Early Decisions: How Policymakers Think About Planning for Pre-K Initiatives

March 23, 2023
Welcome!

Early Decisions: How Policymakers Think about Planning for Pre-K Initiatives

Thank you for joining today’s webinar!

Please keep microphone on mute, until discussion time later on.

Privately message Ashley Davison if you have any technical difficulties.

Today’s webinar will be recorded and available to registrants with the slide deck.
Acknowledgements
Introductions

Today’s Presentation Team

GG Weisenfeld
Josh Wallack
Emmy Liss
Ashley Davison
Components to Consider When Planning City Preschool Programs

Authors: Emmy Liss, Josh Wallack, GG Weisenfeld, Ellen Frede

https://nieer.org/research-report/components-to-consider-when-planning-city-preschool-programs-require
Preschool Policy Brief

Components to Consider When Planning City Preschool Programs

9 Components

- Governance & administration
- Financing & cost
- Eligibility & pace of scale
- Enrollment & outreach
- Structural program features
- Workforce
- Program standards & supports for program implementation
- Continuous improvement & evaluation
- Integration with other city services
Preschool Policy Brief

Components to Consider When Planning City Preschool Programs

Key Takeaways

- Investment and innovation for preschool programs is growing at the local level
- Various design choices have been made by city or county leaders across components
- There is no “right way” to design a local preschool program; numerous examples provide ideas for consideration
Panel & Discussion

Today’s Panelists

Brooke Chilton Timmons
Management Analyst, Multnomah County Dept. of Human Services, Preschool & Early Learning Division

Rebecca Noecker
Councilmember, St. Paul, Ward 2

Denise Smith
Implementation Manager, Hope Starts Here Detroit

Kristin Spanos
CEO, First 5 Alameda County
**What:** Free and voluntary preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds in Multnomah County

**How:** Marginal tiered income tax on higher income earners who live and work in county

**When:** Passed Nov 2020 in Multnomah County with 64.09% YES
Community Based Policy Making

Preschool For All task force

Program & Policy Work Group
Infrastrucure Work Group
Finance Strategy & Administration Work Group
Workforce Work Group
ELM Parent Accountability Council
Parent Groups & Outreach
Multnomah County
Key PFA Policies

- Prioritize children with the least access
- Center needs of family child care
- Raise educator wages
- Ban preschool suspensions and expulsions
- Stabilize infant/toddler care
- Invest in preschool facilities and workforce development
- Full 10-hour day of care
St. Paul Timeline

- Blueprint: 2018
- Design Team: 2019
- Launch of SPARK: 2022
- Early Learning Legislative Advisory Committee: 2023
Key Recommendations of the Early Learning Legislative Advisory Committee

- New, dedicated, public revenue source - a special levy to be approved by voters that will increase property taxes over a period of time.
- Mixed delivery - including Saint Paul Public Schools, Head Start and Early Head Start, licensed family child care, and child care centers. Should continue to explore how to support unpaid family, friend and neighbor care.
- Any scheduling option that meets families' needs, from part-time up to and including year-round, full- and extended-day care.
- Fully cover the cost of care for families at 185% federal poverty level and below. Families who earn more should be subsidized on a sliding scale.
- When fully funded, the program should serve all Saint Paul children ages 0-5.
- The program should be operated by the City of Saint Paul, via a new or existing city office or department.
When we uplift community-led priorities and coordinate cross-sector actions with shared accountability, we build the insight, leverage, and power needed to redesign systems that generate equitable access, quality and affordable early education and care for Detroit’s youngest citizens and their families.
Detroit puts young children and families first!

**Our Vision:**

By 2027, Detroit will be a city that puts its young children and families first.

- **Detroit will be a city where all children are healthy and thriving,** and have high quality experiences that help them grow and develop.
- **Detroit will be a city where families feel supported,** raising their kids and using their power to make sure their children have high quality early childhood experiences.
- **Detroit will be a city where the professionals who care for our children are valued, well-trained and respected.**
- **Detroit will be a city with many high quality spaces and places where children can learn.**
- **Detroit will be a city where everyone understands that the first eight years of a child’s life are important, and that efforts to help our kids help all of us.**
- **Detroit will be a city where the systems that affect early childhood have the funding they need to make an impact, and work with each other to do the most they can do.**

**Our Values:**

Our work is guided by four important beliefs:

- **Equity**
  Every child in Detroit deserves the same chance to grow up and be successful.
- **Proven Practices**
  There are great schools in Detroit, and there are great ones outside of Detroit. We can and should learn from and use both to create a path forward that is best for our city.
- **Family-Focused**
  Healthy families mean healthy kids, so our work to make Detroit a better place for children must include families, too.
- **Community Leadership**
  Every Detroit has a role to play in making our city a great place for children. Achieving our vision will require everyone to roll up their sleeves and lead in some way.
6 IMPERATIVES:

What we must do to make Detroit a city that puts our young children and families first.
Hope Starts Here is a connector of early childhood efforts in Detroit to mobilize a citywide commitment to support our youngest children and families, through a common vision, coordinated implementation, collective advocacy, and a shared infrastructure.

**IMPERATIVE #1:**
Healthy, Thriving Children and Families

**IMPERATIVE #2:**
Support parents and caregivers as children's first teachers and champions.

- **Strategy #3:**
  Support the critical role family plays in making sure kids' first years are healthy and positive.

- **Strategy #4:**
  Make the processes, programs, and systems that support young children and their families easier to use so they better meet families' needs.

- **Strategy #5:**
  Build a team of family advocates and community champions to promote early childhood.

**IMPERATIVE #3:**
High Quality Programs & Professionals

**IMPERATIVE #4:**
Safe & Inspiring Environments

**IMPERATIVE #5:**
Better System Alignment

**IMPERATIVE #6:**
Increased & Aligned Funding
Complex, Interconnected Early Childhood System
More than 216 organizations serving children and families in 2017

*Please see the Appendix Bibliography for detail

Source: DCDC Ecosystem Map
Hope Starts Here Process Timeline

Sept. 2016
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLANNING TEAM FORMED
Engagement plan developed; Activities begin

Dec.
IDENTIFIED 81 FAMILY LEADERS FOR STRATEGY TEAMS AND 24 STEWARDSHIP BOARD MEMBERS
Parent leaders trained in facilitation techniques

Jan.–May
DEVELOP VISION + STRATEGIES
Strategy Team, Stewardship Board meetings
Community engagement planning team expands, merges with IMPACT table, develops plan for community-wide listening sessions.

June–Oct.
REFINE + FINALIZE PLAN
Stewardship Board
Community Input & Feedback
Strategy Teams
Street Team Poster Campaign
Partner events
April 27: Day of the Young Child
April 25: Detroit City Council proclaims first annual Day of the Young Child

Nov.
KICK-OFF CELEBRATION
Community engagement partnerships forged

July: Joint Strategy Team/Stewardship Board Meeting
June 1: Hope Starts Here panel at 2017 Mackinac Policy Conference

Nov. 10, 2017
PLAN RELEASE

WE ARE HERE
About Detroit Champions For HOPE (Helping Our Parents Empower)

Detroit Champions for HOPE is an early childhood advocacy network for and by Detroit parents and caregivers.

By 2027 we want Detroit to be a City that puts children & families first.

OUR MISSION

We transform systems to support parents and caregivers as children’s first teachers and champions.

OUR GOAL IS TO REACH 20,000 FAMILIES TO BE CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN.
This Policy Road Map displays the current HSH Policy Agenda for the next three years. This road map was informed by and developed from the 26 HSH Policy Priorities. The current HSH Policy Agenda (2021-2022) include: Raising The Michigan’s Child Care Subsidy Income Eligibility Threshold, Moving to Monthly Subsidy Contracts for Providers and Increase Reimbursement Rates, Creating & Implementing a Universal Screening and Referral Service System, and Developing a Cross-Sector Early Childhood Workforce Strategy (which deals with wages/benefits).
Governor Whitmer’s Budget For Child Care Programs

- PreK for all
- Child care
- Workforce
Building An Early Childhood System Of Care

First 5’s role is to:

**FUND** organizations and initiatives that are mission- and vision-aligned, and part of a community-based, family-informed early childhood system.

**PARTNER** with parents, caregivers, communities, early childhood providers, organizations, and public agencies in service to an accessible, effective, and responsive early childhood system.

**ADMINISTER** programs for young children and families that offer services, navigation, and care coordination; support and connections to resources; and training and capacity building for providers.

**ADVOCATE** to scale and sustain effective programs and for public policies grounded in equity and justice.
### Expanding pre-K: Measure AA and Measure C

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure AA (City of Oakland)</th>
<th>Measure C (Alameda County)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parcel tax</strong> at the rate of $198 per parcel for 30 years in Oakland, California.</td>
<td>Half percent (0.5%) <strong>sales tax</strong> across Alameda County, raising an estimated $150 million annually.</td>
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<td><strong>A YES VOTE</strong> was a vote to amend the city charter to establish a parcel tax to fund education services for pre-K through college students and career readiness.</td>
<td><strong>A YES VOTE</strong> was to implement a county sales tax to expand access to free and low-cost health care and emergency services in Alameda County and improve access to affordable child care, prioritizing high-need families.</td>
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<td>Measure AA was passed with 62% approval on the November 6, 2018, election.</td>
<td>Measure C was <strong>passed by a majority of Alameda County</strong> voters on March 3, 2020.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Planning for Organizational Growth

- Place-based strategies
- Family partnership
- Health and well-being
- Data & policy advocacy

Cross-sector Partnerships
- ECE sector
- Parents
- Community organizations
- Stakeholders
- Elected officials
- System partners

Internal Agency Infrastructure
- Operations
- Finance
- Human resources
- Strategic planning
- Communications
- Technology
- Legal

System Building to Support School Readiness
- Elected officials
- System partners

First5Alameda
Please share questions or comments in the chat.

The moderators will select questions to ask our panelists.
Any other questions or comments for our panelists?
Up Next: Join us April 20th 3pm ET for Making Government Work For Kids: Governance Models For Local Pre-K Programs

Join NIEER for our FREE webinar, “Making government work for kids: governance models for local pre-K programs,” on Thursday, April 20th from 3-4:15PM ET. We'll be in conversation with leaders from Denver, New Orleans, and San Antonio about how they have approached governance for their early childhood programs and what lessons they might share with other program leaders.

Register at go.rutgers.edu/77xh7cs1
Selected Resources


Let’s Connect!

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