BLUEPRINT
for our students' future

Early Childhood





BLUEPRINT
for our students' future



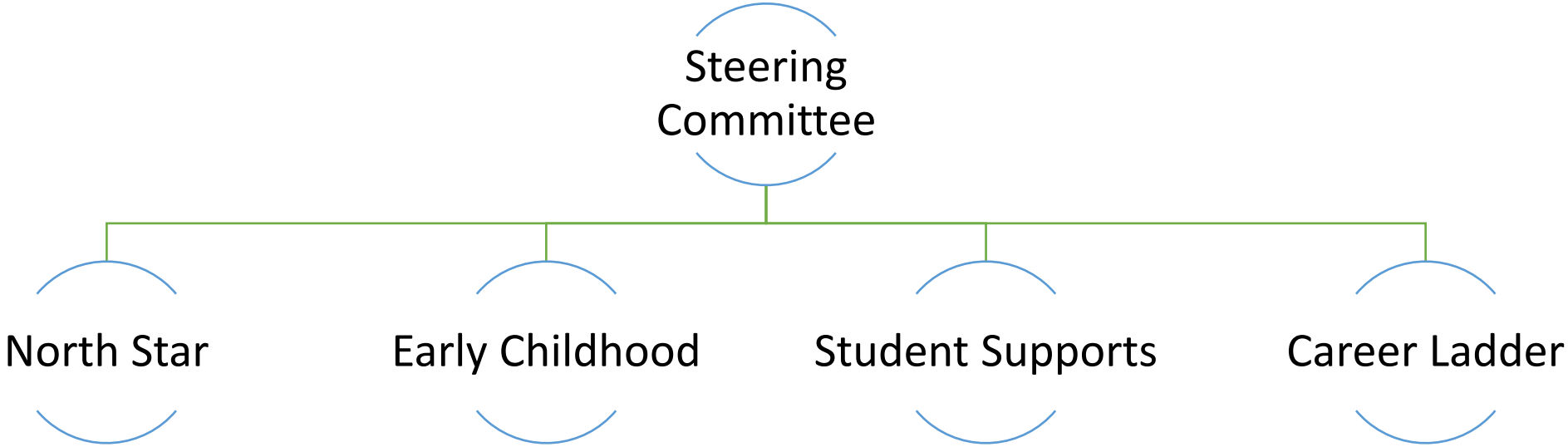
Kirwan Commission was created to make recommendations on improving Maryland's education system's performance and fiscal needs.



Maryland General Assembly passed the Blueprint for Maryland's Future in 2020, as an education reform bill based on Kirwan recommendations.



In February 2021, the Blueprint for Maryland's Future became law.

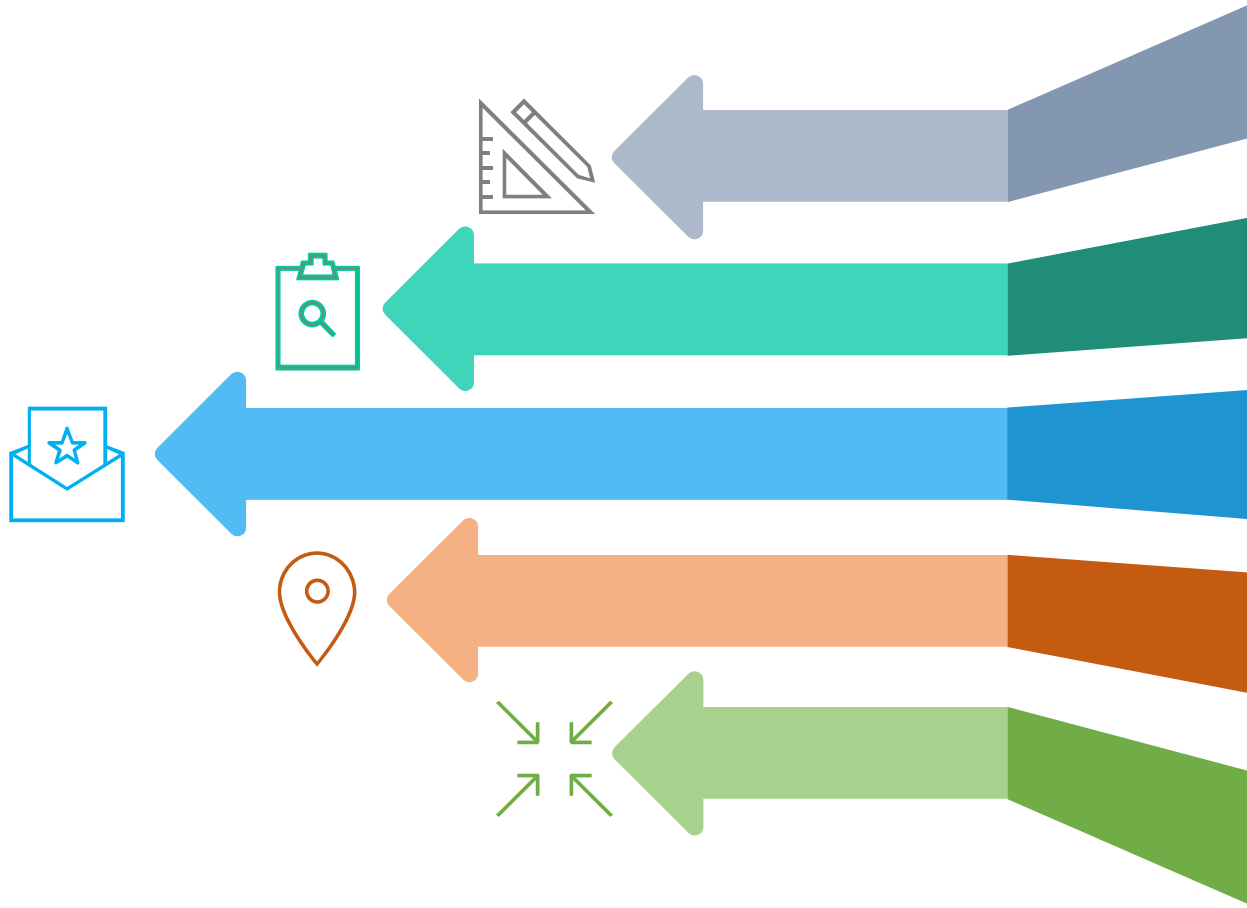


Steering Committee and sub-committees will be inclusive of representation from:



OUR GOALS

- Strategic Planning & Alignment
- Oversight & Accountability
- Advocacy with MSDE, AIB
- Priority Setting
- Problem Solving & Engagement



NAVIGATION

PERCEPTION

Assumptions and perceptions from original Kirwan recommendations

STATUTES

Statutes with amendments and fiscal notes

Definition and requirements from Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)

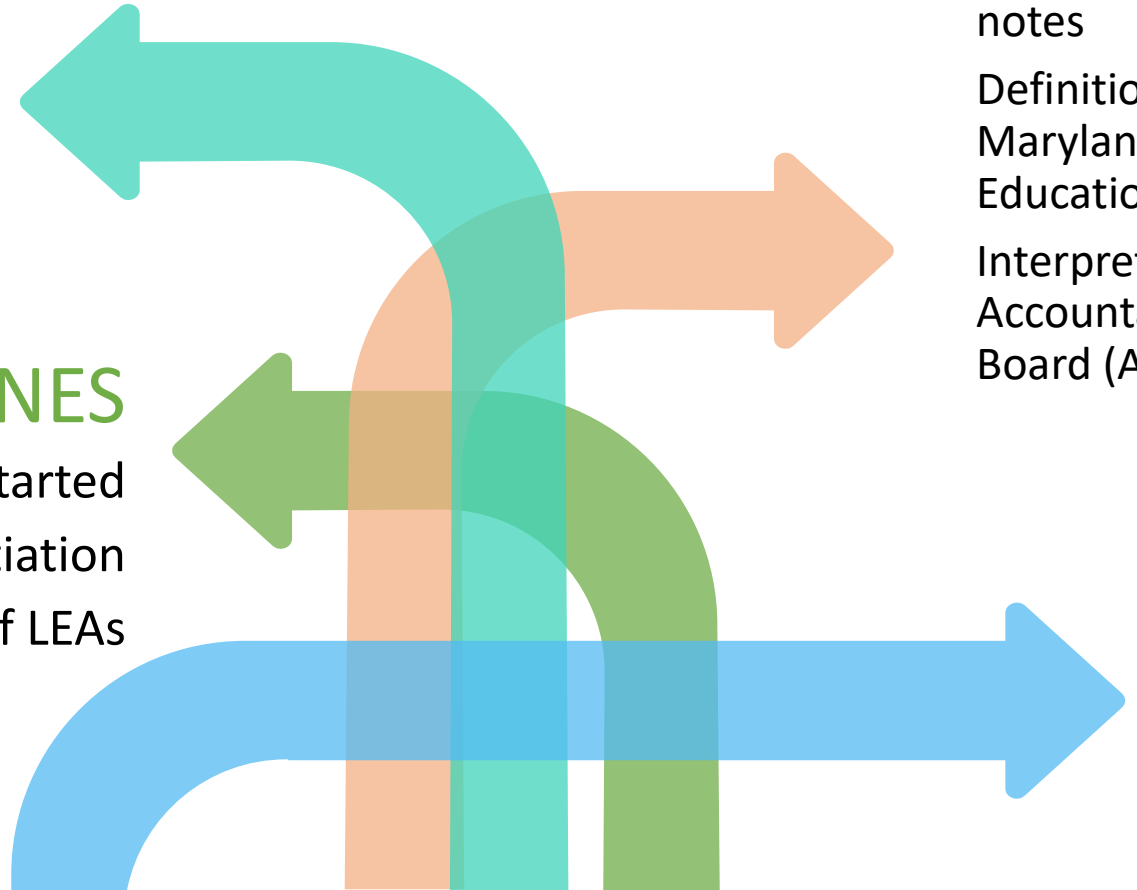
Interpretation and authority of the Accountability & Implementation Board (AIB)

TIMELINES

AIB just got started

MSDE/AIB Negotiation

Practical needs of LEAs



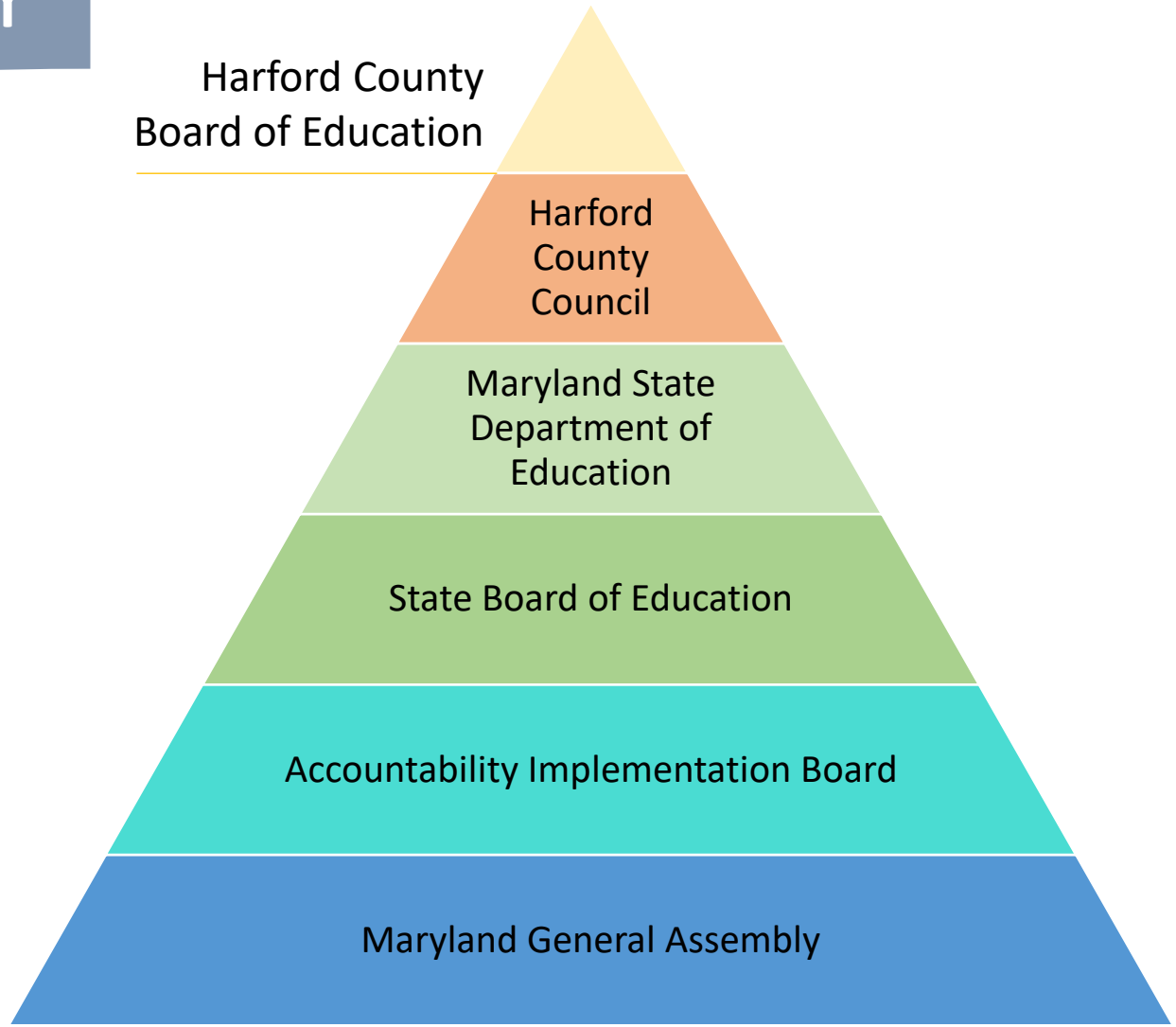
BUDGET

Restricted vs. Unrestricted

Capital

County Contribution

ACCOUNTABILITY



FOCUS GROUPS

1. Communication strategy with clear vision
2. Address resource allocation (funding, staffing, time)
3. Provide opportunities for all stakeholders to participate in planning, implementation, and feedback

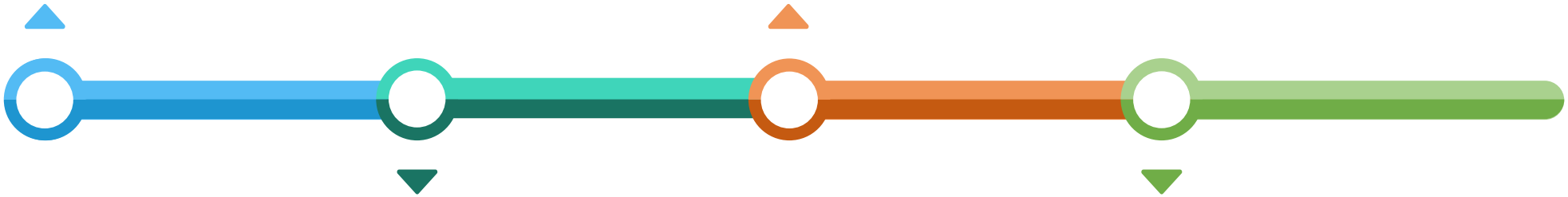
BLUEPRINT
for our students' future

WE ARE HERE

> Intro Steering & Subcommittee Meetings

SPRING / SUMMER

> Board Presentation
> Blueprint Newsletter
> Innovation Study
> New Continuity of Learning



UP NEXT

> Video introductions of by co-chairs
> Continued Sub-committee meetings
> Future A&I Leadership

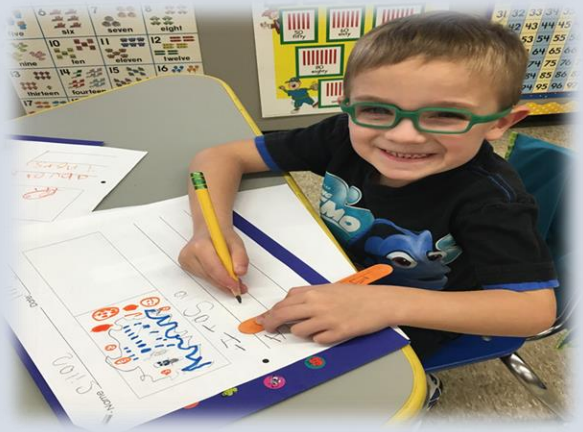
FALL & BEYOND

> Draft Implementation Plan
> Continued stakeholder engagement, professional development

BLUEPRINT
for our students' future

Early Childhood

Goal: Investing in High-quality Early Childhood Education and Care.



Expansion of full-day pre-school.

- Additional income eligibility
- Private Providers
- Have all children begin kindergarten ready to learn

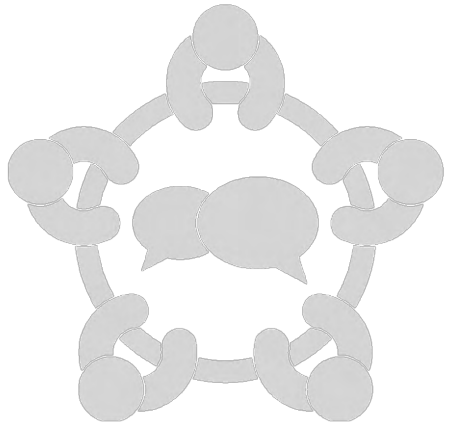
BLUEPRINT
for our students' future

Early Childhood

- Funding for expansion on in-school Pre-K and Infants & Toddlers program.
- Emphasis of including private providers
- Community Partnerships
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
- Single process enrollment
- Changes in support staff qualifications

FOCUS GROUPS

1. Excitement for pre-K expansion
2. Challenges managing quality of programs with private providers
3. Desire for increase parent engagement, communication, and accessible processes



Early Childhood



Harford County Early Childhood Programs and Initiatives

Birth through Five Team







Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. Helen Keller





Infants and Toddlers Program

- Service children Birth through 3 (some 4-year-olds) through an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP).
- Children are provided service in their natural environment (e.g., home, daycare).
- Children are eligible for services if they meet following criteria:
  - 25% delay in one or more areas of development
  - Atypical development in one or more areas of development
  - Diagnosis placing child at risk for developmental delays (auto-eligible)



Continuum of Placements for Least Restrictive Environment

Community Support



CONSULTING

COACHING

TRAINING

DIRECT INSTRUCTION

RESOURCE



Learning Together

"My child came home one day and said he wants to learn sign language so that he can talk to a new student in class who has a hearing impairment."—Peer parent

"I have seen great improvements in speech, behavior, and overall development. There is a greater attempt made to communicate with others and to engage in play. There is also a better understanding of appropriate play."—Parent of child with an IEP

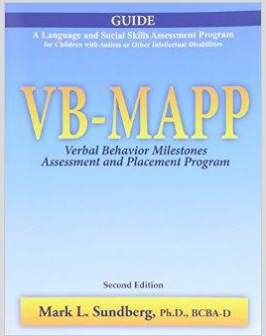


Early Learner Preschool Program











John Archer Preschool Program







Co-Taught Prekindergarten Program/General Prekindergarten











Prekindergarten Programs

Full Day

- Bakerfield Elementary
- Deerfield Elementary
- George Lisby at Hillsdale Elementary
  Hall's Cross Roads Elementary
- Joppatowne Elementary Magnolia Elementary
- Riverside Elementary
- Roye Williams Elementary
- William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary

Half Day

- Abingdon Elementary
- Bel Air Elementary
- Church Creek Elementary
- Dublin Elementary
- Edgewood Elementary (Inclusion program)
  Havre de Grace Elementary
- Homestead/Wakefield Elementary (Inclusion program)
- Meadowvale Elementary (Inclusion program)
- North Bend Elementary (Inclusion program)
- Prospect Mill Elementary (Inclusion program

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support

Pyramid Model

Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learners (SEFEL)




THRIVE
by
FIVE
Learning Starts Now

Provider Workshops

Essential Childcare Provider Workshops

Three COK's given for attending each training.

- Addressing Challenging Behaviors and Mental Health Issues in Early Childhood
- Parents as Partners in Education
- Positive Behavior Strategies and Techniques
- Early Childhood Developmental Milestones
- Professionalism and Your Program
- Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Early Childhood

Upcoming Fall Trainings

- Value of Play
- The Importance of Literacy in the Early Childhood Classroom
- Universal Supports for Childcare Providers



Provider and Family Workshops

Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learners (SEFEL)

- Training were provide for childcare partners and families to promote social emotional awareness strategies for young children living in Harford County.
- 124 Total Participants between Fall and Spring Sessions
- Each participant received social emotional materials for their center.







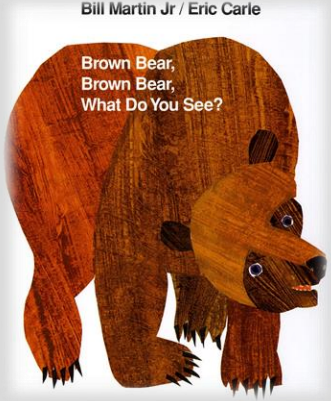


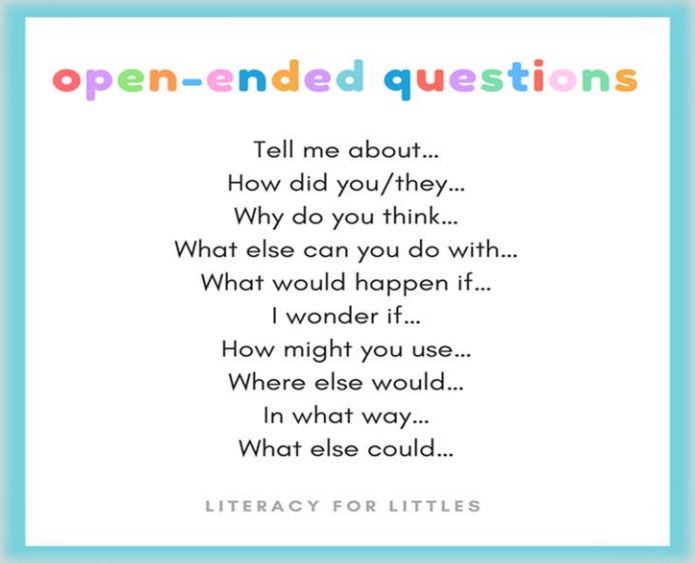
- Bedtime in a Box
- Pediatrician Outreach
- Chicago Parenting Project
- Second Annual Early Childhood Summit
- Virtual Workshops for Families and Providers
- Kindergarten Readiness Support
- School Readiness Backpack Distribution

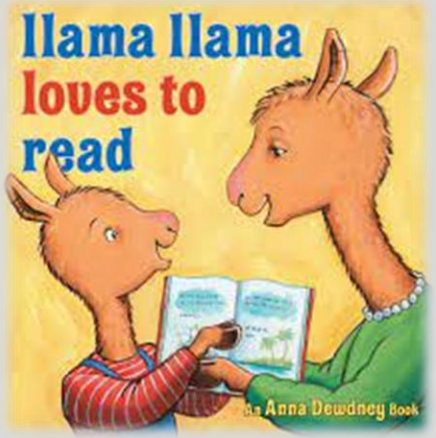
Events/Activities

Pediatrician Outreach

- Peditaritions and Nurse Practitioners received books and engaged in offering early learning literacy instruction with families. Emphasizing the importance of reading at an early age.
- Added open ended sample questions to develop language skills of young children.







Events/Activities

Chicago Parenting Program

- 5 staff members were trained from Infants and Toddlers, Judy Center, and Preschool SE.
- One program was completed with 8 participants.
- An additional program will be held in the Fall.



Events/Activities

- Second Annual Early Childhood Summit
- Virtual Workshops were presented to families and providers
- Families in attendance will receive resources to support Kindergarten Readiness.



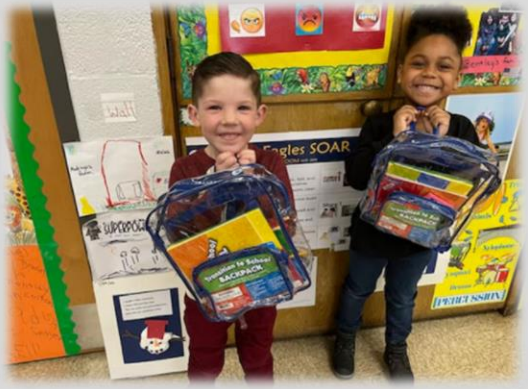
School Readiness

School Readiness Backpack Distribution

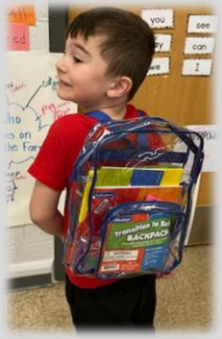
A total of 200 Readiness Backpacks distributed to the following organizations.

- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Department of Social Services
- Low-Income Families

(An Additional 100 will distributed this spring)







HCPS
COVID-19 RESOURCES

HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Inspire • Prepare • Achieve

CALENDAR | HOME ACCESS CENTER | SCHOOL/BUS LOCATOR | TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES | MENUS | MYSCHOOL BUCKS | PARENT PORTAL | OFFICE 365 | EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ABOUT US | PARENTS | STUDENTS | STAFF | COMMUNITY | BOARD OF EDUCATION | SUPERINTENDENT

Early Childhood Education

- A Look at Prekindergarten
- 2021 Prekindergarten Application
- Kindergarten One Year Maturity Waiver
- Exemption to Kindergarten
- Advisory Council
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Parent Academy
- Mental Health Zone
- Dyslexia Early Warning Signs Checklist
- Early Reading Assessment Screener
- Students with Reading Difficulties - Screenings and Intervention
- Littles University

Early Childhood Education

The HCPS Office of Early Childhood Education, together with the Early Childhood Advisory Council in Harford County is comprised of professionals from both the private and public education sectors as well as family and community support organizations. Parents of young children need a reliable place to find resources and support. We hope to provide these to you because we believe that *Harford Families Matter.*

For questions or assistance, please contact Kathy Griffin, Harford County Public School's Coordinator of Early Childhood Programs at Kathy.Griffin@hcps.org or 410-588-5252.



Family and Community Support

Community resources to support families of all sizes, backgrounds, cultures, languages, and situations.



Mental and Physical Health

Resources for mental health, physical health, addiction, and safety from violence.

Learn more



Education Resources

Special and General Education resources, including resources for developmental delays, learning disabilities, and educational support.

Learn more