

The monthly newsletter of the Early Learning Coalition
Visit our website: www.elcirmo.org

The monthly newsletter includes information for child care providers, parents and the community.

Providers

The **2018-19 VPK Provider Readiness Rates** have been released, and can be found in the link below:

<https://vpkrates.floridaearlylearning.com/>

- ◆ VPK works! **Statewide 63% of VPK Completer Students are ready for kindergarten, compared to 47% of VPK Non-Completer Students and 39% of Non-VPK Students.**
- ◆ 67% or 4,436 of the 2018-19 VPK programs/providers met and/or exceeded the minimum readiness rate of 60.
- ◆ 33% or 2,175 of the 6,611 VPK programs did not meet the minimum readiness rate of 60. These programs will be placed on probation.

Providers on Probation—VPK Provider Improvement Process

Task	Due Date
VPK Provider Acknowledgement	March 9, 2020
VPK Provider Improvement Plan	Provider must have an approved improvement plan in place for at least 30 days prior to receiving an advance payment and for at least 30 days prior to offering VPK instruction for the next VPK program.

March Provider Meetings

Indian River—3/10/20

Martin—3/18/20

Okeechobee—3/11/20

For more information, checkout our website <https://www.elcirmo.org/calendar/>

Daylight Savings begins March 8.
Turn your clocks ahead 1 hour.



Professional Development for Educators

Indian River County

"Quality of Feedback"

3/12/20—ELC Indian River Office,
2459 St. Lucie Ave., Vero Beach
6:30-8:00 p.m.

"Using Stories to Promote Positive Social/Emotional Skills"

3/19/20—ELC Indian River Office,
2459 St. Lucie Ave., Vero Beach
6:30-8:00 p.m.

"Phonological Awareness"

3/26/20—ELC Indian River Office,
2459 St. Lucie Ave., Vero Beach
6:00—8:00 p.m.
Register through DCF website

Martin County

"Meaningful Conversations and Concept Development"

3/10/20—ELC Main Office
10 SE Central Pkwy. Ste. 200, Stuart
5:30-7:30 p.m.

"Meaningful Conversations and Quality of Feedback"

3/31/20—ELC Main Office
10 SE Central Pkwy. Ste. 200, Stuart
5:30-7:30 p.m.

REGISTER THROUGH THE ELC WEBSITE, UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

Okeechobee County

"Phonological Awareness"

3/23/20—Okeechobee Achievement Academy, 1000 NW 34th Street, Okeechobee
12:30—2:30 p.m.
Register through DCF website

Martin County

"Phonological Awareness"

3/26/20—ELC Main Office
10 SE Central Pkwy., Ste. 200, Stuart
5:30—7:30 p.m.
Register through DCF website

Upcoming Board & Committee Meetings

Board Mtgs. @ 7:45 a.m.	Program Committee @ 1:30 p.m.	Finance Committee @ 8:30 a.m.	Bylaws/Personnel Committee @ 8:00 a.m.	Executive Committee @ 8:30 a.m.
3/26/2020	3/9/2020	3/2/2020	3/25/2020	3/3/2020
4/23/2020	4/13/2020	4/6/2020	4/29/2020	4/7/2020
5/28/2020	5/11/2020	5/4/2020	5/27/2020	5/5/2020
6/25/2020	6/8/2020	6/1/2020	6/24/2020	6/2/2020

Meetings are generally held at the ELC Main Office, 10 SE Central Parkway, Suite 200, Stuart, FL.

All meetings are open to the public. Providers are welcome to attend. Please check the website calendar for any changes/cancellations to the above dates, times and location.

To participate via teleconference, 888-346-3950, Conf. Entry Code 93487819#.



Inclusion

"Rock Your Classroom" - Focus on Social Skills and Classroom Behavior Management



- 5a. A system is in place for teaching and providing practice for behavior expectations.
- 5b. Direct instruction is provided for social skills and replacement behaviors.
- 5c. Additional supports and instruction are provided to children with behavioral social difficulties.
- 5d. Transitions are anticipated, taught, and supported throughout the day.
- 5e. Opportunities and instructions are provided for making choices and initiating activities.
- 5f. Teachers' actions provide a nurturing and respectful environment.

This is a great resource for the classroom. For more tips go to:

<https://tats.ucf.edu/rock-your-classroom-focus-on-social-skills-and-classroom-behavior-management/>

TATS is funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, Section 619.

Provider Board Representatives

Please feel free to reach out to the Provider Representatives on the Board. Representing the faith-based providers and the private providers, they are an additional resource to ask questions, share information and they are your voice!

Your current representatives are:

Faith-based Provider Rep—Joy Yates

rocksolidCA@embarqmail.com

Private Provider Rep—Rhi Forker

rforker@thelearningcovepreschool.com

The roles and responsibilities of board members are listed on the website at: <https://www.elcirmo.org/board-openings/>.

Have you Completed Your 2020-2021 Provider Profile on the Provider Portal?

Keep in mind that all "active" profiles must be updated prior to contract renewal. To ensure that the data from your current profile carries over, please be sure your 2019-2020 profile is in "Active" status before beginning your new Provider Profile.

VPK Registration Information Session
Tuesday, March 31, 2020, 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
Blake Library—Computer Lab

In collaboration with the library, the Coalition will be presenting this VPK Registration Information Session to assist families in registering for VPK (Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten). To attend this event, please register at <http://martin.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?eventid=43379>. Registration is now open.

If you are unable to attend, please note that you can register for VPK through the [Family Portal](#) at any time.

We Are Enrolling!

We currently have open enrollment for the School Readiness Program in Martin County.

Announcement for the Okeechobee and Indian River Parents!

We are enrolling children from the wait list. Check your inboxes for a "Funding Notification" email!

If you need assistance, please contact your local offices.

**WE ARE
ENROLLING !**



Early Learning Parents' Pages

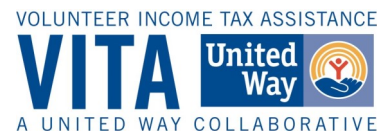
— [February 2020](#) edition

includes the following:

- ◆ Help Your Child Stay Healthy
- ◆ Read Across America
- ◆ Winter Activities
- ◆ Stop Bullying
- ◆ Children's Dental Health

Need assistance with your taxes?

Contact your local United Way office. United Way VITA is a FREE tax filing service available to individuals and families earning up to \$56,000. VITA is a national program staffed by local volunteers who provide free, confidential and secure preparation and e-filing of tax returns to qualified taxpayers.



Okeechobee families—Call 239-433-3900 to book your appointment.

Martin County families—Call 772-283-4800 to schedule an appointment.

Indian River County families—Call 772-203-5766 to schedule an appointment.

Are you interested in serving on the Board?

Florida Statute requires that the membership of the Early Learning Coalition's Board of Directors include three Governor Appointees. We currently have an opening on the Board of Directors for a Governor Appointee. Applications are to be submitted directly to the Office of the Governor through an online application process which can be found at:

<https://www.flgov.com/appointments>.

Additional information about the ELC of IRMO can be found at www.elcirmo.org.



TOUCH-A-TRUCK

April 4th • 10 – 2

Martin County Fairgrounds

Admission \$5/person

Food Trucks will be on-site

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

is an interactive event for children and the young at heart. Touch a Truck allows kids the opportunity to climb on, learn about and discover their favorite big trucks and vehicles including police cars, cement trucks, tow trucks and fire-trucks, just to name a few! Vehicle drivers and operators will be on hand to educate the public about their vehicles and answer any questions.

Early Learning Coalition
(Of Indian River, Martin and Okeechobee Counties, FL)

All proceeds will benefit the Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin and Okeechobee counties and help promote their vision for Building Blocks for Educational Success.

Booth space will be available for non-profits to attend and offer a children's craft and information about their organization.

SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE.

Contact Toni Ryll of Team Holland for more information at 772-215-9408 or toni@teamholland.info

Come join this great event in Martin County! Kids Love it!

Saturday, April 4, 2020

Ways to participate:

Be a Sponsor: Sponsoring is an affordable way to enhance your company's image, gain media exposure and give back to the community.

Bring a Vehicle: This family event allows little kids and big kids the opportunity to explore big trucks, emergency, construction, electric and other one-of-a-kind vehicles.

Be an Exhibitor: Promote your agency/business.

Funds raised will support early literacy and quality childcare programs.

Contact Toni Ryll of Team Holland for more information at 772-215-9408 or toni@teamholland.info

Proudly Supported by:

