

Approved May 14, 2026

FOUNDATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, INC.

155 N Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 9, 2026 – 9:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:48 a.m.

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was established with 19 members present.

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

M/S/C Paz/Maldonado 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, April 8, 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 March 2026.

The delegates to the County Policy Council do not have a report to present at this time. The County Policy Council Meeting will take place on April 14, 2026. Their report will be presented in May's Policy Committee Meeting.

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

The Director presented her report and shared several updates. She began by acknowledging the Annual Resource Fair held at Echo Park CDC on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, and expressed her appreciation to the Policy Council (PC) parents who attended. The event offered a variety of resources for families, along with engaging activities for children, including games, face painting, and a reptile show. She noted that the program year is ending, with Head Start ending in May and Early Head Start concluding in June. The Director also shared that she and the Assistant Director of Education recently visited several sites to determine where Foundation will place the 16 additional Early Head Start slots that have been secured for the upcoming year. Addressing concerns related to immigration, the Director acknowledged some uneasiness but emphasized that efforts are moving in a positive and proactive direction. She reported that new guidance from the California Department of Education (CDE), effective July 1, outlines updated requirements for implementation in early childhood programs. After reviewing the materials, she indicated that these expectations are not anticipated to significantly differ from the Foundation's current practices. She reassured families that all classrooms remain safe and secure, and confirmed that none of the program's schools have had any visits from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Additionally, the Director shared that the program received communication from the Los Angeles Mayor's Office regarding proactive support measures, including signage for city-owned sites such as Little Friends and Echo Park CDC. Foundation will review these measures and assess whether similar steps can be implemented at other sites, pending legal guidance. She reiterated the program's commitment to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for all families. Finally, the Director provided an update on funding. The program is still awaiting Targeted Funding invitations, having submitted requests in October. To date, only one invitation—for out-of-county travel—has been received. Other requests related to projects remain pending, though timelines are becoming tight as the program year draws to a close.

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The Assistant Director of Family Services, Health, and Nutrition presented her report and shared the following updates. There were eight unusual incidents reported for the month of March 2026: eight outbreaks. The outbreaks included Gastrointestinal at Euclid, Fountain and William Mead, Pink Eye at Gregory Park, Hand, Foot and mouth at La Mirada and Gregory Park. There was one injury at Echo Park Head Start and one property damage/vandalism at Estrada. Attendance for the month of March was 85% for Early Head Start and 82% for Head Start. An analysis report for Head Start was submitted to LACOE to identify contributing factors to the low attendance. Recruitment efforts for the 2025–2026 program year have concluded. The Family Service Associates are now actively recruiting for program year 2026-2027. According to our numbers, we have 269 returning children for Head Start, with 70 slots still needed to be filled and 44 returning children for Early Head Start, with 80 slots still needing to be filled. Returning Enrollments for Head Start/State Preschool will be completed from April 1st – April 17th. New Head Start/State enrollments will begin once all returning is completed. Early Head Start Enrollments should be completed from June 12th – 26th. The Assistant Director also informed P.C. that Chefables will be attending the Policy Committee Meeting to give a small presentation and answer their questions.

Educational Announcements: The Assistant Director of Education, Jocelyn Tucker, presented her report for the month of March 2026: Within the Disabilities Department, there were three new referrals for Early Head Start and five new referrals for Head Start. There were four new assessments done in collaboration with LAUSD and none reported for Early Head Start. For Early Head Start, the program is currently at 27.3% open cases, which is more than double the required 10% and Head Start is at 13.2% open cases. There were two IEP meetings held and three change of placements that occurred during the month of March. In Wellness Services, there were three referrals for children, no referrals for parents and 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:** March 2nd through 6th was Read Across America Week, we also had male engagement activity during that week, 6 staff attended the ECE Coaching Garden and HACLA sites had two Authors conduct story time. **Upcoming Events:** When Families Come Together Club will meet on April 16, the Exclusive Inclusive Club will meet on April 23rd, Teacher Appreciation day is on May 4th and staff will have Professional Development Day on May 15, so it will be a non-children day for students. Foundation is offering a "Handling Upset Series", to interested Policy Committee Members. Lastly, a Mobile Market unit will soon be coming to William Mead, everyone is welcomed to come support their efforts.

We received and reviewed the Average Daily Attendance Report for Early Head Start for the month of February 2026. The average daily attendance for the month of February was 81% for Head Start, 81% 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 February.

We received and reviewed the Claim for Reimbursement Child and Adult Care Food Program for February 2026. The total number of meals served for the month of February was 20,351. Discussion took place.

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

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We received the Parent Meeting Calendar for the month of April 2026. Head Start will be having a workshop on Transition to Kindergarten, as part of our School Readiness Plan. Teachers take this opportunity to teach parents how to help prepare their children in their transition to kindergarten.

We received and reviewed the Selection Criteria for program year 2026-2027.

M/S/C Arevalo/Calel to approve the Selection Criteria for program year 2026-2027.

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

We had a special presentation from the founder and co-founder of Chefables. They attended the Policy Committee Meeting to let the parents know a little bit about the food that is served to the children, to get their input on the menu and to answer any questions that the parents may have.

Announcements: We were reminded that our next Policy Committee Meeting will take place on May 14, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Submitted by,

P.C. Secretary