



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings January 23, 2017 Vol. 4, No. 3

Welcome to the ECI **Monday Musings**. It is a compilation of information, practical advice, training announcements, and/or success stories. **Monday Musings** is intended to disseminate information to Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholders in a timely fashion. (We may on occasion send out a separate email with information if it needs immediate attention or if for a specific audience.)

Please let us know if you have something you would like to contribute or have suggestions or comments at jeffrey.anderson@iowa.gov

Back Issues of Monday Musing are available [here](#).

“Still I am learning.”
-Michelangelo

State Information

Input sought on first draft of Iowa’s Every Student Succeeds Act plan

Statewide meetings set Jan. 9-19; online feedback accepted through Feb. 15

Iowa Department of Education Director Ryan Wise today announced that the [first draft of Iowa’s state plan](#) for meeting requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act is now available for public comment through an online feedback [survey](#) as well as a two-week [statewide tour](#) that Department leaders will kick off on Monday, Jan. 9.

“We have spent several months collecting feedback from Iowans about what they think student success should look like in our state, and this first draft is a critical step in the process of implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act,” Wise said. “I want to emphasize that this draft is not our final plan, and we need broad input from education stakeholders to guide our revisions so that we ultimately submit a final plan that makes sense for Iowa.”

Wise and other department leaders have sought input on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) through 13 public forums in 2016, a state advisory committee, focus groups with education advocates, education work teams focused on specific components of ESSA, and written comments. Iowans are invited to give feedback on the first draft of Iowa’s ESSA plan in the online feedback survey, which is open through Feb. 15, or in person during the statewide information tour from Jan. 9-19. A meeting schedule is available on the Iowa Department of Education’s [website](#).

Feedback also can be submitted via email at ESSA@iowa.gov or by mail: Iowa Department of Education, Attn: Deputy Director David Tilly/ESSA Feedback, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th St., Des Moines, IA 50319-0146

Comments will be considered in a revised draft of Iowa’s ESSA plan, which is expected in May.

About the Every Student Succeeds Act: ESSA is a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. This update, which received bipartisan support in Congress and was signed by the President in 2015, replaces the No Child Left Behind Act and will be fully implemented in the 2017-18 school year. ESSA maintains a focus on transparency and accountability while returning more authority to states and local school districts to set goals and create systems of support that will improve student learning. Under ESSA, Iowa and other states must develop state plans that address academic standards, assessments, school and district accountability, funding, and support for struggling schools.

Teaching Pyramid Observation System for Infant-Toddler (TPITOS): Reliability Training Workshop

March 20 -30, 2017 – West Des Moines, Iowa

Learning Objectives

1. Learn about the TPITOS, a measure for examining the level of support provided by classroom teachers for infant/toddler social-emotional learning;
2. View and score video examples of teacher behaviors that support the social-emotional development of infants and toddlers and become familiar with our easy-to-use datasheet;
3. Have opportunity to meet certification standards for carrying out and scoring TPITOS assessments.
4. Learn about how the TPITOS can be used to measure teacher support of social-emotional development of infants and toddlers and inform professional development and coaching.

For More Information or to Register: [TPITOS Reliability Training](#)

Iowa Department of Education Releases 2016 Condition of Education Report

The annual Condition of Education report has been released. The Section on Early Childhood begins on page 15 of the report.

It may be found at: [2016 Condition of Education Report](#)

A few early childhood highlights include (2015-2016 academic year):

- 328 Of 336 (97.6) districts offered pre-school; 322 districts provided Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs (SWVPP) for 4 year olds
- 29,001 students (3 -5 years old) were enrolled in a district preschool; 23,141 were SWVPP funded students
- 20.9% (20.7% SWVPP) students were identified as a minority student
- 25.5% (23.2% SWVPP) students qualified for Free/Reduced Lunches
- 97.2% of the districts used the FAST Kindergarten Assessment: 64.8% of the kindergartners were identified as proficient using the FAST Composite
- 66.6% of the kindergartners were reported to have attended preschool prior to entering kindergarten

Iowa Department of Public Health Releases 2016 I-Smile Report

The Annual I-Smile Report has been released. It may be accessed at: [Inside I-Smile](#)

Some highlights of the report include:

- More than three times as many children received gap-filling preventive care from a dental hygienist or nurse in a public health setting than in 2005, the year prior to the start of the I-Smile™ program (33,403 in 2016; 7,863 in 2005).
- 77 percent more Medicaid-enrolled children 0-12 years old (54,873) saw a dentist than in 2005.
- 4,572 more children received care from dentists than did a year ago, a 3.8 percent increase.
- In SFY2016, 132 more dentists billed Medicaid for care provided to enrolled children than in SFY2005 (1,150 in 2016 and 1,018 in 2005)
- Although more Medicaid-enrolled children ages 0-2 years received care from a dentist and/or within a public health setting in 2016 than in 2005, far too many received no care
- In SFY2016, four out of five children ages 0-2 years did not see a dentist. This is far less than the rate for children ages 3-12 years, of which just two of five did not see a dentist

Federal Information:

CDC Releases—Milestones in Action

Parents and Caregivers

You can click on an age above to see photo and video examples of important developmental milestones. This library can be used as an aid in completing the milestones checklist for your child's age. To see these photos and videos with milestones checklists, please visit [this Web site](#).

Professionals

No permissions are needed to use the photos and images in this library for educational or awareness-building purposes.

Other Information:

Save-the-Date: Early Childhood Day-on-the Hill on February 28 (See attached Save the Date Flier)

Advocacy partners and other non-state early childhood system leaders are offering an alternative to the traditional Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill. As an organizational fair with the theme **Early Childhood State Fair** at the Iowa Capitol, advocacy groups, professional associations, and anyone with a passion for young children are invited to reach out to your members and contacts and invite them to join their elected officials the morning of February 28, prior to the Early Childhood Iowa Alliance quarterly meeting that afternoon. No specific program is being offered. Bring your stories and set up an appointment to visit with your local elected officials.

For more information - lauren@iowaaeyc.org

Defining Types of Care in the National Survey of Early Care and Education

The National Survey of Early Care and Education includes rich data about usage and availability of ECE. The NSECE design allows researchers some flexibility in defining types of care for different analyses.

This webinar describes the basic data elements available in each NSECE data file for type of care definition, what definitions have been used so far, and how comparisons can be made across NSECE data files. Home-based and center-based ECE types of care will be reviewed from the perspectives of providers and households. The presentation may also be useful to researchers building type of care definitions for work with other data sets. Attend the 90-minute webinar, "Defining Types of Care in the National Survey of Early Care and Education" on January 26th at 12:30pm EDT/11:30am CDT. To register for the webinar, please click [here](#).

31ST Annual Des Moines Civil & Human Rights Symposium

"Poverty Affects Us All!"

March 15, 2017

It's that time again! On March 15, 2017 we will have our 31st Annual Des Moines Civil & Human Rights Symposium. The theme for this year's symposium, "Poverty Affects All of Us", represents and highlights the symposium goal, which is a wake-up call to all attendees on how poverty affects everyone here in Central Iowa and how we can affect change across Iowa to improve conditions for all. We have a number of great speakers to highlight issues and offer solutions on poverty.

We look forward to seeing you at Des Moines University in the Student Education Center. The symposium starts at 8am. Admission is free and that includes breakfast and lunch. Please register in advance so that we can have adequate food for everyone.

Registration is now

live: <http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/HumanRights/Pages/2017Symposium.aspx?Tab=Registration>

For additional information about the

Symposium: <http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/HumanRights/Pages/2017Symposium.aspx?Tab=Home>

New flu-prevention course for child care providers

The American Academy of Pediatrics has a new online influenza-prevention course for early education and child care providers. The free online course educates staff who work in Head Start and other early education and child care programs about influenza policies and strategies that help keep children healthy. The AAP also has other online training modules for child-care providers. [Click here](#) for more, including a registration link.

The Father Effect

“A father is a son’s first hero and a daughter’s first love.” - Parenting Matters

In July 2016, The Academy of Sciences released its report, partially supported by the Department of Education, Parenting Matters: Supporting Parents of Children 0-8. The report reviews research on parenting practices and programs which have been successful in supporting parents, as well as suggests areas where greater work in parenting intervention is needed. One of the areas for improvement highlighted was the inclusion of fathers in parenting intervention programs, and perhaps more importantly, “starting with the expectation that they will participate.”

The Academies of Science convened interested parties in a follow-up to this report to talk specifically about supporting fathers in November 2016. Representatives from stakeholders such as Health and Human Services, Virginia Department of Health, Campaign for Black Male Achievement, Harvard Medical School, and the Department of Education, gathered to discuss ways to better include and support fathers in parenting. The importance of engaging fathers in school was also discussed at the NCFL Family Summit in October, as well as in initiatives from the National PTA.

Why this emphasis on fathers? Research supports that when nurturing fathers are involved in their children’s lives, children develop:

- better linguistic and cognitive skills and capacities,
- increased academic readiness,
- more emotional security, and

better social connections with peers as they get older (source: The Father Effect, The National Academies of Sciences) The initiatives and interest of these different stakeholder organizations and agencies, in various ways, encourages programs, schools, and organizations which support parents to make the effort to reach out to fathers, to invite them to bring their skills and interests to the organizations, to enhance their parenting skills, and to assist them in seeing the importance of fathers in the development of their children.

For more information, see the [study on the National Academies of Science website](#).

Free Online Instruction Provides Overview of the Development of Dual-Language Learners (FPG):

Through [these videos and reflection assignments](#), early childhood professionals will begin to identify ways to support DLLs in their own care settings. This free module provides an overview of the cognitive, social-emotional, and language development of dual language learners (DLLs) as well as examples of how early childhood professionals can support children.

For more information about Early Childhood Iowa, visit our website:

<http://www.earlychildhoodiowa.org/>

To join the ECI Stakeholders, please complete the commitment survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FSXR5F2>

2017 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

April 7

June 2

September 8

November 3

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

February 28 (PM)

May 9 (PM)

September 12 (AM)

December 12 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

April 19 All day

(June will be regional meetings)

September 12 (afternoon)

December 6 All day

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

March 2 (9:00 – 4:00 PM)

April 6 (9:00 AM – Noon)

June 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)

August 3 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)