



State Agency Collaboration on Early Childhood Education/Preschool to Kindergarten Transition Pilot Phases I, II, and III

B-3 Interagency Council Meeting
October 16, 2019



NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

Objectives for Today

Understand “why” this project is happening

Review Progress of Transition Pilot

Planning for Phase III of Transition Pilot

Review objectives and implementation timelines of the project

Discussion of “What we’ve learned so far”



Why a Pre-K to Kindergarten Pilot?

- 2016-2017 Budget
- Senate Bill 740
- Pilot program



Legislation Requirements

- (1) Methods to standardize student transition information such that it is quantifiable.
- (2) Recommendations for sharing data contained in a student's transition plan between preschool teachers, and either kindergarten teachers or the schools that receive the incoming kindergarten students.
- (3) Recommendations for sharing data contained in a student's transition plan between preschool teachers, and the parents or guardians of the child who is transitioning to kindergarten.
- (4) Recommendations for preschool teacher training and continuing education to support their role in completing transition plans for preschool children.
- (5) Recommendations for baseline information that should be compiled in transition plans for students transitioning to kindergarten.
- (6) Procedures for the management of transition plan documents, including recommendations for the length of records retention, provisions for confidentiality, and proper disposal.
- (7) Any other components the department deems appropriate in the provision of information between preschools, students' families and kindergartens.



Phase I Pilot

- Pilot Counties
 - Craven County
 - Davidson County
 - Iredell County
- Six Classrooms
 - Private Child Care PreK Classroom
 - Public School PreK Classroom
- Support provided State Leadership Team and ELN Consultants

Components of Phase I Pilot

Child Development Information Form

North Carolina Preschool to Kindergarten Transition

Child Development Information

Child:	Date of Birth:
Preschool Teacher:	Age at Assessment:
Preschool Program:	Kindergarten Program:

Please use the NC Early Learning and Development Progressions <https://earlylearningprogressions.fpg.unc.edu/age/18> to assist in rating the following developmental skills, which are appropriate for a child between the ages of 48 to 60 months of age. Descriptions for listed behaviors may be found by pressing CTRL and click. A description of the ratings can be found at the end of this document. To view Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) construct progressions, [click here](#).

Emotional and Social Development							
Skill & Behavior	KEA Skill	Completely	Somewhat	Nearly	Not Yet	Not Observed	Please provide additional information if something other than "completely".
Awareness of self through emotional expression and verbalization Uses language to explain, justify, and argue own actions and beliefs							
Positive social interactions Carries on long conversations with friends related to a wide range of topics; plans complex activities with friends							
Behavioral regulation Demonstrates a strong sense of right and wrong for self and others							
Demonstrates knowledge of relationships & roles Participates well in groups; raises hand to talk, takes turns, listens to others							

Family Engagement

The development of an "All About Me" and "Getting to Know Your Family" forms for families to share information about their children with kindergarten teachers.

Welcome to
Kindergarten,
Families!



Kindergarten teachers are looking forward to getting to know both you and your child! This form will help the teacher get to know your child.

My name is: _____

This is a picture of me.

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a blue border, intended for a child to draw a picture of themselves.

Tell me about your picture. A family member can help you with the writing.

Resources and Support



- Communication, virtual training and on-site support for Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers by the ELN Consultants and State Leadership Team
- Collected feedback from pilot participants
- Convened a work group of pilot Pre-K and K sites to capture additional input from Pre-K and K teachers and families
- Made revisions to the Child Development Information Form to capture requested data
- Finalized a draft transition planning template

Preschool Development Grant

- Secured PDG Funding of \$4.5 million
- Hired a Transition Coordinator
- Worked with Early Learning Network to develop trainings
 - Formative Assessment
 - Family Engagement
- Monetary Support for PreK and K Teachers
 - Cover travel
 - Cover substitutes
- Connection with Family Engagement work, Universal Enrollment and Translation Services
- State Data Sharing Platform

Phase II Pilot

- Surveyed all NC Pre-K Contractors –
31 Applications
- Selected 16 additional counties for Phase II Pilot
- 3 Classrooms in each community
 - Private Setting
 - Public School Setting
 - **Head Start Setting**



Phase II: Pilot Counties

- Buncombe County
- Caldwell County
- Craven County
- Davidson County
- Guilford County
- Henderson County
- Iredell County
- Lincoln County
- Montgomery County
- Nash/Edgecombe Counties
- Northampton County
- Onslow County
- Pender County
- Randolph County
- Rockingham County
- Sampson County
- Transylvania County
- Wake County

Components of Phase II Pilot

PreK teachers completed Child Information Form and shared with families

Family Engagement “All About Me Forms” and shared with families

Engaged Local Leadership Teams (NC PreK Advisory Committees)

Leadership Team created Community Transition Plans

Resources and Support

- **Two face-to-face Regional Meetings** for training and touchpoints
- Communication, virtual training and on-site support for Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers by the **ELN Consultants, NC PreK Consultants**, and State Leadership Team
- **OEL Consultants (DPI) added to support local leadership teams**
- Collected feedback from pilot participants
- Convened a work group of pilot Pre-K and K sites to capture additional input from Pre-K and K teachers and families
- **Piloted a draft transition planning template**
- **Advanced Trainings**
 - **Formative Assessment**
 - **Family Engagement**



Resources and Support

Added **Translation Services** and currently translating materials and documents

Created **Family-Friendly Language Document** to help teachers explain developmental progressions to families

Commitment and Engagement

Convening Local Leadership
Teams to create plan

Community
Transition Plan

Assurance
Document of
Expectations
adopted

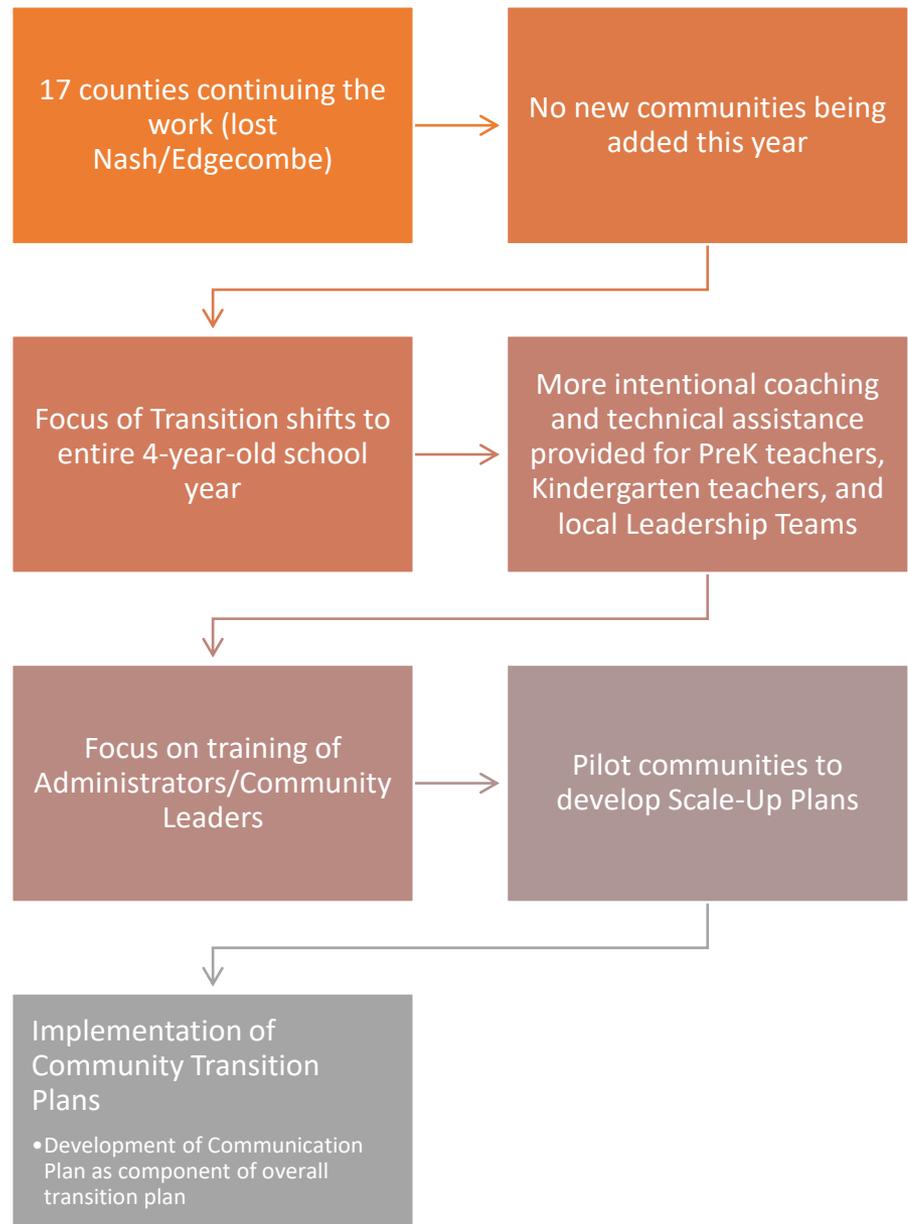
Creation of Data
Sharing
Mechanism

Creation of
Communication
Plan



Assurances Document signed
by local NC PreK Advisory
Committees

Phase III – Transition Pilot



Next Steps

- State Leadership Team Planning meeting
 - Summer 2019
 - Consultant Training – August 30, 2019
 - Regional Meetings – September and October 2019
- Letter to Local Superintendents about Transition Pilot
- More intentional opportunities for PreK and K Teachers to work together
 - October 25, 2019 – Meeting with PreK and K Teachers

Next Steps (continued)

Regional Meetings

- West – September 27, 2019 – First Baptist Church, Asheville
- Southeast – October 4, 2019 – Onslow County Partnership, Jacksonville
- Northeast – October 8, 2019 – Rocky Mount
- Central – October 11, 2019 – His Glory Child Development Center, Greensboro



Continue state-level work to secure a data sharing platform



Link work of other teams and committees



Develop application for PDG 2-4 Year Grant to continue transitions work

Pre-K Transition Plan Scale-up Timeline

Transition Plans	School Year			
	2018-19	2020-21	2022-23	2025
	NC Pre-K classrooms in 10 counties	NC Pre-K classrooms in 30 counties	NC Pre-K and Subsidy classrooms in 100 counties	All four-year-old classrooms in 100 counties



What have we learned?

- Kindergarten teachers want more social/emotional information
- Families need to be more engaged in the transition process
- Use family-friendly language when sharing skill progression with parents
- Pre-K and Kindergarten Teachers need opportunities to work together
- Pre-K paperwork can be overwhelming
- At present, no consistent way to share child specific data
- Must build local capacity to support transition work
- Need local autonomy for transition strategies



What have we learned?

- Create an onboarding process for interested parties
- Intentional about Communication with Key Partners
- Choices for Kindergarten and Early Care and Education create challenges for transition work
- PreK and K Teachers are excited about collaboration

Key Considerations for Scaling Transition Activities

- Pre-K to K transition activities will potentially require:
 - Rule/legislative changes – if transition planning should be required
 - Enabling data system
 - Resource analysis – for data system and teacher/school needs
 - Transition plan activity development for K-3

Questions



Contact Information

Dr. Kristi L. Snuggs

Interim Director, Division of Child Development and Early Education,
Department of Health and Human Services

kristi.snuggs@dhhs.nc.gov