

Approved on April 9, 2026

FOUNDATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, INC.
155 N Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
March 12, 2026 – 9:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:56 a.m.

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was established with 17 members present.

The minutes from our February 12, 2026 Policy Committee Meeting were read.

M/S/C Calel/Avila to approve the minutes for February 12, 2026 Policy Committee Meeting with corrections.

Our Chairperson thanked everyone for attending today's Policy Committee Meeting. She informed us that the P.C. Executive Committee met on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 to review all documents and reports for today's meeting. They have made their recommendations for all items on today's agenda and will be presenting them to us for approval.

Our Treasurer gave her report. She reported all expenditures incurred for the month of February 2026.

The delegates to the County Policy Council provided their report for the month of March 10, 2026.

The Delegate to the Board of Directors provided her report for the meeting of February 18, 2026.

The Director presented her report and shared the following updates: She reported that OHS FA1 (Focus Area) Monitoring Review for LACOE was completed. Foundation had one site visit. LACOE reported that the final report was issued with no deficiencies and one area of concern for lead testing of sites. LACOE is engaging a vendor to contract for the lead testing. The CACFP (food program) extended the review timeline to March 10, 2026. The reviewer has visited multiple classrooms. A final project report is expected to follow. No areas of concern identified at this time. The EHS budget continues to be a challenge and monthly projections show a deficit. We continue to submit monthly budget projections to LACOE. The Director reported that we continue to fill vacancies and adjust in preparation for the PY 2026-2027 and reduction of total staff. Negotiations with the Union are complete with AFT 1475, final draft in review. The Director informed us that staff performance evaluations are due by June 15th. Lease renewal for Echo Park CDC is complete, LA City is continuing to work on the final lease for Little Friends. The lease for Soto will be terminated for PY 2026-2027.

The Assistant Director of Family Services, Health, and Nutrition presented her report and shared the following updates. There were eleven unusual incidents reported for the month of February 2026: eight outbreaks. The outbreaks included Gastrointestinal at Echo Park CDC, Fountain HS and Fountain EHS, Cough/Fever at Little Friends & Echo Park Head Start, Lice at Euclid and Pink Eye at Ramona Head Start. There was one injury at Echo Park Head Start, 1 Child Abuse case at Ramona Head Start and one police activity at Santa Monica. Attendance for the month of February was 81% for Early Head Start and 81% for Head Start. An analysis report was submitted to LACOE to identify contributing factors to the low attendance. Recruitment efforts continue for the 2025–2026 program year. Currently, Foundation is 99% enrolled in Head Start and 100% enrolled in Early Head Start. Family Service Associates completed calling returning families for the 2026-2027 program year. According to our numbers, we have 270 returning children for Head Start, with 68 slots still needed to be filled and 44 returning children for Early Head Start, with 80 slots still needing to be filled.

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Educational Announcements: The Assistant Director of Education, Jocelyn Tucker, presented her report for the month of February 2026: Within the Disabilities Department, there were three new referrals for Early Head Start and sixteen new referrals for Head Start. There were two new assessments done in collaboration with LAUSD and none reported for Early Head Start. For Early Head Start, the program is currently at 26.7% open cases, which is more than double the required 10% and Head Start is at 13.1% open cases. There were seven IEP meetings held and no change of placements that occurred during the month of February. In Wellness Services, there were nine referrals for children, one referral for a parent, and no referrals for staff. Families should be receiving the *When Families Come Together* Newsletter. If you have not received it, please be sure to ask your child's teacher or site supervisor. The newsletter is available in both English and Spanish and includes important information, such as social-emotional strategies that are appropriate and helpful for families. The Education Department also holds a monthly parent meeting the third Thursday of each month called, *When Families Come Together*. This meeting is held as an open forum where parents can discuss any concerns or questions they may have regarding their children's growth and development. **Education Events:** February 3rd was minimum day for the students and Reggio Emilia Training for Teachers, some staff attended the EHS Institute Conference, 5 staff and 1 CDS attended the Ontario HS Annual Conference on February 11, 12 & 13, 2026.

We received and reviewed the Average Daily Attendance Report for Early Head Start for the month of January 2026. The average daily attendance for the month of January was 78% for Head Start, 80% for Early Head Start. An ADA Analysis report was sent to LACOE to explain the reason why Early Head Start fell below the average attendance for the month of January.

We received and reviewed the Claim for Reimbursement Child and Adult Care Food Program for January 2026. The total number of meals served for the month of January was 18,624. Discussion took place.

We received the In-kind report that includes parent volunteer hours, report was included with Fiscal Report.

We received the Parent Meeting Calendar for the month of March 2026. Head Start will be having a workshop on School Readiness Goal #4, Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development.

We received and reviewed BAR/RAA 45-242 Out of Town Travel \$10,000.

M/S/C Paz/Ramirez to approve BAR/RAA 45-242 Out of Town Travel \$10,000.

We received and reviewed the Monthly Fiscal Report on the Head Start Account.

We had a special presentation from two parents and a staff member on the Head Start California Parent and Family Engagement Conference.

Announcements: We were reminded that our next Policy Committee Meeting will take place on April 9, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

P.C. Secretary