2026	Prior Month	October 2025	% Change from PY
Wait List – Birth through 5	311	557	213	46%
Wait List – School Age	758	686	886	-14%
Wait List – Total	1,069	1,243	1,099	-3%

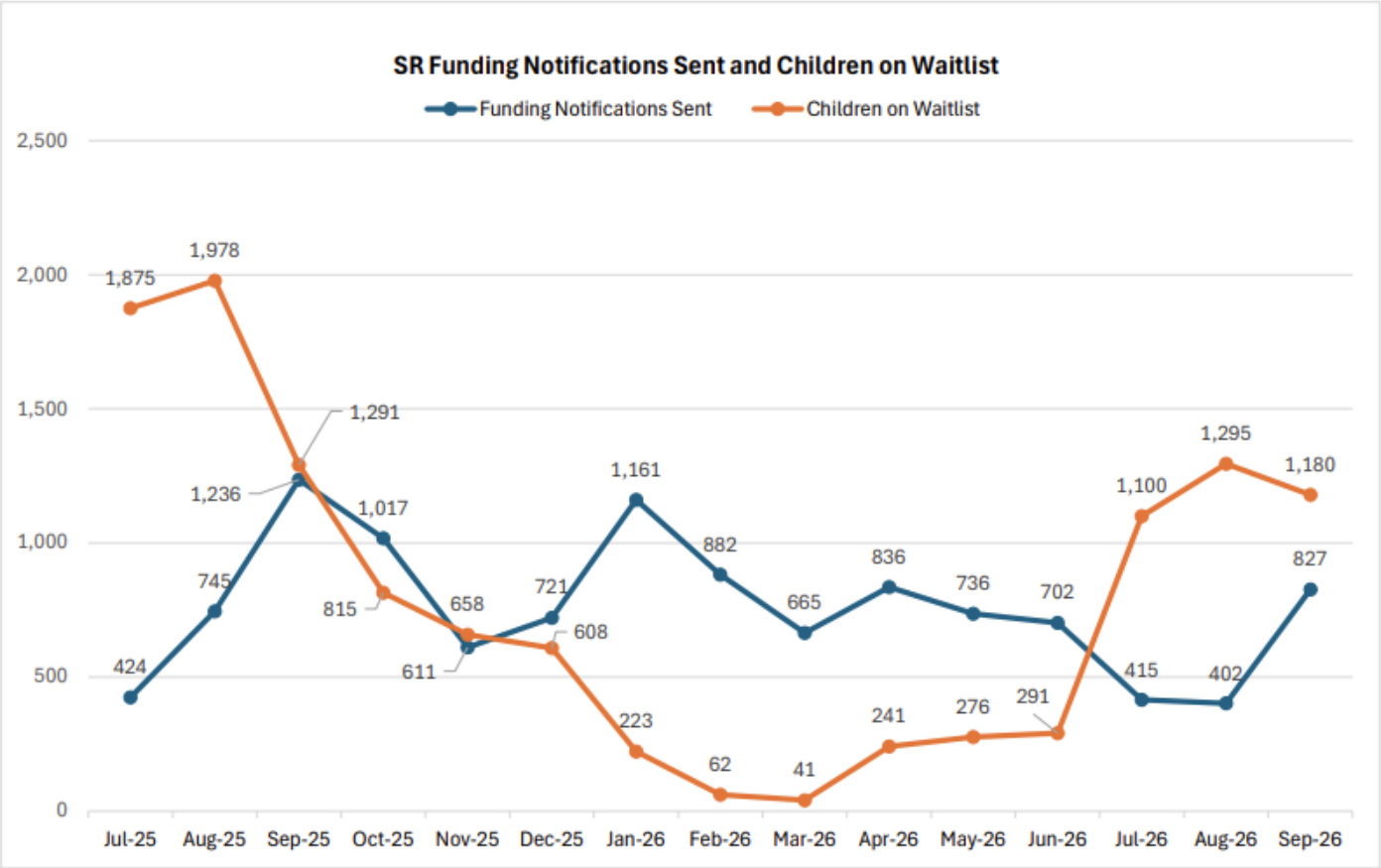
School Readiness	Returned	Approved	% Change
New Enrollments September (657)	90%	53%	N/A
Redeterminations August (676)	69%	58%	N/A

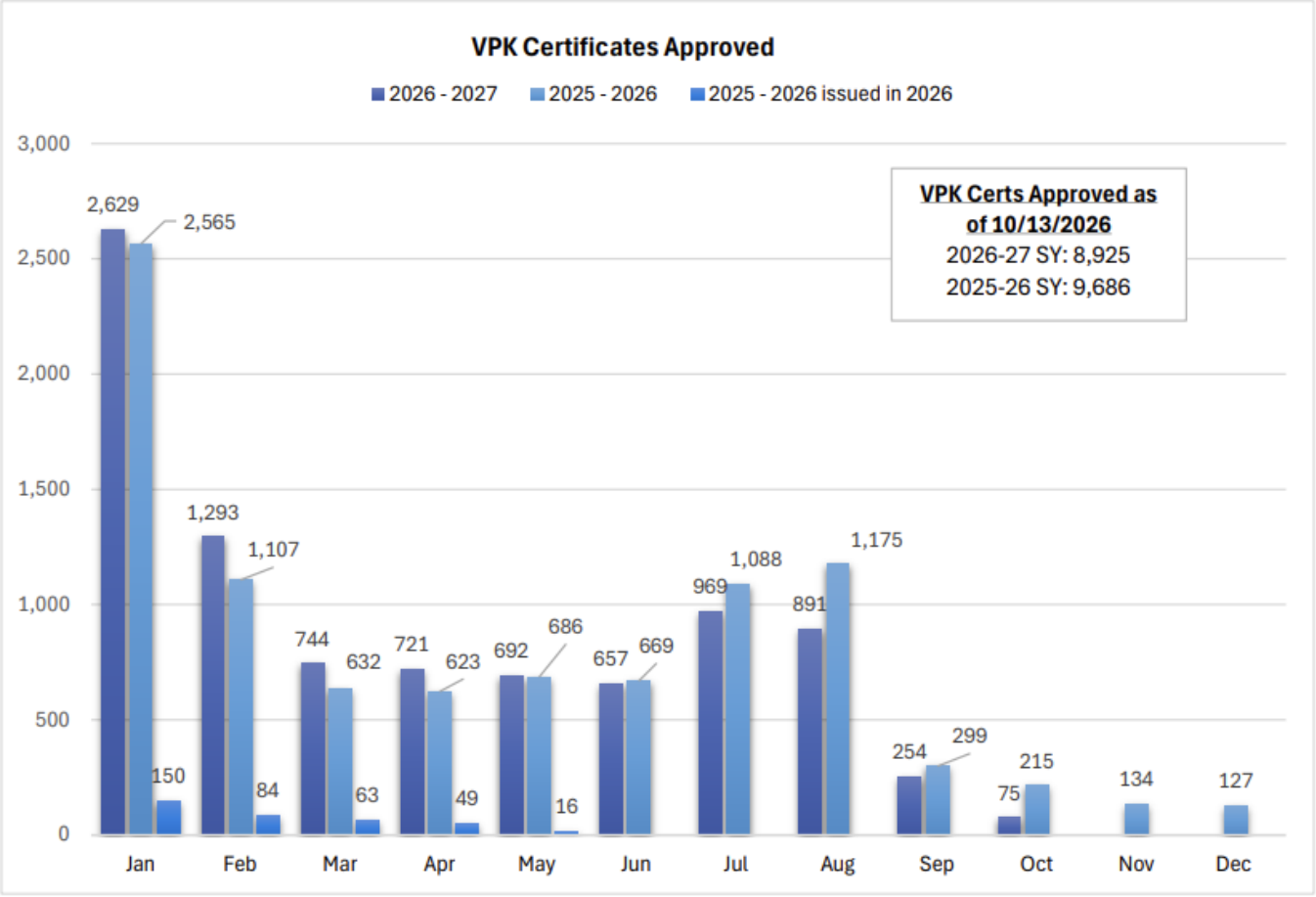
VPK	October 2026	October 2025	% Change
VPK Enrollments	7,357	7,231	1.7%

- VPK enrollments are through October 19, 2026, and families are continuing to enroll throughout the month. We have approved 8,925 certificates as of October 13, 2026.
- We are currently sending enrollment packets weekly. We are currently sending packets to families through the following application dates:
    - Children *Birth through Five Economically Disadvantaged (BG8 Priority 3)*: 10/2/2026
    - Children *Over Age Nine At Risk DCF Referrals (BG1 Priority 5)*: 6/24/2026
    - Children *School Age Economically Disadvantaged (BG8 Priority 6)*: 5/29/2026
- The 401k audit was completed and Form 5500 was filed.
- We received the preliminary results of the state fiscal monitoring with no findings or observations.

Key	
DEL	Division of Early Learning
SR	School Readiness – Program funded through DEL with Federal and State Dollars
SR Plus	School Readiness Plus Program funded through State of Florida general revenue to extend child care services for families that have exited the SR Program
VPK	Voluntary Prekindergarten – Program funded through DEL with state of Florida general revenue
New Enrollment	Families who are on our waitlist and we are trying to enroll into SR
Redetermination	Current family in SR that is trying to renew their eligibility
Packet	Application sent to SR family to enroll or renew their SR eligibility. May include more than 1 child.


Children Enrolled in School Readiness
2024 - 2025
2025 - 2026
2026 - 2027
12,000
10,000
8,000
6,000
4,000
2,000
0
8,128
9,011
9,834
8,155
8,810
9,949
8,591
8,806
9,484
8,745
8,950
9,095
9,001
8,971
9,102
9,117
8,994
9,139
9,232
9,494
9,402
9,674
9,609
9,321
9,990
9,422
10,094
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
June


SR Funding Notifications Sent and Children on Waitlist
Funding Notifications Sent
Children on Waitlist
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
Jul-25
Aug-25
Sep-25
Oct-25
Nov-25
Dec-25
Jan-26
Feb-26
Mar-26
Apr-26
May-26
Jun-26
Jul-26
Aug-26
Sep-26
1,875
1,978
1,291
1,236
1,017
815
658
611
721
608
1,161
882
665
223
62
41
836
241
736
276
702
291
1,100
1,295
1,180
415
402
424
745
827


VPK Certificates Approved
2026 - 2027
2025 - 2026
2025 - 2026 issued in 2026
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
VPK Certs Approved as of 10/13/2026
2026-27 SY: 8,925
2025-26 SY: 9,686
2,629
2,565
150
1,293
1,107
84
744
632
63
721
623
49
692
686
16
657
669
969
1,088
891
1,175
254
299
75
215
134
127
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

Early Learning Coalition of Duval

ELC OF DUVAL 2026-2027: School Readiness Slots

19-Oct-26

	Month	Beginning Census	Actual Increase (Decrease)	Ending Census	Care Days In Month	Daily Unit Cost	Avg. Monthly Cost	MONTHLY COST * ACTUAL	MONTHLY COST * PROJECTED	Diff
Actual	JUL	9,639	(276)	9,363	23.00	25.72	591.59	5,488,078	5,539,034	50,956
Actual	AUG	9,363	-28	9,335	21	22.96	482.15	4,527,311	4,500,833	-26,478
Actual	SEP	9,335	-66	9,269	22	23.13	508.85	4,636,446	4,716,544	80,099
Projected	OCT	9,269	65	9,334	22	23.10	508.16	0	4,743,136	4,743,136
Projected	NOV	9,334	-156	9,178	21	23.76	499.01	0	4,579,646	4,579,646
Projected	DEC	9,178	-51	9,127	23	22.92	527.12	0	4,810,954	4,810,954
Projected	JAN	9,127	-178	8,949	21	23.78	499.32	0	4,468,242	4,468,242
Projected	FEB	8,949	-119	8,830	20	23.89	477.81	0	4,218,883	4,218,883
Projected	MAR	8,830	-219	8,610	23	23.27	535.32	0	4,609,346	4,609,346
Projected	APR	8,610	-209	8,401	22	23.56	518.33	0	4,354,719	4,354,719
Projected	MAY	8,401	-168	8,233	21	24.20	508.22	0	4,184,278	4,184,278
Projected	JUN	8,233	-121	8,113	22	24.52	539.37	0	4,375,744	4,375,744
	TOTALS	108,268	(1,526)	106,741	261		516.21	14,651,835	55,101,360	40,449,526

Average # Children / Month	8,895
Total Annual Forecasted Cost	54,996,783
Avg Annual Cost Per Child	6,183

State Grant	67,750,127.00
Local SR Match	3,015,379.00
Total	**70,765,506.00**
78% Minimum Required	55,197,094.68
Current Slot Projection	54,996,783.49
Estimated Match towards 78%	1,402,293.00
Total Direct Services	**56,399,076.49**
Target Met (YES / NO)	YES
Under / (Over) Slot Requirement	(1,201,982)

BUDGET *	**55,420,828**
FORECAST COSTS *	**54,996,783**
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**424,045**

Direct Slot Match	**1,286,430**	
Total Direct Forecast Costs	**56,283,213**	**79.5%**
Total Direct Budget	**56,707,258**	**80.1%**

QPI Deficit	**(577,682)**
Adjusted Surplus / Deficit	**(153,638)**

Forecasted Direct % Based on Total Grant Spending	**79.4%**

**Includes Special Needs and Gold Seal*

Early Learning Coalition of Duval
School Readiness 2026-2027 Enrollment Plan

Month	Children
Oct-26	200
Nov-26	200
Dec-26	100
Jan-27	100
Feb-27	100

Month	Children
Mar-27	100
Apr-27	100
May-27	100
Jun-27	100

Fiscal Year 2026-2027
Non-Child Care Budget vs. Year-To-Date (YTD) Expenditures
As of August 2026

	Annual Budget	YTD Expended	YTD % Expended
SR	$12,372,490	$1,187,906	9.60%
SR Plus	$41,101	$1,290	0.00%
VPK	$1,072,431	$171,272	15.97%

Early Learning Coalition of Duval

ACH Wires released in September 2026

Description	Date	Amount
VPK Curriculum - POP	9/1/2026	$ 5,000.00
Sept 26 Rents	9/3/2026	$ 20,686.71
VPK Provider Adv - June 26	9/4/2026	$ 8,000.00
Sept 26 Insurance	9/8/2026	$ 145,216.20
SR, BOPT, FFY Aug 26	9/21/2026	$ 4,686,381.78
Late Roster & PYMT Release for Term Provider	9/22/2026	$ 20,573.54
SR Direct Deposit bounce back	9/22/2026	$ 1,922.83
SR Aug 26 Late Roster	9/23/2026	$ 1,348.21
BLI Aug 26	9/24/2026	$ 19,384.86
KHA Local Aug 26	9/24/2026	$ 440.34
VPK Aug 26 Act Oct 26 Adv	9/29/2026	$ 2,588,303.48
SR Termed Provider - release	9/29/2026	$ 2,044.72
VPK Aug 26 - Provider Bounce back - Release	9/30/2026	$ 2,036.87

Early Learning Coalition of Duval

Statement of Financial Position
As of 8/31/2026

Assets	
Cash	7,151,815.23
Total Cash	7,151,815.23
Grants Receivable	11,039,484.41
Total Grants Receivable	11,039,484.41
Prepaid Expenses	1,738,619.25
Total Prepaid Expenses	1,738,619.25
Property, Plant, & Equipment	901,005.03
Total Property, Plant, & Equipment	901,005.03
Accumulated Depreciation	(469,694.51)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(469,694.51)
Total Assets	20,361,229.41
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	6,464,598.04
Total Accounts Payable	6,464,598.04
Other Liabilities	13,337,338.04
Total Other Liabilities	13,337,338.04
Total Liabilities	19,801,936.08
Net Assets	
Beginning Balance	532,958.13
Total Beginning Balance	532,958.13
Current Year	26,335.20
Total Current Year	26,335.20
Total Net Assets	559,293.33
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	20,361,229.41

Early Learning Coalition of Duval

Statement of Activities
Month ended 8/31/2026

Revenues		
Grants		14,148,358.40
Contributions		12,000.00
Other		2,169.60
	Total Revenues	**14,162,528.00**
Expenses		
Salaries		930,668.37
Benefits		346,789.39
Professional		1,299.00
Contractual & Program		242,761.95
Operational		110,910.92
Asset Purchase		491.64
Quality Initiatives		3,981.25
Travel		5,293.55
Insurance		36,714.94
Provider Payments		12,455,056.76
Other		2,225.03
	Total Expenses	**14,136,192.80**
Net		**26,335.20**

School Readiness Providers Currently on ELC Probation
Probation and SR/DCF Violations within the past 2 years

PROVIDER NAME	*GSOD*	*PROBATION PERIOD*	*CAP(s)*	*CLASS 1 VIOLATIONS*	*CLASS 2 VIOLATIONS*	*CLASS 3 VIOLATIONS*
Kid City USA - Oakleaf	***NO***	**7/31/2026-1/31/2027**	**5**	**0**	**7**	**12**
KinderCare Education- Arlington	***NO***	**7/31/2026-1/31/2027**	***6***	***0***	***7***	***42***
KinderCare Education - Southside	***NO***	**7/31/2026-1/31/2027**	***8***	***1***	***14***	***40***
KinderCare - 301959 (out of county)	***N/A***	**7/31/2026-1/31/2027**	***3***	***0***	***7***	***20***
Smith, Reazonda FDCH	***NO***	**7/31/2026-1/31/2027**	***3***	***0***	***6***	***7***

School Readiness/VPK Contract Terminations within the past 2 years

Gate Parkway KinderCare contracts terminated on 1/14/2026. Not Eligible for 26-27 contracts due to DCF license status of Probation

Updated10-22-2026

Professional Development Initiatives

- CLASS Chats
- FCCH Network Meetings
- Spanish Community Network Meetings

CLASS Chat

- One-hour weekday session, 12:30 –1:30 p.m.
- Attendance/Overall Survey
- One additional hour toward Wage Incentive

What to Expect

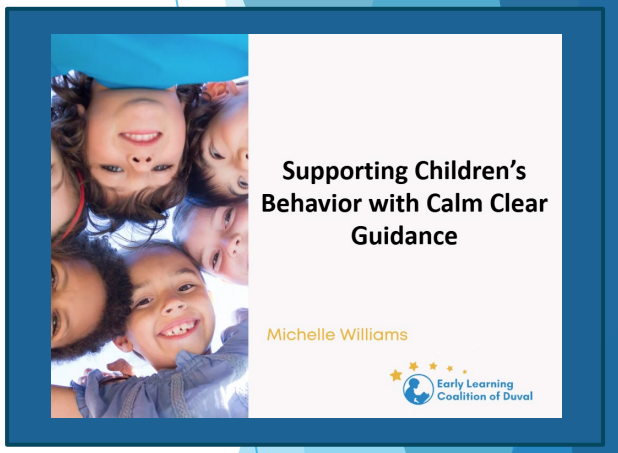
Focus
Learning Outcome
Dimension
Why It's Important

Connect
CLASS Connection
Visual Example

Class Chat

Apply
Practical Suggestions

Support
Resources
Q&A



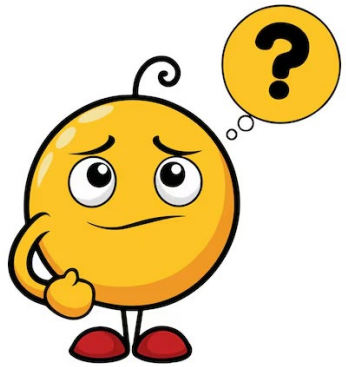
Prior FCCH Meetings

What it looked like

- Meetings held 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
- Light attendance
- Minimal conversation

What we thought

- " Hard to step away"
- " Gap in content relevance"



Early Learning Coalition of Duval

Current FCCH Meetings

Actions

1. Changed meeting to 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
2. Added a Provider Spotlight
3. Shifted from lecture to conversation
4. Closed the gap with relevant content
5. Issue Non-CEU certificate

Results



Keeping The Momentum

Continue reviewing evaluations

Build agenda on needs of providers

Keep the provider spotlight and certificates

Send reminders and monitor attendance



Early Learning Coalition of Duval

Comunidad de Educadores con ELC

Building Connection Beyond Training

Purpose: Create an ongoing space for Spanish-speaking early childhood educators, directors, and professionals serving children ages 0–5 to:

- Connect with ELC and other educators
- Share ideas and experiences
- Learn about ELC resources
- Identify community needs
- Build a supportive community

Early Learning Coalition of Duval



How We Are Building the Network

01

Quarterly Community Meetings

02

Spanish Professional Development

03

Resources & ELC Connections

04

Community Voice

05

Ongoing Connection

Early Learning Coalition of Duval

From a Meeting to a Community

October 21 Community Meeting

- ___ educators/professionals participated
- ___ programs represented/centers
- ___ countries/cultures represented

What We Heard

- Top need/topic identified
- Resource participants wanted
- What would make them return
- Topic requested for the next meeting

What Comes Next

Continue quarterly meetings, respond to identified needs, share relevant resources, strengthen connections between educators, and create opportunities for the community to grow.

Questions and Answers