

Office of Early Learning




Kindergarten Readiness

Presented to the
Florida Children and Youth Cabinet
June 15, 2011

CYC Kindergarten Readiness Workgroup

Office of Early Learning




Turn the Curve Exercise

- First presented to the CYC May 2010
- Based on interagency workgroup efforts to identify opportunities for policy changes and system improvements that would increase kindergarten readiness rates for Florida's children
- December update: Task was how to operationalize the recommendations that were approved by CYC

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Analysis of Data

1. Look at quality constructs that empirically impact Kindergarten readiness scores for Florida's children.
 - Data sharing agreement between DOE and AWI
 - Development of research questions and analysis of data to develop policy recommendations for program improvements

Timeline for implementation:
Policy recommendations targeted for Fall 2011

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Analysis of Data cont'd

Additional suggested activities:

- Unique identifiers for all children participating in early learning programs that will be used in K-12 system as well
- Interim activity: Determine feasibility of school districts assigning VPK participants school ID for improved data matching

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Accountability

2. Collect pre- and post-assessment data on children during VPK participation so that children can be identified and supported prior to kindergarten entry.
 - Use Advisory Council funds to develop a blueprint for accountability process
 - Explore program assessment measures for accountability

Timeline: 3 years

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Progress Monitoring

3. Adopt comprehensive progress monitoring tools that link providers to learning and developmental resources for us throughout program participation.
 - DOE and AWI partnering to develop one set of 4 year old standards for Florida
 - Expand DOEs current progress monitoring tool for full developmental assessment

*Timeline: 1 year for new standards,
3 years for revised progress monitoring tool*

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Standards Training



Require providers to complete an Early Learning Developmental Standards Training.


- Develop community and online training modules
- Conduct workforce study through Advisory Council to support development and identify language translations needed for training

Timeline: 2011 (*requires statutory authority)

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Parent Education



Develop and offer Early Learning and Developmental Standards educational opportunities for parents.


- Revise "Its Okay to Play in VPK"
- Develop educational materials for website access

Timeline: 2 years

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Eligibility for VPK



Make a change in the VPK statues addressing age eligibility.

- Change would allow children to participate in the VPK program during the year that precedes kindergarten entry.

Timeline: 1 year pending statutory change

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