

Agenda
Missouri Panel on School Readiness:
Focus on Pre-Kindergarten Education
May 29 – May 30, 2008

Meeting Outcomes

May 29-30, 2008

The first meeting of the Missouri Panel on School Readiness: Focus on Pre-Kindergarten Education (Pre-K Panel) launches a seminal effort by the Missouri Coordinating Board to address the variability in the State's response to ensuring that its preschoolers have access to and receive consistently high quality pre-kindergarten (pre-k) education that supports school readiness. At its first meeting, Pre-K Panel members will begin the process of engaging with each other as team members and make a series of initial decisions that will lay the foundation for their work. The Pre-K Panel will have a clear understanding of its charge, embraced its leadership opportunity, and feel prepared to move forward.

By the close of its first meeting, the Pre-K Panel will have:

- Identified guiding principles for working together.
- Approved its work plan.
- Identified an issue for focused investigation and deliberation.
- Identified central issues/questions that need to be addressed to create a pre-kindergarten system for Missouri.

Meeting Agenda

Day 1, Thursday Evening, May 29

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Reception
Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO

6:00 - 8:45 p.m.

Dinner
Carnegie Room

-6:10 – 6:20 p.m.

Welcome & Introductions

- Overview of the Pre-K Panel’s Charge
Karen Bartz, Chair, Coordinating Board for Early Childhood

-6:30 – 6:40 p.m. **Welcome**
Tom Watkins, Pre-K Panel Chair

-7:30 – 8:30 p.m. **School Readiness: The Context of an Early Childhood Comprehensive System**
Paula Nickelson, Prevention Services Coordinator,
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

School Readiness: State and National Data and Issues
Kathy R. Thornburg, Director, Center for Family Policy & Research, University of Missouri-Columbia

Result: Understanding of the early childhood landscape in Missouri

-8:30 p.m. **Closing Comments**

-8:45 p.m. **Adjournment**

Day 2, Friday, May 30

Capitol Room, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO

8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Tom Watkins, Pre-K Panel Chair

9:05 a.m. **Review of the Charge**
Karen Bartz, Chair, Coordinating Board for Early Childhood
Result: Shared understanding of the Pre-K Panel Charge

9:15 a.m. **Introductions**

“As you think about your childhood or those of your children or grandchildren, what one memory will most inform and/or influence your service on the Pre-K Panel?”

10:15 a.m.

Review of the Meeting Agenda

Stacie Goffin, Pre-K Panel Facilitator

10:20 a.m.

Guiding Principles for Working Together

Result: Approved norms to guide the Pre-K Panel's work

10:35 a.m.

BREAK

10:50 a.m.

Review & Approval of the Panel's Draft Work Plan

Result: An approved work plan to guide the Pre-K Panel's work

11:15 a.m.

Self-Organizing for the Work

Work Groups 1 & 2

- > Who should be served with public funds?
- > Should the State's publicly funded pre-k programs target three- and four-year-olds or only four-year-olds?
- > Should publicly funded pre-k serve only children identified as at-risk for school success or should publicly funded pre-k be universally available to families on a voluntary basis?

Work Groups 3 & 4

- > Should all publicly funded pre-k programs be required to meet similar standards?
- > If so, what areas should be addressed by these standards?

Work Groups 5 & 6

- > Which programs serving preschoolers should be qualified to offer publicly funded pre-k?
- > How should oversight for Missouri's pre-k programs be structured to ensure accountability for the State's investment?

Result: Self-assignment by Pre-K Panel members to a focus area for their work

Noon

LUNCH

Early Child Development: Economic Development With a High Public Return

Rob Grunewald, Associate Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

1:15 p.m.

What Should be the Purpose of the State's Publicly Funded Pre-K Programs?

The Pre-K Panel is charged with providing recommendations for public policy that will lead to the implementation of high-quality pre-k programs that promote preschoolers' development and long-term academic success.

In support of this outcome: What do you think should be the purposes of state funded pre-k education?

Small and Whole Group Work

Result: Agreement on the purposes of state funded pre-k programs

2:00 p.m.

Identifying Initial Information Needed to Study Focus Area

Small and Whole Group Work

Result: Information identified for responding to the Pre-K Panel Charge

2:45 p.m.

Next Steps

Stacie Goffin, Pre-K Panel Facilitator

Result: Clarity regarding the work between now and the July 22nd Pre-K Panel meeting

2:50 p.m.

Closing Remarks

3:00 p.m.

Adjournment