



# Rhode Island's Third Grade Reading Plan: June Update

June 26, 2017

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# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Project Plan

Each agency in the action plan is working to:

- Update and create quarterly milestones for each FY18 action step
- Identify FY19 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading priorities

Regular meetings are being established to share progress, and include:

- Action Plan Check-in's
- Hassenfeld Institute Cohort Study Data Review
- Performance Management
- Campaign Strategy

# Updates

## To prepare for FY18 actions, below are cross-agency updates:

- **Safety Net Services:** Rhode Island received a competitive grant from the National Governor's Association (NGA) to help with the nutrition objective and sent a team in June to NGA's Learning Lab on Strategies to Reduce Childhood Hunger to create a plan to ensure school-age children have regular access to healthy meals.
  - Summer Meals kickoff on JUNE 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am in Jencks Park (Central Falls)
- **Community Engagement:** The Central Falls, Pawtucket and Providence School Districts have agreed to partner with the Hassenfeld Institute's cohort study and will help identify early literacy data, key research questions, or gaps in our data collection.
- **School Success:** The Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS) kicked off the 2017 Summer Reading Program in May with "Kids Reading Across RI", and more information can be found at [www.olis.ri.gov/services/srp/](http://www.olis.ri.gov/services/srp/). There is a also summer reading event with Providence Public Library on June 30<sup>th</sup> at the Providence Children's Museum.

# Updates: DCYF

## To prepare for FY18 actions, DCYF has taken the following steps:

- **School Readiness:** Training of CPS Staff on DCYF Early Childhood Service Referral Policy and Procedure has been completed and the process was implemented on May 16, 2017. Initial review of process is encouraging.
- **School Success:** Targeted outreach has continued with case work staff to promote State Pre-K lottery for age eligible 4-year-old children and their families. Efforts will continue throughout the summer to match preschool age children with Head Start and other high quality early care options.
- **School Readiness:** DCYF and RIDE Child Outreach Screening Staff have met and developed a plan to establish a baseline indicator by September to track the rate of successful Child Outreach Screening for children presently in foster care. Goals and strategies will then be established for FY18.

# Updates: DHS

## To prepare for FY18 actions, DHS has taken the following steps:

- **School Readiness:** DHS is closely watching any related bills and/or budget articles related to Child care rates. DHS has reached out to DLT to begin contracting for the next market rate study, and are identifying various ways to gather stakeholder input to inform the process.
- **School Success:** Both state pre-K and Head Start are currently recruiting for the fall. DHS will be meeting with RIDE to continue discussions around how best to share waiting list information once that process is complete.

# Updates: RIDE

## To prepare for FY18 actions, RIDE has taken the following steps:

- **School Success:** The lottery for the Rhode Island Pre-Kindergarten Program is now open until July 1<sup>st</sup>. The program provides state-funded, high-quality pre-k classes to eligible children. Families will be notified in early July, pending state budget approval by the General Assembly. Families can apply at: <https://www3.ride.ri.gov/PKLottery>
- **School Success:** In RI's ESSA accountability plan, chronic absence and discipline measures are will be included part of Report Card. The plan is open for public comment until June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- **School Success:** In May, RIDE awarded \$1.3 million in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Grants to four organizations prioritizing an Early Foundations focus. These programs– in Newport, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket– developed strategies to ensure young students are on appropriate educational and developmental trajectories.

# Updates: RIDOH

## To prepare for FY18 actions, RIDOH has taken the following steps:

- **School Readiness:** RIDOH is comprehensively evaluating evidence-based home visiting programs implemented in RI to 1) determine the cost of implementing the models within the state's infrastructure, 2) document and describe outcomes, and 3) assess unmet community need, in order to complete a sustainability and expansion plan.
- **School Readiness:** RIDOH is supporting primary care, and other community providers to systematize referrals to Child Outreach to increase referrals, focusing on children and families in at-risk communities.

# Feedback

## **What questions, thoughts or input do you have on:**

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Project Plan
- Updates from DCYF
- Updates from DHS
- Updates from RIDE
- Updates from RIDOH