

Connecting early learning and K-12 education in Oregon

October 3rd, 2013

PRESENTED BY
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*Oregon Dept. of Education
Early Learning Division*

Session Outcomes

By end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Explain how Oregon's early learning system has been designed to align early childhood and K-12 outcomes
2. Describe some of the key programs and strategies of the State's Early Learning System

The challenge:
of every 10 kids
in Oregon...

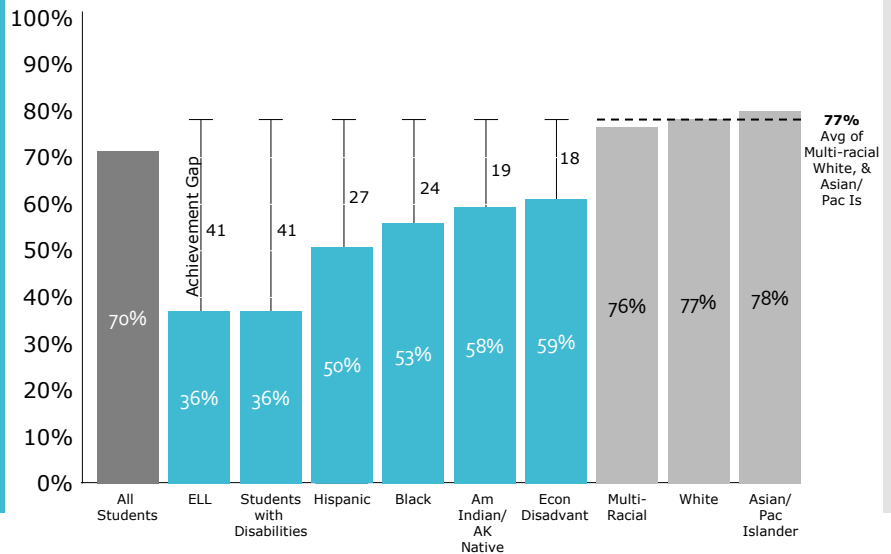
• 4 are not ready for
Kindergarten when
they enter school →

• 4 are not reading on
grade level by the
end of 3rd grade →



3rd grade
reading
2011-12

PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO MET/EXCEEDED BENCHMARK



The Governor
and ELC's
vision for early
learning

- 1. ENSURE ALL CHILDREN ARE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN, READY TO READ IN 1st GRADE, & READING AT GRADE-LEVEL IN 3rd GRADE.**
- 2. CHILDREN RAISED IN STABLE AND ATTACHED FAMILIES.**
- 3. INTEGRATE RESOURCES AND SERVICES STATEWIDE.**

Governor's
Priority:
early learning
& connection
to K-12

- **Objective 1:** Streamline our fragmented early childhood services and invest in Oregon kids from an early age so they are set up to succeed *before* they enter kindergarten.
- **Objective 2:** Build a coordinated approach to budgeting and school curricula across the full education spectrum -- no longer separating early childhood development from K-12 from post-secondary education and training.
- **Objective 3:** Invest in successful programs and practices being used in our top 5 percent "model schools" and replicate them across the state.
- **Objective 4:** Replace the one-size-fits-all mandates of No Child Left Behind with our own home-grown system of accountability and support—one that helps students, teachers, and schools set and reach ambitious but achievable goals.

Legislative recap

HB 909 [2011]

Created the Early Learning Council, charged with developing an outcome plan for Oregon's children.

HB 4165 [2012]

Directed improvements to early learning services and delegated ELC oversight of the Early Learning System.

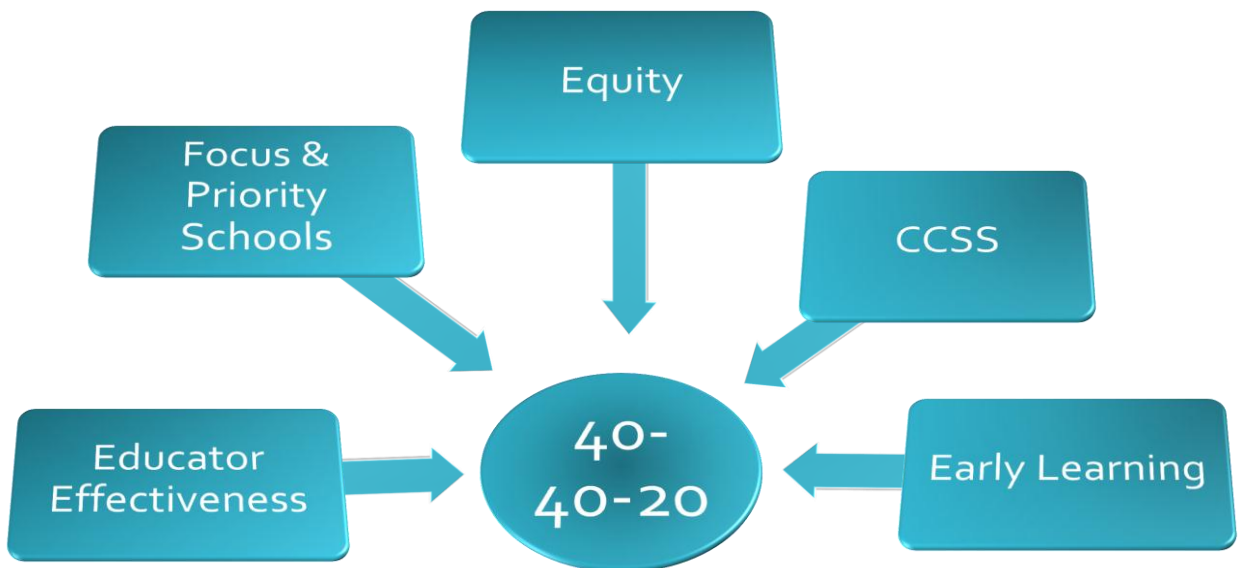
HB 2013 [2013]

Further direction for implementing the Early Learning System.

HB 3234 [2013]

Creates Early Learning Division within Oregon Department of Education.

Oregon Dept. of Education Strategic Priorities



Oregon Dept. of Education's early learning strategy

- **Goal 1 – Learners:** Every student graduates from high school and is ready for college, career, and civic life.

1. Integrate early learning programs across the relevant state agencies so every student enters kindergarten ready to learn.

Strategies:

- Coordinate early childhood programs around the state and at ODE to improve services for early learners.
- Implement kindergarten assessment.
- Help districts implement all-day, every-day kindergarten.

2. Implement statewide literacy programs so all students read by third grade.

Strategies:

- Increase intervention and supports for districts by implementing OR Reads (i.e. 1 of OEIB's 4 strategic investments).
- Create and disseminate best practice toolkit (building off of K-12 Literacy Framework and make sure it aligns to Common Core).

Building Blocks for College & Career Readiness

Kindergarten
Ready 0-5

3rd Grade
Reading

8th Grade
Math &
Science

Graduation

College &
Career

Oregon's Early Learning System

Key Programs & Strategies

Oregon's Early Learning System

Connection to health care

Relief nurseries

Quality child care

Home visiting

Early Intervention and early childhood special education

Head Start and OPK

Kindergarten assessment

Early learning/K-12 alignment

Regional Early Learning Hubs

ENSURING HIGH-QUALITY EXPERIENCES IN ALL SETTINGS



13

Connection to healthcare

Healthy kids feel better and learn better.

It begins for children at the intersection of healthcare and early education.



Home Visiting

- **9,052** first time mothers/families screened
 - 4,414 had **12 or more risk factors** – potentially eligible
 - **3,181** received intensive home visiting services
- **95%** of children with possible developmental delays received referrals/services to support development
- Outcomes
 - Child preventative care
 - Improving parenting skills
 - Parents reading to children
 - Family home environments
 - Decreased parenting stress

Improving child care

A national movement providing access and transparency for parents and families.

- **Regional field testing:** Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Lane, Douglas, Linn, Benton, and Multnomah counties
- Connects families to child care and early learning programs with the help of an easy-to-understand rating system
- Offers coaching and resources for child care providers to support each child's learning and development.

Oregon's Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS)

Oregon's QRIS is an independent expert resource for child care and preschool programs to strengthen their offerings for greater positive impact on young children's lives by:

1. Helping early childhood professionals build on what they're already doing well and expand their businesses so that more children can benefit from high quality care.
2. Connecting child care and education providers with tools, financial incentives and professional advice.
3. Giving parents expert, unbiased information to make more informed decisions about their options.

QRIS is designed to:



Support early learning and development, and assist programs in providing high-quality care and education by offering supports and incentives.

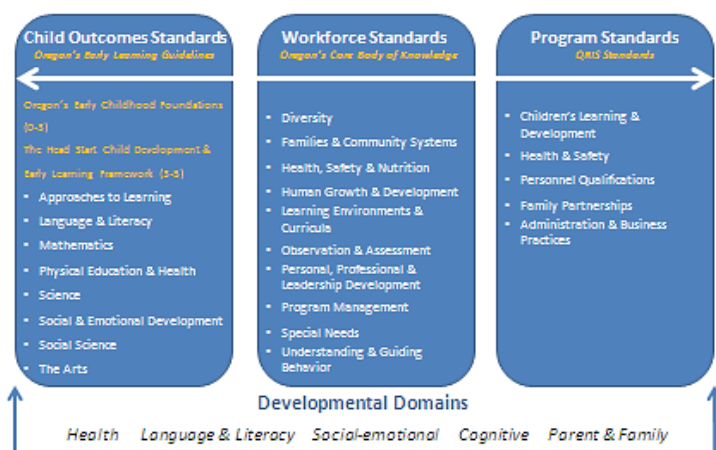
Help parents and caregivers find high-quality learning and development programs that fit their needs with an easy to understand rating system.



Ensure that children have high-quality learning opportunities that help them develop the skills they need to be successful in life.

QRIS Standards

Oregon's Early Learning & Development Standards



Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education

- **Early Intervention (EI):** Individually designed services for children birth to three and support for parents to enhance children's physical, cognitive, communication, social/emotional and/or adaptive development.
- **Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE):** Specially designed instruction for children ages 3 to the age of public school eligibility, focusing on physical, speech/language, mobility, social or emotional, or other developmental needs.

Oregon Head Start pre-K

- Serves children ages 3-5 of families living at or below federal poverty level
- Children in foster care and children who are homeless are automatically eligible
- 10% of enrollment slots reserved for children w/ disabilities
- All services are free for eligible children

Oregon Kindergarten Assessment

- **GOAL: IMPROVE READINESS FOR KINDERGARTEN AND READING SUCCESS BY 3RD GRADE.**
- 2012-13 PILOT
 - 16 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
 - 1228 STUDENTS
- STATEWIDE OPERATIONAL FIELD TEST SEPT. 2013
- PROVIDES BOTH A LOOK FORWARD AND A LOOK BACK

Kindergarten Assessment timeline

Mid-April 2013:

Kindergarten assessment measures finalized

May-August 2013:

Kindergarten assessment training for schools and districts

Early August 2013:

Launch kindergarten assessment statewide

Late October 2013:

Assessments completed

Jan-Feb 2014:

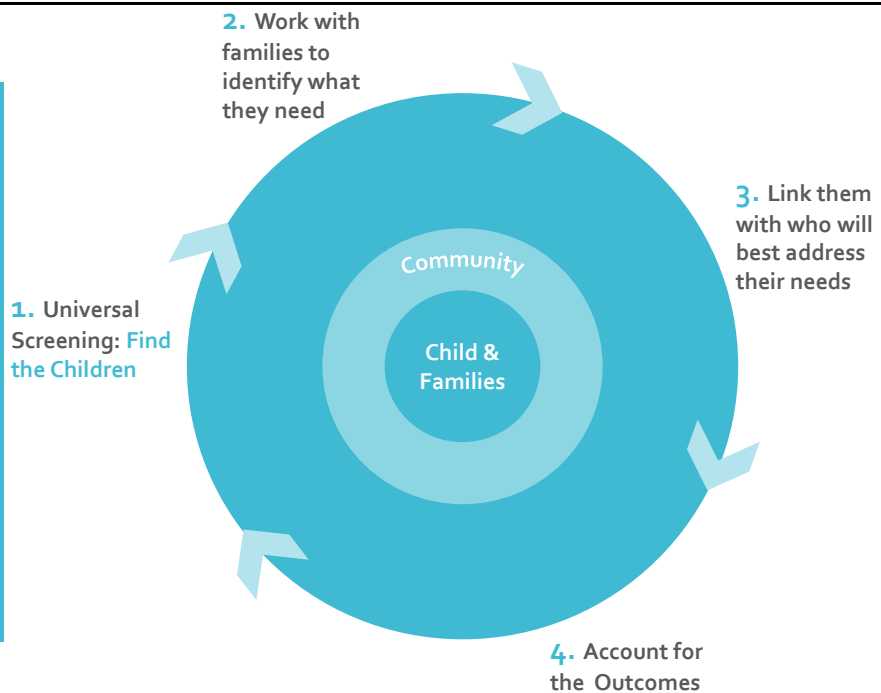
Initial data review and results to districts and hubs

Oregon Early Literacy

The **Oregon Early Literacy** initiative will strategically invest **\$9.25 million** to improve Kindergarten readiness and 3rd grade reading proficiency through programs that:

- Start early in children's lives and involve parents, child care providers and the community in ensuring all children have an early start at reading;
- Invest in innovative early learning/kindergarten partnerships;
- Expand the amount of time, adult support, materials, cultural relevance and sense of joy that literacy brings; and
- Provide the differentiated instruction necessary for every Oregon student to read in the primary grades.

Early Learning Hubs: Community-Based Responsibility



Community-Based Responsibility

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO ENSURE ALL CHILDREN ARE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN.

• KEY CHANGES

- integrating services at a state and community level;
- focusing on children with the highest risk; and
- tracking outcomes at all levels.

Connection to K-12 and beyond.

EARLY LEARNING'S ROLE IN OEIB STRATEGIC PLAN & GOVERNOR'S SEAMLESS EDUCATION PRIORITY.

- Early learning on education continuum: early learning > K-12 > college > career
- Schools ready for children and children ready for schools.
- Kindergarten Assessment as a snapshot.
- Initiative on early literacy: a strong partnership between ELC and OEIB
- Early Learning Division within Oregon Dept. of Education.
- Build an informed, engaged public on importance of seamless education path.



Jada Rupley [Early Learning System Director] &
Rob Saxton [Deputy Superintendent for Instruction, ODE]

THE EARLY LEARNING COUNCIL

Pam Curtis Chair, Deputy Director, Center for Evidence-based Policy, Oregon Health & Sciences University

Bobbie Weber: Research Associate, Family Policy Program, College of Public Health and Human Sciences, Oregon State University

Janet Dougherty-Smith: Former Director, Early Childhood Services for Clackamas County Education Service District

Norm Smith: Executive Director, Ford Family Foundation

Marlene Yesquen: Attorney, Medford's Black Chapman Webber and Stevens, Medford School District Board Member

Teri Thalhofer: RN, Director, North Central Public Health

Jim Tierney: Executive Director, Community Action Team

Harriet Adair: Regional Administrator, Portland Public Schools

Dana Hargunani: Child Health Director, Oregon Health Authority

Lynne Saxton: Executive Director, Christie Care-Youth Villages of Oregon

Eva Rippeteau: Political Coordinator, Oregon AFSCME

Vikki Bishop: Early Childhood Education Program Manager, Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde

Kim Williams: Director of North Central ESD Early Education

Charles McGee: Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Black Parent Initiative

Dick Withnell: Founder, Withnell Auto

Christa Rude: Oregon Head Start Collaboration Director

Rob Saxton: Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Oregon

WHERE WE ARE GOING

Over the next year, as part of the 40/40/20 goal we will:

- Establish the Early Learning Division within the Oregon Dept. of Education
- Further collaborate with healthcare through joint ELC/OHPB subcommittee and staff.
- Implement the Kindergarten Assessment during Fall 2013; analyze and share data in early 2014
- Launch new early learning delivery system (community process).
- Follow the lead and direction of 2013 legislation (HB 2013, HB 3234).
- Follow through on Race to the Top Implementation.
- Ramp up the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS).
- Authentic community and family engagement
- Throughout this busy transition period, will continue to implement measures, metrics, and agreed-upon outcomes for children.

Early
Learning/K-12
Alignment:
So what?

What does having an aligned early
learning and K-12 education system in
Oregon mean for you, your school, your
students, their families, and the
community?

Moving forward→

- **Start** with the **end** in mind—**child** outcomes & **family** outcomes.
- Prioritize **relationships** & bringing programs together as a system.
- Include these approaches in our strategic planning, through the lens of establishing better outcomes.
- **Stable, attached families**, supported by a **coordinated early learning system**, and working in partnership with **strong, effective schools** are what make the greatest difference for the **long term academic success of Oregon's children**.

Contact Us

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