

Georgia's Pre-K Focus Group Spring 2012

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Agenda

- Brief Overview of 2011-12 School Year
- Group Activity
- Q & A

Congratulations Georgia's Pre-K!

- Georgia was recently recognized as one of 5 states in the nation that met 10 out of 10 quality benchmarks on the NIEER State of Preschool Yearbook
- NIEER stands for National Institute for Early Education Research
- For the complete report you can visit their website at www.nieer.org/yearbook

Current Program Statistics 2011-2012

● Budgeted Slots:	86,000
● Allocated Slots:	85,294
● Current Enrollment:	82,924
● Fill Rate:	96.42%
● # of Classes:	3,877
● Waiting list:	6,329

Teacher Data

● Teacher Retention Rate

- Lead Teachers: 2011: 83% 2012: 69%
- Assistant Teachers: 2011: 79% 2012: 65%

Program Updates

- **Budget Proposal**
 - Proposal includes 10 additional days for instruction
 - 84,000 slots
- **Early Learning Standards Revisions**
 - Review for alignment across ages, alignment with GA Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS)
 - New Standards, Fall 2012
 - Training, school year 2013

Carryover Funds Clarification

- To carry over FY12 funds programs must submit a written request to the Assistant Commissioner for Pre-K for permission to carry over funds.
- The request must contain the amount of carryover money and how funds would be spent in FY13.
- Requests for carryover will be approved for teaching staff salaries and benefits, family support services, and technology.
- Only funds from FY12 may be carried over to FY13.
- Funds from FY11 must be expended before the end of FY12.
- All carryover funds must be expended the following fiscal year and cannot be carried over to the next fiscal year.
- The deadline for carryover requests is May 31, 2012.

Program Updates

● Work Sampling Online

- 2012 we currently have 53% online
 - 2013 we project 81% online
 - 2014 school year we project 100% online

● Longitudinal Data System

- Georgia Testing ID (GTID) will have WSO data attached that will allow Kindergarten teachers to access Pre-K assessment data. Indicators from the following domains will be sent from WSO.
 - Language & Literacy
 - Math
 - Social/Emotional
 - Subset of Physical Development (Fine Motor)

Program Updates: Race to the Top

Four Different CLASS-Based Professional Development Models

- My Teaching Partner (MTP)
- Making the Most of CLASSroom Interactions (MMCI)
- Understanding CLASSframeworks (UCF)
- Looking at CLASSrooms (LAC)

Overall Project Goal

- Statewide CLASS centered Professional Development

Pre-K Longitudinal Study

- Georgia's Pre-K classrooms randomly sampled, N=100
- Within each sampled classroom, 5-6 children were randomly selected, N=570
- Pre and Post Standard Battery of Assessments Administered (Includes Spanish Battery and Subset Executive Functioning)
- Classroom Observations
- Year Two will include Georgia's Pre-K Enrollment Study and Regression Discontinuity Design

2011 Director Survey and Focus Group

- Focus Groups: March-May
- Director Survey: June 2011
 - 574 respondents
- Topics covered include Grant Requirement Checklist, IQ Guides, Lesson Planning Templates, Pre-K Assessment, and CLASS observations

Director Focus Group/ Survey Results: How BFTS Can Better Support Project Directors

- Directors made many suggestions such as:
 - Open communication
 - Constant updates
 - Reduce paperwork
 - More training
 - Use webinars and online training options
 - More feedback, more frequent visits
 - More financial support
 - Quick responses, greater availability

Director Survey Results: Grant Requirement Checklist

- 75% found the GRC quite or extremely useful, and another 20% found it somewhat useful.
- Similar numbers found the GRC quite or extremely helpful for organizing documentation (76%), understanding Pre-K requirements (73%), and communicating with teachers (71%).
- 20% reported spending less than 2 hours per week on the GRC, 51% reported spending 2-4 hours per week, and 29% reported more than 4 hours per week.

Director Survey Results: IQ Guides

- 73% found the IQ Guides quite or extremely useful, and another 23% found them somewhat useful.
- Ratings of quite or extremely useful for specific IQ Guides include:
 - Learning Environment 78%
 - Daily Schedule 73%
 - Planning Instruction 76%
 - Assessment 73%

Director Survey Results: Pre-K Assessment

- 77% were using the pencil and paper version, and 23% the online version (Work Sampling Online)
- 72% agreed or strongly agreed that the online version made it easier to monitor teachers use of assessment.
- 64% agreed or strongly agreed that their teachers preferred the online version.
- 61% agreed or strongly agreed that their teachers were appropriately trained to use the online version.

Changes Based on Focus Group/ Survey

- CLASS data housed in PANDA
- Updated IQ Guides and Grant Requirement Checklist
- Continued announced Grant Requirement Checklist Visits
- Training changes
 - New Teacher Institute
 - New Assistant Teacher Institute
 - Returning Teacher Training
- On-going communication through webinars, website, and email updates
- Additional consultant time visiting programs

Activity

- Guestimated at 45 Minutes
- Each table will choose a facilitator, scribe, timekeeper, and reviewer
- Topics include Pre-K Changes, Policy Reviews, Grant Requirement Checklists and IQ Guides, and Consultant Role.
- Reviewer will review the final write-up to ensure that the group's ideas were accurately captured.

Q & A

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