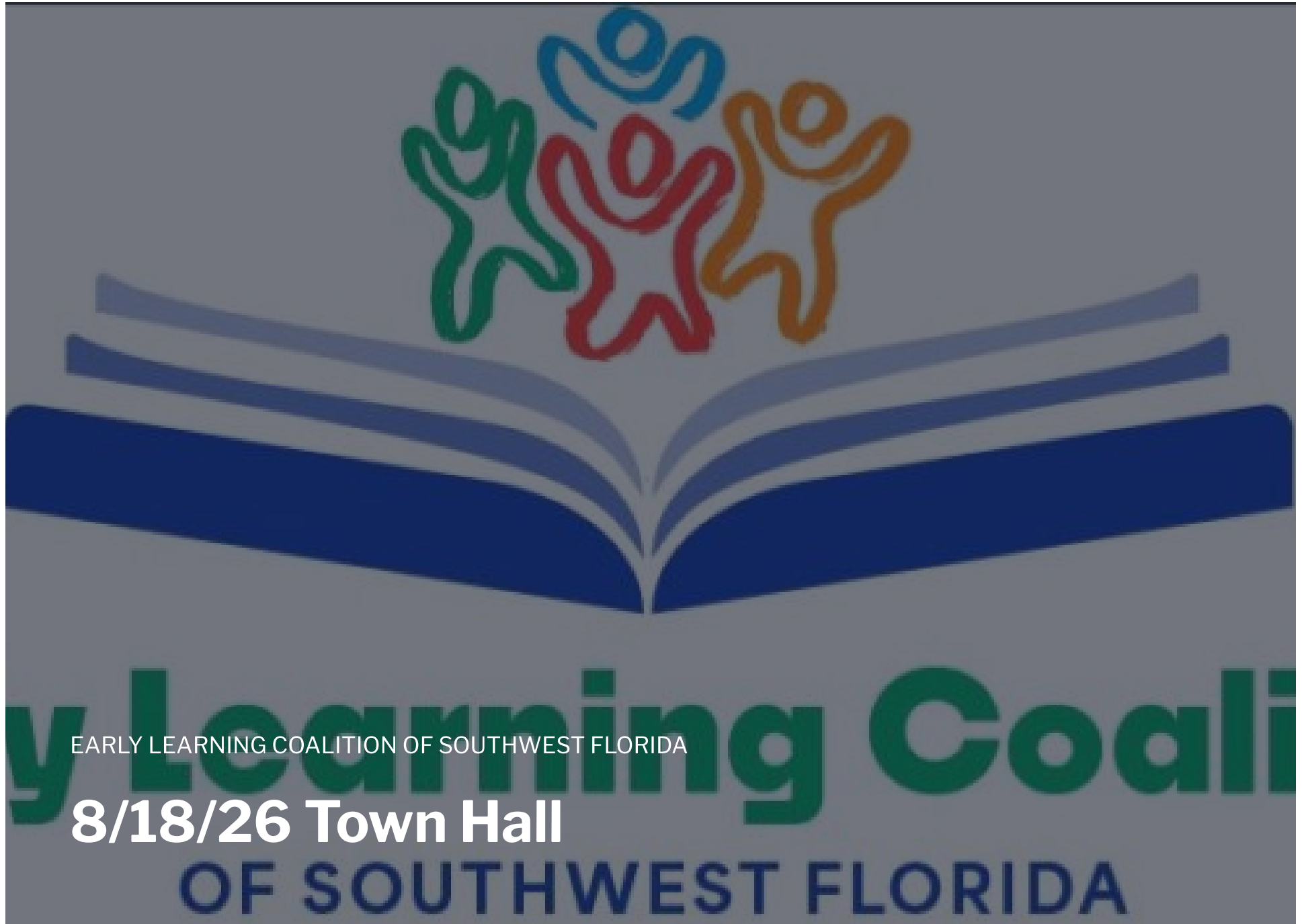




EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

8/18/26 Town Hall

OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

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August Town Hall



**Early
Learning
Coalition**
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

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Reimbursement

Reimbursement Reminders

Attendance documentation is due by the 3rd business day of each month.

Please submit the following:

School Readiness (SR)

School Readiness (SR)

- Monthly attendance in the portal
- Parent sign-in/sign-out sheets or timecards
- Required documentation for applicable excused absences (needs to be added to the attendance in the portal as an attachment)
- **Allowable SR Absences:** Hospitalization, illness requiring home-stay, death in the immediate family, court-ordered visitation, military deployment/exercise, and doctor or health-related appointments. **Appropriate documentation is required.**

Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK)

- Monthly attendance in the portal
- Parent sign-in/sign-out sheets or timecards
- Monthly Parent Attendance Verification:

Short Form (03S) – if using a parent sign-in/sign-out system

Long Form (03L) – if using another attendance method (ex: attendance log)

Where to upload your document:

- Document library (A1- Sign in out sheet VPK or SR); or
- SharePoint.

Reminders

- **Child Withdrawals/Terminations:** Ensure you have terminated the child or notified child needs to be terminated before submitting attendance.
- **Returned/“Need” Attendance:** Correct the identified issue and resubmit the required documentation. Review the rejected children and resubmit back to the coalition portal, with documentation if requested. Should be done within the 60-reconciliation period
- **Keep Records:** Maintain complete, accurate, and legible documentation supporting reimbursement.

Please contact us beforehand for any questions you may have prior to submitting to better assist you.

If you have any questions, please contact the Reimbursement team:

- Lexie Vasquez: lexie.vasquez@elcofswfl.org
- Francisca Cardona: francisca.cardona@elcofswfl.org
- Nancy Moreno: nancy.moreno@elcofswfl.org
- Talya Zapata: talya.zapata@elcofswfl.org

Program Services

VPK Reminders

VPK providers need a minimum of 4 child enrollments in each VPK classroom before they can be approved.

Providers should cancel VPK enrollments (not terminate) if a parent notifies them that the child will not attend. Please use the Orange button that says Remove - Child Never Enrolled, and do not terminate the child enrollment.

The same process can be used if you are removing a child from one classroom to enroll them in another before the start of the VPK academic program.

CLASS Assessment

If you have questions about your CLASS assessment you can reach out to Michelle Aguiar or Sarah Bedard.

Same CLASS at heart- sharpened for today's classrooms

Why the updated?

The original Pre-K CLASS guided observations for more than a decade. The 2nd Edition reflects 15+ years of research and field feedback while protecting the core focus on meaningful teacher–child interactions.

1

Center on equity

Reflect and support the diverse children, families and communities you serve

2

Increase access

Clearer definitions, broader examples, and videos that mirror real classrooms

3

Measure for impact

Sharper guidance so feedback drives the interactions that matter most

Pre-K CLASS® 2nd Edition • Educator Guide

✧ Get Ready for PreK CLASS® 2nd Edition! ✧

📖 **Exciting training opportunities are coming your way!** Join us as we explore the **PreK CLASS® 2nd Edition** through two sessions designed for **PreK teachers and directors**. Whether you're learning about the **Crosswalk Key – PreK 2nd Edition Updates** or discovering

strategies for **Effective Interactions in the PreK Classroom**, you'll leave with practical tools, helpful resources, and ideas you can use right away to strengthen teacher-child interactions and support high-quality learning experiences.

 **Crosswalk Key – PreK 2nd Edition Updates (English)**

 **August 27** |  6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

 **Crosswalk Key – PreK 2nd Edition Updates (Spanish)**

 **Effective Interactions in the PreK Classroom (English)**

 **September 10** |  6:30 PM – 8:30 PM  **September 24** |  6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

 **Effective Interactions in the PreK Classroom (Spanish)**

 **TBD** |  6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

✨ **Don't miss out!** These engaging sessions are a great opportunity to build your confidence with the **PreK CLASS® 2nd Edition**, connect with fellow educators, and walk away with strategies that make a difference in your classroom every day.

🎉 **We can't wait to learn with you—register today on the ELC website!**

VPK

VPK Performance Metric

Designation	Percent of Providers	Provider Count
Excellent	32%	81
Above Expectations	35%	88
Meets Expectations	26%	67
Below Expectations	2%	6
Unsatisfactory	1%	2
Incomplete	4%	9

93% of providers met or exceeded expectations!

<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/vpk-accountability.stml>

VPK FAST Test Administrator Training

For the 2026-2027 program year, Educator Academy is open. VPK FAST Test Administrators must have this training **each year**, before VPK begins. Current training expires on June 30, 2026. If you plan on having or teaching a Summer VPK, you will need to have a new training completed before Summer VPK begins. If you get to take off for the summer, do your training now! Upload to the Portal, Documents Tab, VPK FAST Test Administrator file.



Educator Academy Website

https://vpkflorida.northpass.com/auth/auth_url_email/login

VPK programs are required to have a qualified test administrator administer the assessment to students.

The below Ren-U courses meet VPK FAST training requirements:

- VPK Test Administrators Getting Started with FAST Star Early Literacy Assessment (English)
- VPK Test Administrators Getting Started with FAST Star Early Literacy Assessment (Spanish)

You do not need to take both classes, just one. A **Certificate of Completion** or an individual's **Department of Children and Families(DCF) Child Care Training Transcript** reflecting the Imported Course, along with the filled out and signed, with wet signature, **Prohibited Activities Agreement** and **Security Agreement** must be uploaded to the Provider Portal Documents Tab, "VPK FAST Test Administrator" folder before VPK begins.



VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Planning Targeted Instruction

Course

VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Planning Targeted Instruction

Learn how to use Star Early Literacy data to identify learning gaps and plan targeted... instruction for your pre-K students.



VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Screening Data and Reports

Course

VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Screening Data and Reports

Learn how to administer the STAR Early Literacy assessment to measure pre-K... students' reading readiness skills.



VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Test Administrators (English)

* Expires 6/30/26

Course

VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Test Administrators (English) - Exp 6/30/26

Learn how to administer the STAR Early Literacy assessment to measure pre-K...



VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Test Administrators (Spanish)

* Expires 6/30/26

Course

VPK FAST Star Early Literacy Test Administrators (Spanish) - Exp 6/30/26

Aprenda cómo administrar la evaluación STAR Early Literacy para medir las...

Teaching Strategies Child Assessments

Important Update

The Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida will not be purchasing a Coalition-wide Teaching Strategies GOLD subscription for the 2026–2027 program year.

Providers that wish to continue using Teaching Strategies GOLD may purchase subscriptions directly from Teaching Strategies at a cost of **\$15.95 per child, per year**.

To purchase or renew, providers should contact:

Stephanie Joseph Senior Renewals Representative Teaching Strategies Stephanie.j@teachingstrategies.com 628-333-4404

When contacting Teaching Strategies, please be prepared to provide the total number of children for whom you need GOLD access.

Potential Coalition Reimbursement

Providers that elect to purchase Teaching Strategies GOLD directly **may be eligible for reimbursement from the Coalition at the end of the program year, contingent upon the availability of funding and successful completion of established Teaching Strategies GOLD performance, participation, and completion requirements.**

Reimbursement is not automatic and will be subject to available funding, eligibility requirements, required documentation, and verification that applicable performance and completion requirements have been met. Additional information regarding the reimbursement process and requirements will be provided separately.

Teaching Strategies Child Assessments cont.

The current Coalition-funded Teaching Strategies GOLD subscription expires **August 18, 2026**. Providers wishing to maintain uninterrupted access should contact Teaching Strategies directly regarding renewal.

Professional Development

Reminder: If you are requesting CEU and the form of payment that you are using is declined and you have to resubmit payment, it will be processed in the next processing cycle.

New CLASS trainings will be added to the calendar soon.

New MarcoPolo trainings have been added to the training calendar and tablets are still available for the trainings.



<https://www.elcofswfl.org/provider-events-trainings>



Training opportunities are here!!



Currently on the website:

✦ **Pre-K 2nd Edition Crosswalk – English**



August 27 |



6:30 PM

✦ **Effective Interactions in Pre-K – English**



September 10 |



6:30 PM

✦ **Effective Interactions in Pre-K – English**



September 24 |



6:30 PM



First Aid/CPR (Monthly)



COMING SOON: IN-PERSON TRAININGS!

Keep an eye on the website for upcoming **in-person learning opportunities:**



Transitions in the Preschool Classroom



Emergency Preparedness



Music in Early Childhood



Self-Regulation



STAY CONNECTED!

Visit the ELC Website regularly for the training calendar and registration information.

Connect with Your Class

Connect with your class

Connect with your class
Practical strategies. Meaningful interactions.
Building Stronger Classroom Interactions.

Join our monthly virtual sessions designed to support teachers, aides, and directors with practical ideas you can implement immediately.

Benefits

- Improve classroom interactions
- Gain fresh teaching ideas
- Connect with other educators

When?
Where?
Time:
Topic:

Scan this QR Code to join the session or press the link below:
[Join the meeting now](#)

For more information please send an email to your ECS.



Conéctate con tu clase
Estrategias prácticas. Interacciones significativas.
Construyendo interacciones más sólidas en el aula.

Únete a nuestras sesiones virtuales diseñadas para apoyar a maestras, asistentes y directores con ideas prácticas que puedan implementarse de inmediato en su entorno de aprendizaje.

Beneficios

- Mejorar las interacciones en el aula
- Obtener ideas nuevas y frescas de enseñanza
- Conectar con otros educadores

¿Cuándo?
¿Dónde?
Hora:
Tema:

Escanea el código QR para unirte a la sesión o presiona el siguiente link:
[INICIAR SESIÓN](#)

Envía un correo electrónico a tu ECS para obtener más información.



Connect with your class review

Connect with Your Class is a monthly opportunity to:

- 💬 Share ideas and strategies with other educators
- 🌱 Reflect on what is working in your classroom
- 🤝 Strengthen relationships with children
- 🎯 Explore practical strategies you can use right away
- 💡 Learn from one another and celebrate successes

“Think about your classroom last year. What is ONE thing you did that helped your children feel connected, successful, or excited to learn?”

“Now imagine if we could take those successes, build on them, and add a few new strategies this year. That’s what Connect with Your Class is all about.”



Based on your feedback, upcoming topics will include:

- **September 2026:** CLASS® Overview
- **October 2026:** Meaningful Experiences for Infants, Toddlers, and Pre-K Children
- **November 2026:** Open-Ended Materials
- **December 2026:** What Does Child Perspective Look Like?
- **January 2027:** Noticing Nature and Science: Inspiring Wonder and Awe in Our Youngest Learners
- **February 2027:** Creating Engaging Learning Environments for Children
- **March 2027:** Managing Challenging Behaviors
- **April 2027:** Discovering the World Through Our Senses



Reminders

 Sessions are held twice a month.

 Second Wednesday of each month in **English**, via Teams at 1:00 p.m.

 Fourth Wednesday of each month in **Spanish**, via Teams at 1:00 p.m.

 When you receive the invitation and reminders, please share them with your colleagues and other staff members.

 Contact your ECS to share topics of interest or areas where you would like additional support, helping us make future sessions more relevant and meaningful.

First Session of the 2026-2027 School Year

 September 9th – English Session

 **Topic: CLASS Overview**

We can't wait to see you!



Don't miss it!

Disaster Relief Grant Opportunities

Disaster Relief Grant

Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP)

- Upload your COOP to your ELC COOP SharePoint link. See Brenda.Griffin@elcofswfl.org if you cannot log in.
- The Coalition will only accept COOPs through the specific link sent to you after the training.

THRIVE: Early Identification, Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) & Child Intervention

- MTSS is a way to organize support based on a child's level of need

All children benefit from strong, universal practices

Some children need more targeted classroom strategies or family/provider support

A smaller number of children may need more intensive intervention or referrals to individualized supports

- Tiers of Support

Tier	Coalition-friendly description	Examples
Tier 1	Universal supports for all children/providers	Training, developmental guidance, classroom practices, family engagement
Tier 2	Targeted support when concerns emerge	Coaching, accommodations, provider consultation, parent/teacher education

Disaster Relief Grant Opportunities cont.

Tier 3	More intensive or specialized support	Thrive referrals, school district coordination, developmental or behavioral supports
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[View table at Zeck.app](#) 

How Assessment & Screening fits

- Assessment & Screening helps identify where support is needed.
- Next Step: Ensuring the information leads to ***action***.

How THRIVE fits

- THRIVE expands the Coalition's ability to respond to social-emotional, behavioral, development, and family resilience needs through our community partnerships.

Next Meeting

September 15, 2026 at 1:30 PM

Untitled
