**Bossier Early Childhood**

**Ready Start Network**

**Blueprint**

**2025 – 2026**

**Analysis of the Current State 2024 -2025 School Year**

The Bossier Early Childhood Ready Start Network, is comprised of the following early childhood partners:

The Bossier Early Childhood Ready Start Network (BECRSN) leadership is committed to supporting the long-term vision of early childhood in Bossier parish by leading program design, implementation, and evaluation of key aspects of the public-school Pre-K, Head Start, and privately owned early learning centers.

In the 2024-2025 school year we continued our advertising campaign to educate families on the importance of quality early childhood experiences and to inform families about the programs offered for preschool children. We partnered with KTBS for a six-week television and internet advertising campaign which included several program partners. We also purchased billboard space throughout Bossier Parish through Lamar Advertising. This print campaign also lasted six weeks.

The Bossier Early Childhood Ready Start Network Partners’ Performance Profile trend data shows continued improvement every year. In 2021-2022 the Bossier partners scored 5.22 out of 7.0 as an overall score. The preliminary scores for the 2024 Performance Profiles continue this positive trend with an overall score of 5.52.

In further review and analysis of the LDOE (Louisiana Department of Education) current data, our network indicates three strengths and three weaknesses as shown below:

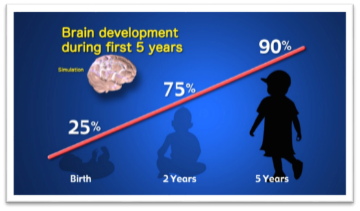
**STRENGTHS:**

1. Infant CLASS domain score of 5.95 which is in the high proficient range and higher than the state domain average of 5.88.
2. Toddler CLASS domain of Engaged Support for Learning continues to improve. Scores are up from 4.11 in 2021-2022 to 4.28 in 2024.
3. Bossier Network Program sites continue to show have increased Performance Profile ratings as shown in the chart below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Excellent | High Proficient | Proficient | Approaching Proficient |
| 2021 - 2022 | 2.70% | 56.76% | 40.54% | 0 |
| 2022-2023 | 4.88% | 60.98% | 26.83% | 7.32% |
| 2023-2024 | 12% | 65% | 17% | 1% |

**AREAS NEEDING IMPROVEMENT:**

1. Preschool CLASS domain: Instructional Support – indicated an overall rating of 4.32 which is a 5% increase from last year and Toddler CLASS domain: Engaged Support – indicated an overall rating of 4.28 which is a 2% increase from last year but still below state average. The network rating in both age groups is Approaching Proficient.

*This graphic above shows the percentage of brain development from birth to 5 years old. When a child is in a high-quality setting, connections in the brain become stronger. Children’s future success depends upon early experiences. Bossier Ready Start’s vision is to build strong foundations for all children to make investments in their future.*

**VISION:**

Bossier Early Childhood Ready Start Network partners are committed to preparing children ages birth to five years old for success in all future educational and life experiences.

**MISSON:**

Bossier Early Childhood Ready Start Network partners will provide safe, nurturing, child-centered quality educational experiences which support individual intellectual, and social growth and development.

**Goal 1:**

Create and implement a coordinated enrollment process that is user friendly and inclusive of all families and all Bossier early childhood programs.

**Strategies:**

* Create a comprehensive method for families to complete one coordinated application online and have it automatically submitted.
* Provide families with easily understood information to learn about and choose an early childhood program for their birth – four-year-old children

**Performance Matrix:**

* Bossier Parish families have access to a user-friendly online submission process for coordinated enrollment
* Online submission of application available by May 2025

**Resources:**

* Existing
* BECRSN website is a springboard for an online application system
* Needed
* Contract with a web-based company that can host the submission process
* Cooperation between all program partners in developing one application that will meet the needs of all programs

**Goal 2:**

Continue to increase birth to age three access to quality early childhood care and education through public and private funding opportunities.

**Strategies:**

* Analyze current funding sources and access gaps to determine age and area needs
* Create a scalable, sustainable model with a targeted needs approach to allocate resources to meet gaps in services especially for at risk children.
* Identify grant opportunities from local and state sources to increase seat allocations for birth to age three at risk children including applying for additional B-3 PDG funding.

**Performance Matrix:**

* The number of at-risk ages birth to age three seats will increase as funding becomes available through state grants and local community fundraising.

**Resources:**

* Existing
* October 1, 2024, Child Count data will be compared to previous year data. Currently this data shows that from 2023-2024 the number of publicly funded children increase by eleven children. Increases have occurred in the number of one-year old, two-year-old, and three-year-old publicly funded children attending child care.
* Funds are braided for four-year old children in the community network including the use of LA4, 8(g), Title 1, CCAP B-3, ECEC funding, NSECD, and local funds
* The Community Foundation of NWLA has committed to raising local funds to support access to high quality early childhood education for all families. Note $94,910.34 has already been raised by this organization and matched by state funding.
* The LA B-3 Report is available from the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission with recommendations for providing early care and education to the state’s most vulnerable, at-risk children and families.
* Needed
* Leverage local community funding to increase access for at-risk families requesting enrollment in quality learning programs for their children
* Ongoing assessment of the availability of seats within existing programs to determine sustainability and access to quality early care.
* Stabilization of the early childhood workforce so that additional open seats can be filled.
* Research additional prospects to increase access opportunities especially for birth – two-year-old children.

**Goal 3:**

Increase the PreK Performance Rating for Instructional Support by 5% for 2024-2025 Performance Ratings

**Strategies:**

* Encourage all teachers scoring below 4.5 in instructional support to participate in intensive professional development and instructional coaching.
* Provide administrators with tools to consistently evaluate and reinforce high level instructional support provided by their staff in the classroom
* Create ongoing support at the network level for administrators and classroom teachers to increase instructional support CLASS scores.

**Performance Matrix:**

The overall PreK Instructional Support network score will improve by 1.5 points in the 2023 – 2024 school year. Performance Profile results for 2023-2024 will be used to determine and evaluate success.

**Resources:**

* Existing:
  + All classrooms have Tier 1 curriculum and access to ongoing professional development.
  + CCR&R (Child Care Resource and Referral) partnership provides coaching and training to all Bossier PreK early learning child care classrooms. This includes Making the Most of Classroom Interactions intensive group coaching sessions.
  + Believe funds are available to provide stipends to teachers as an incentive to attend and implement instructional support strategies.
  + Classroom level data is used to evaluate classrooms needs regarding additional reinforcement of instructional support strategies
* Needed:
  + Methods of encouraging existing staff to attend ongoing staff development and providing new teachers with foundational training immediately upon hiring.
  + Funding to provide sites with the ability to hire additional staff such as substitutes and assistant teachers.