

School Readiness and Promise Neighborhoods

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1ST  LA
first 5 la
Giving kids the best start



Goals for Today

- Explore school readiness research
- Best practices and trends impacting school readiness
- First 5 LA's ECE Strategy
- Questions and Discussion



School Readiness Research



Importance of School Readiness

At-risk children who don't get quality early care and education are:

- 25% more likely to drop out of school ¹
- 40% more likely to become a teen parent ²
- 50% more likely to be placed in special education ¹
- 60% more likely to never attend college ¹
- 70% more likely to be arrested for a violent crime ³

¹ Barnett, W.S., and L.N. Masse. (2002). "A Benefit-Cost Analysis of the Abecedarian Early Childhood Intervention." New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER).

² Campbell, F. A., Ramey, C. T., Pungello, E. P., Sparling, J., & Miller-Johnson, S. (2002). "Early Childhood Education: Young Adult Outcomes from the Abecedarian Project." *Applied Developmental Science*, 6, 42-57.

³ Reynolds, A., Temple, J., Robertson, D., Mann, E. (2001). "Long-term Effects of an Early Childhood Intervention on Educational Achievement and Juvenile Arrest." *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Vol. 285, No. 18, pp. 2339-2346.

Why Kindergarten Readiness?

Children who are prepared when entering kindergarten are 10 times more likely to meet the expectations of California state standards by 3rd grade than those who are less prepared when they start school



Children reading at grade-level in 3rd grade are more likely to complete high school



Children who complete high school are more likely to attend college, have better career opportunities, and have higher salaries

What is a Kindergarten Readiness Assessment?

- Usually completed by teachers in the first 2 months of Kindergarten
- Holistic and typically measures the following domains:

Physical well-being and motor development

Social and emotional development

Approaches to learning

Language and literacy development

Cognition and general knowledge



Examples of Kindergarten Readiness Questions

- **Physical Well Being and Motor Development**
 - Ex: Proficiency at holding a pen, crayons, or a paintbrush
- **Social and Emotional Well Being**
 - Ex: Seems to be unhappy, sad, or depressed
- **Approaches to Learning – Self Regulation**
 - Ex: Has difficulty awaiting turn in games or groups
- **Literacy and Language Development**
 - Ex: Ability to tell a story
- **Cognition and General Knowledge**
 - Ex: Is able to say which number is bigger of the two

Uses of Kindergarten Readiness Assessments

• Individual Level



- Identify strengths and needs of individual children so teachers, districts, and parents can tailor instructional approaches and educational supports for each child

• Population Level



- Identify the strengths and needs of our early childhood systems by aggregating data across districts to identify (and then support) the needs of a community

What is Happening in California?

- Over half of the states (29) in the country collect kindergarten readiness information in a state-level data system
- No common state-wide tool in California
 - Local autonomy is critical, but data are most powerful when they are comparable
- The four main KRAs used in California are:

Desired Results
Developmental
Profile-
Kindergarten
(DRDP-K)

Early
Development
Instrument
(EDI)

Kindergarten
Observation
Form (KOF)

Kindergarten
Student
Entrance
Profile (KSEP)

- In August 2013, the California Department of Education weighed in on the need for a common tool and highlighted the DRDP

Best Practices and Trends



ECE Trends and Best Practices

Collective Impact — 5 conditions —



collective impact agenda

Examples of Collective Impact Strategies

- Ex: Promise Neighborhoods
- Ex: Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
- Ex: My Brother's Keeper

ECE Trends and Best Practices

Increased access to preschool:

- President Obama 's 2013 State of the Union address called for a national preschool program.
- Oklahoma and Georgia
 - 2 of the first states with universal preschool for all 4 year olds
- Universal preschool (New York City)
 - \$300 million in state financing for prekindergarten
- Transitional kindergarten and Expanded Transitional Kindergarten (California)



First 5 LA's ECE Strategy

First 5 LA's ECE Strategy 2015-2020

Coordinated advocacy to increase public funding for quality ECE



Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

Advocacy to increase subsidies and QRIS funding

Support a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)



Systems Level Collaborative Efforts

Build a unified county-wide QRIS System across L.A. County

Improving ECE Professional Development Systems



Integrate ECE Competencies

ECE Workforce Registry Expansion

Support child development permit matrix and an ECE credential

Reflection and Questions

