Early Learning and the Covid-19 Crisis

Webinar by CCSSO and NIEER
Thursday, April 2, 2020
How to Bridge Early Learning at the Times of the Covid-19 Crisis

how do we get there?
Context of the Covid-19 Crisis

- Schools in all states are closed
- Child care in all states is closed or optional. In several states there are new policies to provide access for essential workers in pre-approved child care programs
- CCSSO has created an FAQ which covers the following topics:
  - School Closures
  - Assessments
  - Accountability
  - Subgroups
  - School Meals
  - After School Programs
  - Teacher Contracts, Pay, And Student Teacher Training Counseling
  - Early Learning
  - Digital Learning Considerations
  - Federal Funding Considerations

- Link: https://ccsso.org/coronavirus
CCSSO developed a resource document on remote learning

Overview by Erica King
National Resources to Keep Up to Date

- **Alliance for Early Success**, Coronavirus - [http://www.earlysuccess.org/resources/coronavirus](http://www.earlysuccess.org/resources/coronavirus)
- **Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center** - Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) - [https://ectacenter.org/](https://ectacenter.org/)
- **National Association for the Education of Young Children**, COVID-19 resources and policy statements. [https://www.naeyc.org/](https://www.naeyc.org/)
State Scan of Policy Guidance for PreK- Grade 3

- Selected Examples:
  - AR Dept of Ed expects learning to continue through Alternate Methods of Instruction (AMI) including PreK-Grade 3. Partnered with PBS to offer programming by grade level.
  - DE, DC, FL (like KS) asking districts to develop continuous learning plans. DC developed written packets distributed to parents.
  - NC Office of Early Learning- Updated weekly, resources to support remote learning aligned to standards, infants to grade 2.
Partnering with NIEER

- Thinking Long(er) Term Once the Immediate Crisis is Addressed
- BIG QUESTION: What Opportunities Do State EC Leaders have to re-define/re-design teaching and learning for children preschool to grade 3?
- Principles to Approach Guidance for Districts and Program Leaders:
  - How can stimulus funds, and state and local resources, rebuild the system in a way that mitigates impact of another pandemic or crisis?
    - Do no harm, to programs, communities, families, early childhood mixed delivery system
    - Do not leave anyone out, due to access to resources or other equity issues
  - What other questions or principles do you/your state have?
State Guidance

- Amanda Peterson, Director, Early Childhood, Kansas Department of Education
  - Kansas Continuous Learning 2020
  - Kansas COVID-19 Resource Center