NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK (NOEEN) STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

May 10, 2023

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER	ENTITY REPRESENTED
Jen Roberts	NOEEN Board of Directors
Sheraé Hunter	New Orleans City Council
Asya Howlette	City of New Orleans Mayor's Office
Dr. Fateama Fulmore	NOLA Public Schools (NOLA-PS)
Anna Williamson	Orleans Parish Child Care Resource & Referral Agency
Rebecca Latham	Orleans Parish Lead Agency
Derrick Toups	Orleans Parish Ready Start Network
VACANT	**Louisiana Department of Health EarlySteps System Point of Entry**
Dr. Shayla Guidry Hilaire	NOLA Public Schools (NOLA-PS) Exceptional Children Services (Child Find)
Joy Mitchell	Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
Kate Mehok	Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program (LA 4)
Vanessa Chavis	Nonpublic School Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD)
Maria Blanco	Early Head Start
Dr. Keith Liederman	Head Start
VACANT	**City Seats**
Rochelle Wilcox	B-3
Thelma French	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
Dr. Maureen Nicol	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver (At Large)
Stacey Barquet	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver (At Large)
Melanie Richardson	Family Child Care Providers (At Large)

III. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion is to adopt the minutes from the March 8 Coordinated Enrollment & Coordinated Funding Request Subcommittee Meeting, March 8 Steering Committee Meeting, March 14 Family Engagement Subcommittee Meeting, April 19 Family Engagement Subcommittee Meeting, and April 21 Coordinated Enrollment & Coordinated Funding Request Subcommittee Meeting.

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

IV. LEAD AGENCY UPDATES

NOEEN SPRING TIMELINE

- **May 25 - NOEEN Office Hours**
  - Lead Agency Updates (25%), Guided Feedback (25%), Open Forum (50%)
  - Solicited feedback on NOEEN communication in April Office Hours
    - Consider alternatives to written communication
    - Consider additional mediums, i.e. text, group chats
    - Continue integrating relevant links to resources
    - “Bridge the Gap” with relevant stakeholders (LDOE)

TS GOLD

- **May 31 - TS GOLD Checkpoint**
  - “Bulletin 140 requires that each publicly-funded program in Louisiana participate in…the early childhood care and education accountability system…”
    - TS GOLD (Teaching Strategies GOLD) is an authentic, ongoing observational system for assessing children from birth through kindergarten. It helps teachers to observe children in the context of everyday experiences.
    - Sites to complete TS GOLD checkpoints each fall, winter, and spring.

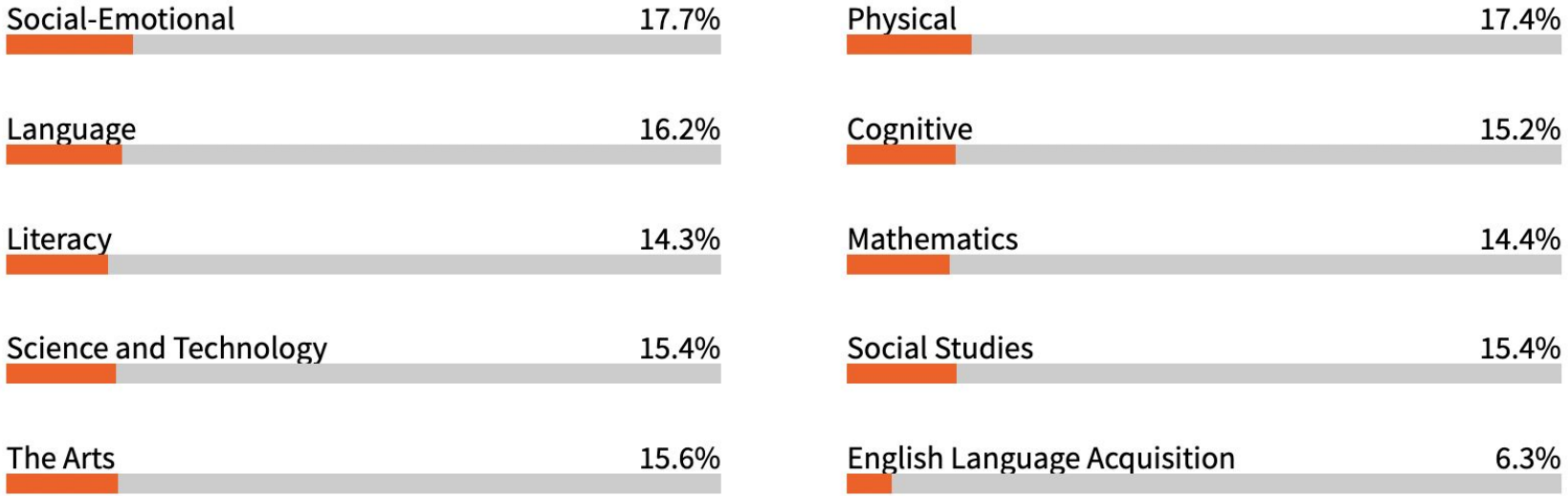
TS GOLD

- **TS GOLD Support - SY 22-23**
  - To date, NOEEN support for sites has included:
    - Newsletter reminders and resources
    - Individual site outreach
    - Office Hours
    - Technical support through goldsupport@noeen.org.

COORDINATED OBSERVATION UPDATES

TS GOLD

- **May 31 - TS GOLD Checkpoint**
  - Current Snapshot - Assessment Status



TS GOLD

- **TS GOLD Checkpoint** 🎉 Sites with 100% Completion in **at least one** area 🎉

🎉Bright Minds Academy🎉
🎉Dwight D. Eisenhower🎉
🎉Harriet Tubman Charter School🎉
🎉KIPP: Leadership🎉
🎉Early Partners🎉

🎉Morris Jeff Community School🎉
🎉 ReNEW Schaumburg Elementary🎉
🎉ReNEW SciTech Academy at Laurel🎉
🎉Success Preparatory Academy🎉
🎉Wilson Charter School🎉

🎉Pierre A. Capdau Charter School at Avery Alexander🎉
🎉ReNEW Early Childhood Center New Orleans East🎉
🎉Dr. Martin Luther King Charter School for Sci/Tech🎉

TS GOLD

- **TS GOLD Support - SY 23-24**
  - 3 Months Out
    - Do all sites have access to Teaching Strategies?
    - Are all current classrooms active in Teaching Strategies?
      - Are teachers completing preliminary levels?
  - 2 Months Out
    - Data Review & Action Planning (Collaboration with Coaching Team)
      - Classroom documentation status?
      - Tiered plan to support?
  - 1 Month Out
    - Email & Phone Outreach
      - Assessment Status; Checkpoint Finalization

NOEEN SPRING TIMELINE

- **June 21 - NOEEN Quarterly Convening II**
  - Virtual Session, 1-2 p.m. following Director's Collaborative

COORDINATED OBSERVATION – SPRING 2023

Bulletin 140 requires lead agencies to conduct coordinated CLASS observations twice per year.

Spring 2023 Observations = 603

- NOEEN Observations: Completed **525** observations out of **531** as of May 9.
  - Submitted waivers for **1** FCC (no children) and **4** French-speaking classrooms (Picard to observe).
  - **1** FCC classroom to be completed next week.
- Self Observations: **58** out of **72** completed and reported as of May 9.
  - Outstanding 14 observations to be turned in by Friday, May 12. Majority belong to one network.

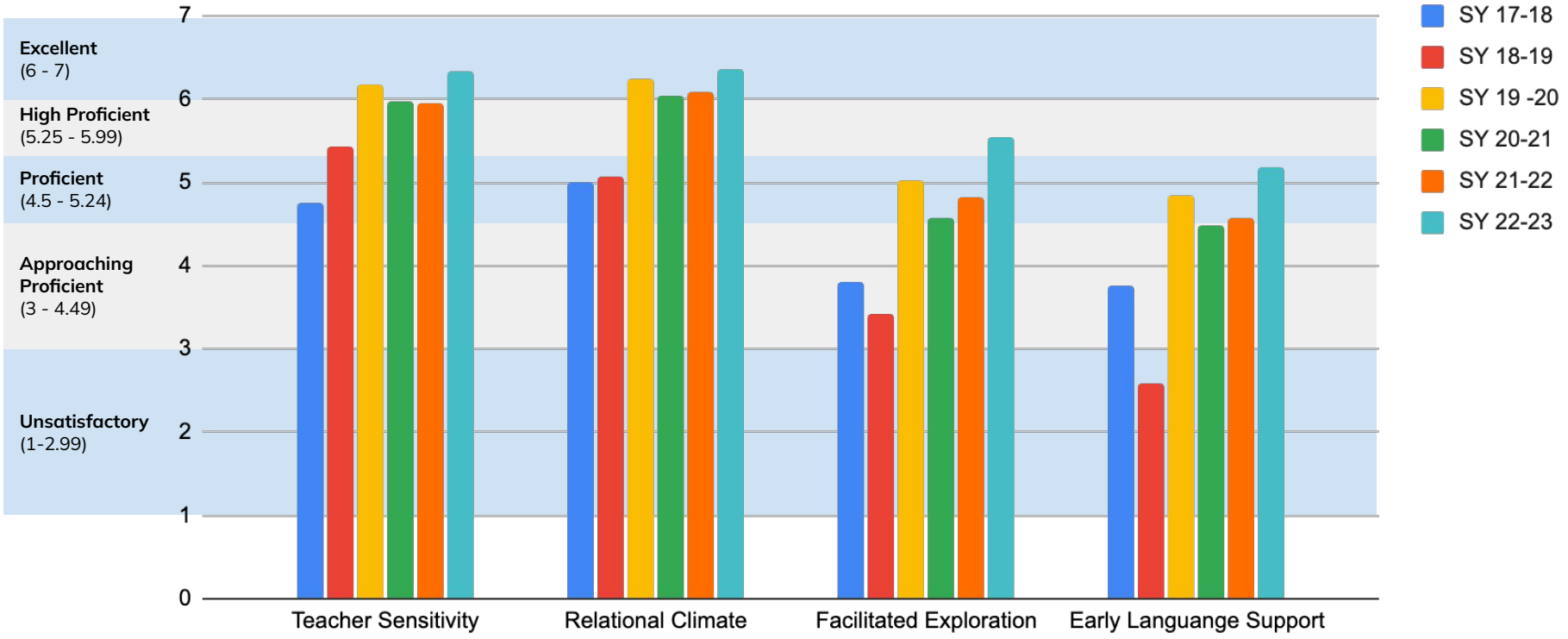
Updates

- Recruiting one Pre-K CLASS Observer for Fall 2023.
- Will request Fall 2023 non-typical days and configurations by end of July.

COORDINATED OBSERVATION – SY 22-23 TRENDS

- LDOE currently requires the use of three CLASS tools: Infant, Toddler and Pre-K.
- The CLASS tool assesses the quality of all interactions occurring in the classroom.
- Research directly links high-quality teacher/child interactions to positive child outcomes.
- The data provided through CLASS observations provides a rich source of information to support continuous improvement of practice through professional development.
- CLASS tool organizes effective classroom interactions into broad categories (domains) which are divided into **dimensions** that describe specific types of interactions.

INFANT CLASS DIMENSION AVERAGES OVER TIME: ORLEANS PARISH



**Note that due to disruptions from COVID, in both SY 19-20 and SY 20-21, sites with higher performance scores than the previous year could elect to receive an updated Performance Profile based on those results. If sites did not opt in, the Department extended their previous year's scores.*

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

FALL 2022 + SPRING 2023 INFANT CLASS DIMENSION AVERAGES

**Spring 2023 Score Averages as of May 4, 2023*

	Teacher Sensitivity	Relational Climate	Facilitated Exploration	Early Language Support
Fall 2022	6.25	6.31	5.52	5.13
Spring 2023	6.38	6.37	5.56	5.21

Approaching Proficient	Proficient	High Proficient	Excellent
3-4.49	4.5-5.24	5.25-5.99	6-7

RECOMMENDATIONS: INFANT

PRIORITY 1

- Early Language Support

PRIORITY 2

- Facilitated Exploration

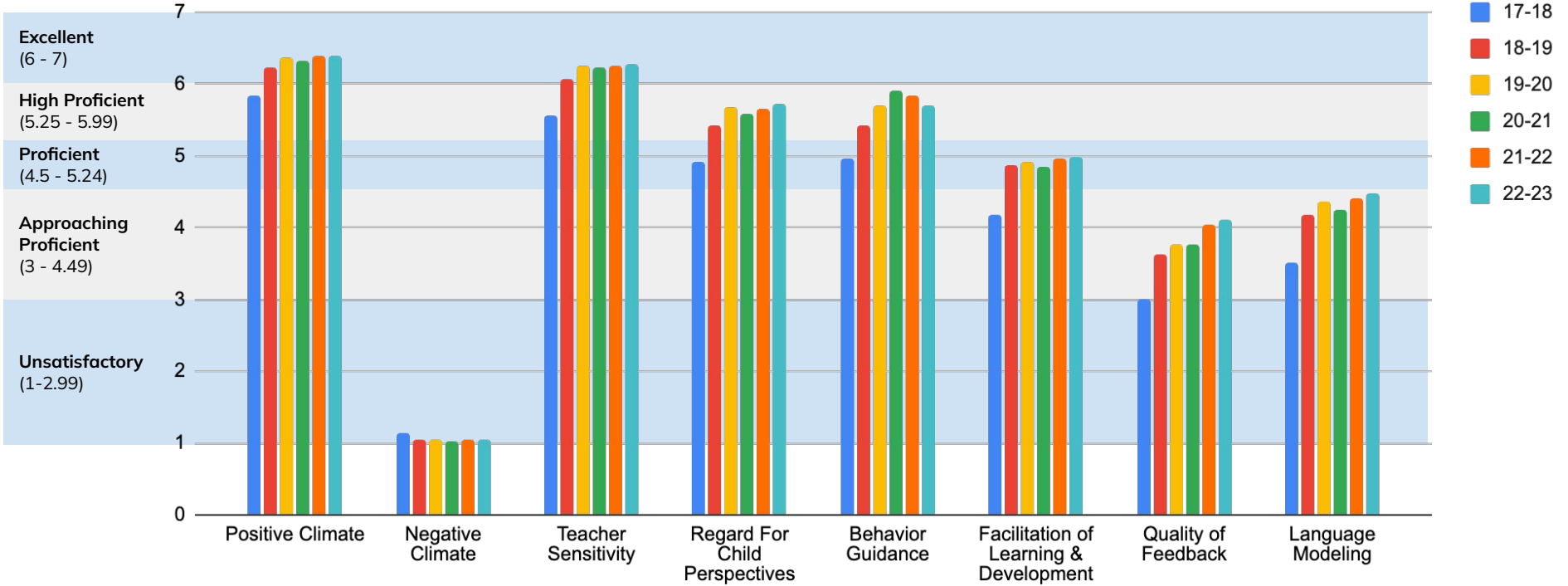
PRIORITY 3

- Relational Climate
- Teacher Sensitivity

RESOURCES

- Agenda for Children PD
  - Seminars
  - CLASS Group Coaching (MMCI)
  - Introduction to CLASS Trainings
- Agenda for Children Two Minute Toolbox Videos
- LDOE CLASS Portal (calibration videos)
- LDOE CLASS Video Library
- Head Start - National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL)
- EarlyEdu Alliance

TODDLER CLASS DIMENSION AVERAGES OVER TIME: ORLEANS PARISH



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NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

FALL 2022 + SPRING 2023 TODDLER CLASS DIMENSION AVERAGES

**Spring 2023 Score Averages as of May 4, 2023*

	Positive Climate	Negative Climate	Teacher Sensitivity	Regard For Child Perspectives	Behavior Guidance	Facilitation of Learning and Development	Quality of Feedback	Language Modeling
Fall 22	6.39	1.04	6.27	5.76	5.68	4.98	4.14	4.55
Spring 23	6.39	1.06	6.28	5.70	5.74	5.01	4.08	4.40

Approaching Proficient	Proficient	High Proficient	Excellent
3-4.49	4.5-5.24	5.25-5.99	6-7

RECOMMENDATIONS: TODDLER

PRIORITY 1

- Quality of Feedback
- Language Modeling

PRIORITY 2

- Facilitation of Development and Learning

PRIORITY 3

- Behavior Guidance
- Regard for Child Perspectives

PRIORITY 4

- Positive Climate, Negative Climate, and Teacher Sensitivity

RESOURCES

- Agenda for Children PD
  - Seminars
  - CLASS Group Coaching (MMCI)
  - Introduction to CLASS Trainings
- Agenda for Children Two Minute Toolbox Videos
- LDOE CLASS Portal (calibration videos)
- LDOE CLASS Video Library
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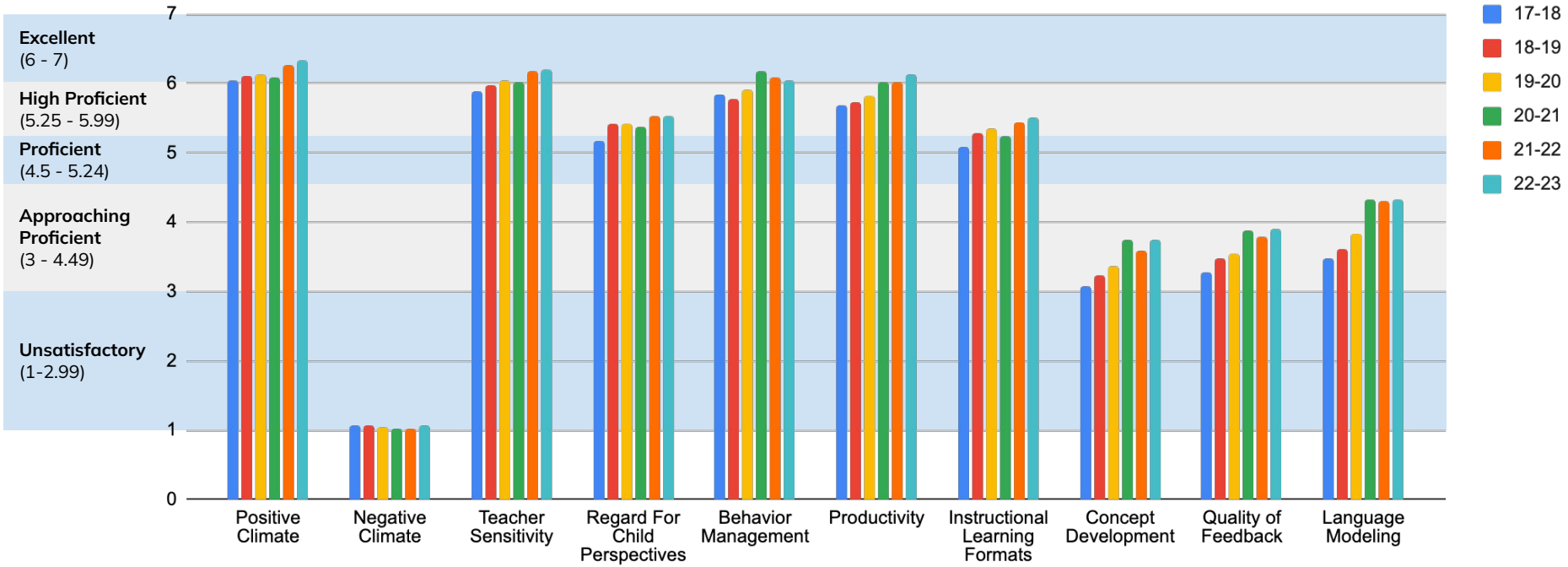
- EarlyEdu Alliance

PRE-K CLASS DIMENSION AVERAGES OVER TIME: ORLEANS PARISH



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NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

FALL 2022 + SPRING 2023 PRE-K CLASS DIMENSION AVERAGES

**Spring 2023 Score Averages as of May 4, 2023*

	Positive Climate	Negative Climate	Teacher Sensitivity	Regard For Student Perspectives	Behavior Management	Productivity	Instructional Learning Formats	Concept Development	Quality of Feedback	Language Modeling
Fall 22	6.28	1.07	6.19	5.40	6.07	6.14	5.45	3.64	3.76	4.17
Spring 23	6.41	1.04	6.25	5.65	6.05	6.15	5.56	3.88	4.05	4.49

Approaching Proficient	Proficient	High Proficient	Excellent
3-4.49	4.5-5.24	5.25-5.99	6-7

RECOMMENDATIONS: PRE-K

PRIORITY 1

- Concept Development
- Quality of Feedback
- Language Modeling

PRIORITY 2

- Regard for Student Perspectives
- Instructional Learning Formats

PRIORITY 3

- Intentional Teaching

PRIORITY 4

- Positive Climate, Negative Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, Behavior Management, Productivity

RESOURCES

- Agenda for Children PD
  - Seminars
  - CLASS Group Coaching (MMCI)
  - Introduction to CLASS Trainings
- Agenda for Children Two Minute Toolbox Videos
- LDOE CLASS Portal (calibration videos)
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- Head Start - National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL)
- EarlyEdu Alliance

PRE-K CLASS TOOL TRANSITION

- Picard and all early childhood networks required to transition from using the **2008 Pre-K CLASS** tool to the **CLASS 2nd Edition Pre-K-3rd** for Pre-K Observations starting Fall 2023
- **Goals**
  - Inform the community of the transition and provide support.
  - Build Pre-K-3rd contracted and self-observer capacity by September 2023.
- **Plan**
  - Continue to inform network of transition
  - Provide Observation and 2nd Edition Transition training for leaders, instructional coaches, and both contracted and self-observers
  - Offer CLASS 2nd Edition Educator Overview training for teachers and leaders in late summer

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT UPDATES

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT UPDATES – AS OF MAY 5, 2023

Funding Source	Total Allocation	Percentage of Seats Filled	Infant		1Yr		2Yr		3Yr		PK-4	
			Total Seats	Available Seats	Total Seats	Available Seats	Total Seats	Available Seats	Total Seats	Available Seats	Total Seats	Available Seats
LA4	1,381	97%							28	4	1,353	40
NSECD	379	87%							9	8	370	44
B-3	420	100%	58	0	110	0	112	0	140	0		
City Seats	400	100%	40	0	84	0	127	0	149	0		
EHS	741	80%	79	17	273	55	389	78				
HS	1,472	69%							757	203	693	262
PK-4 Tuition	159	96%							10	0	149	7
Totals	4,952	85%	177	17	467	56	628	78	1,093	216	2,565	353
Total Active	4,221		(90%)		(88%)		(85%)		(82%)		(86%)	

EARLY CHILDHOOD OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Early Childhood Application reopened on April 19.

- Received approximately 5,000 applications.
- Facilitated over 35 application support sessions for families and programs.
  - 80% of applicants described their application experience as *average or better*.
  - Less than 5% of applicants described their experience as *difficult*.

Infant Applications	1 YR Old Applications	2 YR Old Applications	3 YR Old Applications	PK-4 Applications
409	713	797	1,106	1,924

EARLY CHILDHOOD APPLICATION PROCESS TIMELINE

March 2023

3/10: Early Childhood Main Round Application Closed

3/17: Last day to submit EC documents for verification

3/23: Data exported from Avela for integration to Salesforce for the match

Ongoing: Verification of applicants that applied by the 3/10 application deadline

April 2023

4/19: BESE voted on NSECD and LA4 funding allocations

4/21: NOLA-PS updated 10/1 targets, as needed, based on BESE approvals

4/21: EC Waitlists were archived.

4/19: EC enrollment application re-opened for 23-24 SY for families to apply & submit documents (placements for these families will happen after MR results are released)

May/June 2023

Family enrollment application support/training sessions

Main Round Placement Results Shared with Families

Verified families, not included in the match will be added to waitlists

Offers made to families based on waitlist position and available seats post-match

Open Enrollment & Waitlist offers continue for the 2023-2024 SY (ongoing)

2023-24 FINAL FUNDING ALLOCATIONS AND SEAT TARGETS

The January Steering Committee vote was the first phase of approval for funding allocations to be finalized for state-funded seats. **Final LA4 & NSECD funding allocations were decided by BESE on April 19.**

- LA4 & NSECD targets are now set to meet the allocation set by BESE on April 19.
- City Seats age level targets were set for continuity of care and increased by programs based on total allocations, application data, and individual program needs and staffing.
- EHS/HS age level targets were set for continuity of care and adjusted by programs based on total allocations, application data and individual program needs and staffing.

Note: B-3 state-funded three-year pilot program is ending on June 30. Rising students in B-3 programs are guaranteed a SY 23-24 placement with City Seats. State matching funds will be determined closer to June.

ENROLLMENT CAMPAIGN

Billboards:

- NOLA-PS will utilize digital billboards and poster billboards to promote the Early Childhood open enrollment application.
- The digital billboards will be located near the CCC, on both sides of the interstate near the Smoothie King Center, and near the Westbank/Claiborne split.
- The poster billboards will be placed in Tremé (2 posters) and the Gentilly/Chef Hwy (2 posters).
- Advertisements will include both Spanish and English.
- The billboard campaign will run from May 15 to July 9.

Social Media:

- Last 3 weeks
    - Open enrollment traffic campaigns have 288 link clicks.
    - 70 new page likes from ads.
    - 15,200 individual Facebook users with our ads.

V. READY START NETWORK UPDATES

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

MILLAGE + CAPACITY BUILDING UPDATES

- **WORKFORCE**
  - **Updates**: Media Campaign Planning Underway, JOB 1 Partnership, NSNO Early Childhood Job Board, ECHO Workforce Fund, High School ECAC + Dual Enrollment Infrastructure, PDG Planning Grant, YouthForce NOLA Early Childhood Career Map
  - **Next Steps/Exploring**: $2.4M+ in Retention Bonuses from New Orleans Mayor's Office of Youth and Families
- **EXPANSION**
  - **Updates**: Nontraditional Hour Care Report Complete, Operations ECHO Fund
  - **Next Steps/Exploring**: Facilities Grants Distribution Process
- **ENROLLMENT**
  - **Updates**: Early Childhood Application Reopened
  - **Next Steps/Exploring**: Subcommittee Review of CFR Application Process
- **WRAPAROUNDS**
  - **Update**: AnLar Creating Resource Maps for Children with Disabilities (Review Support), HEAL Offering Vision/Hearing + ASQ:SE-2 Screening and Support, Finalizing City Seats Contracts
- **ACCOUNTABILITY**
  - **Update**: NOEEN Strategic Plan Work Plan Underway, NOEEN 501(c)3 Board Structure, Evaluation RFP Released
  - **Next Steps/Exploring**: Millage Funding Contracts Being Finalized

CITY SEATS EVALUATOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

- Agenda for Children issued Request for Proposals for City Seats Evaluator on April 28.
- Evaluation used to inform the design and implementation of the program, as well as the processes and systems put in place to oversee and manage the work.
- Evaluation contract is for August 2023 through July 2024 but could be renewed annually based on performance and availability of funding.
- Applications reviewed on a rolling basis and are due May 19, 2023. RFP available here or by emailing tfalgoust@agendaforchildren.org.
- Evaluator will need to begin work immediately upon selection.
- Announced by June 2, 2023.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO NON-TRADITIONAL HOUR (NTH) CARE

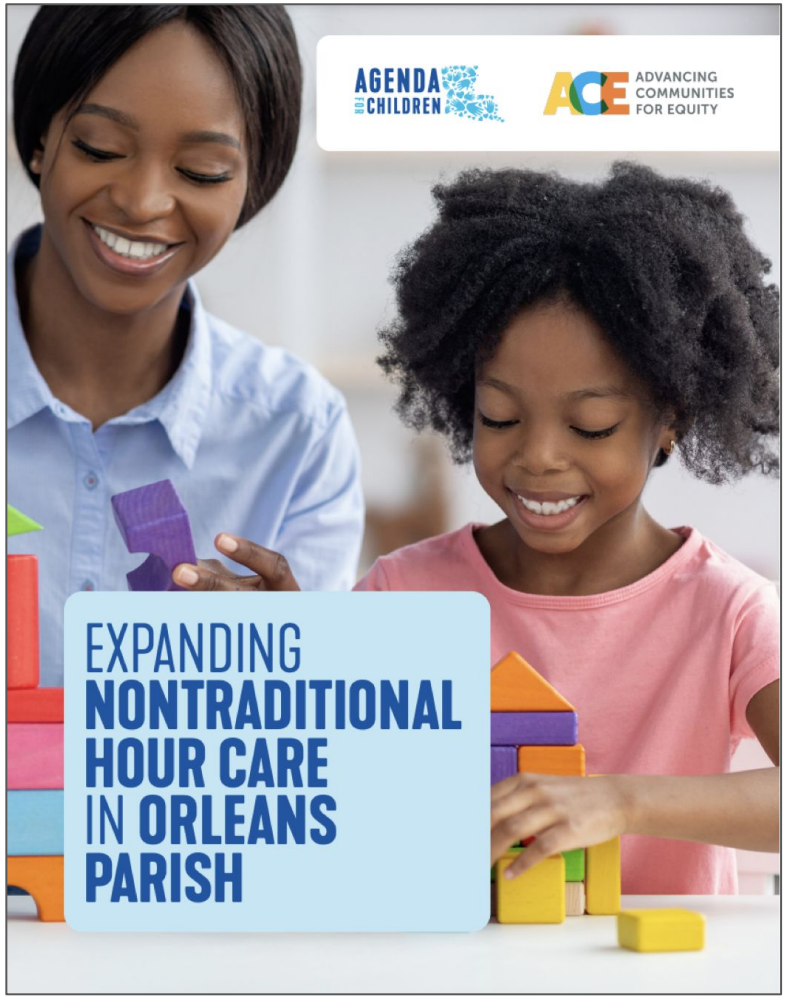
A research project commissioned by Agenda for Children conducted by Advancing Communities for Equity

Emmy O'Dwyer
Advancing Communities for Equity

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

Advancing Communities for Equity led a study of Non-Traditional Hour (NTH) Care to:

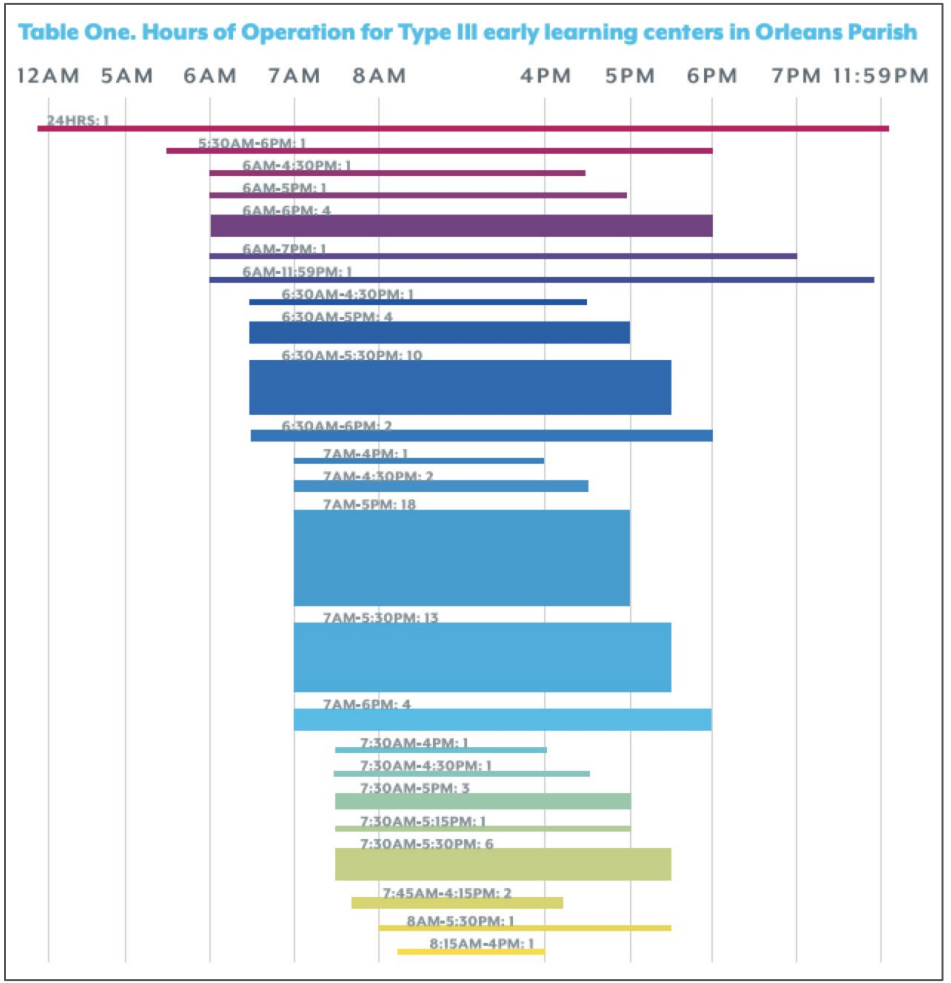
- **Understand access to NTH care** in New Orleans
- **Understand the impact on child development**
- **Research NTH incentives for providers** offered in other states and communities
- **Learn from families, providers, and teachers** in New Orleans about barriers, challenges, and interest in providing NTH care
- **Learn from workforce leaders and employers** about the impact of limited options on workforce development and the economy
- **Develop community-informed recommendations** that improve NTH access and Agenda for Children's system building efforts



Defining NTH Care: Most centers in New Orleans are open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Therefore, we define NTH care as falling outside of those hours (evenings, early mornings, and weekends)

High-level facts:

- Louisiana ranks **3rd** in the nation in families needing nontraditional-hour care.
- NTH care is **most needed by families of color.**
- Generally, children with unpredictable care have **a variety of health and academic challenges.**
- **Only three New Orleans centers are currently open past 6 p.m.**, and only two are open before 6 a.m.
- **Many states offer differential rates** of pay to **incentivize NTH providers**.



What did we learn from families, providers, and teachers?

FAMILIES

The lack of consistent care options creates safety challenges and limits family economic mobility.

"I want to go back to school to better myself, to do other, greater things. We're trying to figure out how to do ordinary things, the basics. You can't thrive if you don't have the basics. If you get the degree and have a good job, but you don't have the sitter, you lose the job. You can't argue that you have kids, so what do you do?"

PROVIDERS

"My concerns are about quality. I don't want what we do after hours to be substandard."

Staffing, health, quality, and safety are primary barriers to offering NTH care. Providers were willing to consider NTH care for an increased subsidy.

"We offered care before but lost money. Between inconsistent use and the food program, once a family or staff person drops out, it wasn't worth it."

TEACHERS

Teachers who were not parents were willing to consider working nontraditional hours as long as:

- they had the opportunity to provide input in the planning of their schedules
- schedules rotated
- work schedules included two consecutive days off
- there were incentives offered

What did we learn from workforce leaders?

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

"A lack of child care options means that working parents struggle not only to keep in-demand jobs but they are not able to take advantage of opportunities to build skills in preparation for those jobs."
- Claire Jecklin, New Orleans Career Center

Federal workforce dollars devoted to "upskilling" can provide subsidies for child care for participants:

- SNAP Education and Training
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA)

However, workforce leaders are at loss to understand the early childhood system, the supports they can offer, and how to solve for this problem.

EMPLOYERS

47 members of the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce completed a survey about nontraditional-hour care. 78% reported that child care disruptions have had a negative impact on business.

Several mentioned having allowing children in the workplace, with only 6% offering onsite childcare for staff.

17% are willing to offer a benefit to help pay for child care support for employees.

28% are interested in partnering with child care centers.

"How can I provide help to ease the burden for both of us, and design a win/win solution, where you can care for your child and I can meet my client's expectations?"

Recommendations for system-building:

- **Develop a differentiated subsidy** to incentivize and increase the supply of nontraditional hour care options
- **Plan for quality** through professional development and staffing supports that work nontraditional hours
- **Provide guidance to workforce leaders** on early childhood options
- **Strengthen family child care**
- **Push for a state NTH subsidy and the expansion of the food program** to include 3 meals
- **Consider flexibilities and innovation** with the local subsidy

15% added to the base subsidy

Rate differentiation varies by number of hours of NTH offered

5% of market rate cost of care for NTH

Flat rate of $250-$500 per child depending on the number of hours of NTH care utilized by the family.

NEXT STEPS

- **Review the full NTH Report and Toolkit for Providers.** Available on the Age for Children website.
- **Socialize ideas in the NTH report.** Participating organizations and individu will be sent the report for consideration.
- **Expand the discussion.** Advancing Communities for Equity presenting these data at a state and national conference.
- **Look ahead to the release of a series of briefs.** Briefs to be directed to spec audiences (workforce, policy, providers).
- **Participate in professional development on nontraditional hour care for providers.** Agenda for Children to offer.
- **Integrate nontraditional hour options in NOEEN's plans for the future.**

VI. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

NOEEN 501(c)3 BOARD UPDATE

Composition = 7 Members

- 3 = Members of Agenda for Children Board of Directors
- 2 = Members of NOEEN Steering Committee Executive Subcommittee
- 1 = Member of NOEEN Steering Committee
- 1 = Agenda for Children CEO (serves on both boards)

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STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Asya Howlette	City of New Orleans Mayor's Office
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Vanessa Chavis	Nonpublic School Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD)
Maria Blanco	Early Head Start
Dr. Keith Liederman	Head Start
Rochelle Wilcox	**City Seats**
VACANT	**B-3* *Recommend dissolving seat and updating to new entity.***
Thelma French	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
Dr. Maureen Nicol	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver (At Large)
Stacey Barquet	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver (At Large)
Melanie Richardson	Family Child Care Providers (At Large)

ACTION ITEM: VOTE ON CITY SEATS REPRESENTATIVE

Given the resignation of K. Givens and future dissolution and update of the B-3 seat, the motion is to formally install R. Wilcox as the City Seats representative.

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

B-3 REPRESENTATIVE

- **B-3 Representative**
  - Recommend dissolving this seat and updating to **Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund** representative.
- **Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund Representative**
  - *This member represents a provider, advocate, or program partner involved with the administration of seats or services for children enrolled in an early childhood seat funded by the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund, also known as the "state match."*

2023-24 MEETING DATES

- Recommend setting dates for one meeting per month and cancelling as needed.
- Hold one meeting per semester (or twice per year) in the evenings at an early learning center and promote with parents and community members.
- Hold other meetings during daytime at NOLA PS, Agenda for Children, or other public space.

2023-24 MEETING DATES

2023

- June 14
- July 26
- August 23
- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 6

2024

- January 24
- ~~February~~
- March 6
- April 17
- May 15
- June 12

ACTION ITEM: VOTE ON 2023-24 MEETING DATES

Motion is to approve the proposed 2023-24 dates for meetings of the NOEEN Steering Committee.

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT & COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT & COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

- Task
  - Review feedback, timeliness, process, and application from Fall 2022 CFR.
  - Generate timeline and revisions to application or process for Fall 2023 CFR.
- 2023-24 CFR Process
  - In an effort to improve the overall process, a feedback survey was sent out on March 31 to all providers who participated in this year's CFR. Feedback received from Subcommittee meetings and this group will be used to draft proposed changes and a timeline for implementation.
  - A virtual working group meeting is scheduled for May 12 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Email Wesley Taylor at wtaylor@nolapublicschools.com if you would like to participate.

B-3 FUNDING UPDATE

- On February 14, LDOE announced that the three-year B-3 Seats Pilot will end on June 30, 2023.
- On February 24, LDOE announced that they will provide $724,440.50 in bridge funding to the Orleans Parish Ready Start Network to assist with “transitioning families and providers out of the B-3 Seats Pilot.”
- Funding must be expensed by December 31, 2023.

B-3 FUNDING UPDATE

- $648,000 will fund 54 one-time, year-long seats for eligible three year olds since this age group will age out at the end of the next program year.
- To comply with the state expense deadline of December 31, 2023, Agenda for Children will disburse monthly payments of $1,000 per child for July-December 2023 and a one-time payment of $6,000 in December 2023 as a pre-payment for Spring 2024.
- Agenda for Children will retain a 10% administrative fee for program oversight and wraparound service delivery at a cost of $76,440.50.

B-3 FUNDING UPDATE

- At its April 21 meeting, the Coordinated Enrollment & Coordinated Funding Request Subcommittee voted to allocate the 54 seats.
- Two seats were allocated to out-of-parish children who were given the option of remaining in their current program for one year.
- For remaining 52 seats, programs received seats in addition to their January allocation of City Seats to either:
    - adjust for the difference between their 2022-23 B-3 and City Seats allocation and their 2023-24 request, or
    - to increase the minimum number of seats they received to eight or their program's total ask, if fewer than eight, a decision based on Steering Committee and provider feedback about ensuring financial viability for new classrooms.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

- Tasks
  - Develop plan outlining meaningful ways to engage and represent the voices of the children and families served by publicly-funded early care and education programs in Orleans Parish.
  - Develop plan to collect input from families on NOEEN-related activities.
  - Synthesize input and share relevant recommendations to the Steering Committee.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- Formal 15-member working group consisting of parents and caregivers of children enrolled in early learning programs in Orleans Parish
  - Provide input on major NOEEN decisions (i.e. millage budget approval)
  - Provide ongoing feedback to NOEEN and other stakeholders
    - Ex: Host community engagement event at a center
- 6 meetings per year (child care provided at each meeting)
- Stipend for each participant
- NOEEN Steering Committee parent representatives will participate

PROPOSED ANNUAL PROJECT BUDGET

Expenditure	Amount
Stipends (including transportation)	$27,500
Food	$2,100
Child Care	$1,800
Other (materials/supplies)	$2,000
Total Project Budget	$33,740

NEXT STEPS

- Identify funding sources.
- Subcommittee would develop an application and disseminate through different channels.
- Once applications are received, subcommittee would review and choose applicants.
- Develop training materials for participants.

VII. WORKING GROUP REPORTS

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKING GROUP REPORT

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKING GROUP

- Strategic Plan approved at March 8 meeting. Printed copies now available.
- To date, ResourceFull has received feedback from or conducted listening sessions with 12 of 26 named partners to develop an internal Work Plan to support NOEEN in measuring progress toward strategic priorities.
- Estimated completion date of Work Plan is May 19.
- Progress toward Strategic Plan to be reviewed and communicated by Executive Subcommittee.

WORKFORCE TASK FORCE REPORT

WORKFORCE TASK FORCE

- Workforce Task Force created as official NOEEN working group in May.
- Goal of working group is to continue the work of the Orleans Parish Early Care + Education Workforce Task Force and to share regular updates on progress of strategies with Steering Committee.
- Working Group members: T. French, D. Toups.
- As of April 2023, Orleans Parish is actively working toward 13 of the 22 strategies listed in the Playbook and has applied for a Workforce PDG Planning Grant through LDOE.

PREPARATION + PATHWAYS

Goal	NOT YET BEGUN	UNDERWAY	COMPLETE
Clearly define the various roles in the early care and education sector and the paths between them by creating an Early Educator Pathways Tool.			✔
Better leverage existing funding streams to expand educator preparation opportunities for high school students.		✔	
Better leverage existing funding streams and identify new funding streams to expand educator preparation opportunities for those not currently working in the sector.		✔	
Remove barriers to continuing education and professional development.		✔	
Increase mentorship opportunities for early childhood educators currently in the sector.		✔	
Remove barriers to credit matriculation in higher education by developing stackable credentials.		✔	
Introduce an accessible Bachelor's degree program focused on working teachers into the local ecosystem.		✔	

RETENTION + RECRUITMENT

Goal	NOT YET BEGUN	UNDERWAY	COMPLETE
Develop retention and recruitment strategies specific to various communities of interest.	✔		
Distribute $3M+ of earmarked funding to current educators through retention bonuses and pilots.		✔	
Improve the public perception of the early care and education sector through a media campaign.		✔	
Create a “one-stop shop” for interested applicants to apply for early educator positions.		✔	
Advocate for policies that provide sustainable and increased funding to increase educator salaries and benefits.	✔		
Increase infrastructure for leadership and middle management support and supervision.		✔	
Create infrastructure for paid fellowships, internships, and apprenticeships, inclusive of two-generation strategies.	✔		
Embed internships or observations in early care and education programs into child- or pediatric-focused professional training programs, such as medical or dental schools.	✔		

COMPENSATION (PAY + BENEFITS)

Goal	NOT YET BEGUN	UNDERWAY	COMPLETE
Distribute $3M+ of earmarked funding to current educators through retention bonuses and pilots.		✔	
Map the local benefits landscape and prioritize a hierarchy of benefits for local educators.	✔		
Fully leverage School Readiness Tax Credits among early childhood educators and directors as a mechanism to increase salaries.	✔		
Identify sustainable infrastructure for offering shared services for most in-demand benefits.	✔		
Advocate for local policies that provide sustainable and increased funding to increase educator salaries and benefits.	✔		
Advocate for state and federal policies that provide sustainable and increased funding to increase educator salaries and benefits.	✔		
Increase awareness and education on the value of benefits to the sector.	✔		

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

*Thank you to **Kristi Givens** who has served on the NOEEN Steering Committee for eight (8) years!*

IX. ADJOURNMENT