

Stipends Build on Work Done by P3 Governor's Institutes Participants

The Pennsylvania P-3 Governor's Institute occurred during the summer of 2017. The week-long Governor's Institutes brought together early learning professionals from birth-5 and K-3 settings together in teams to focus on instructional strategies to promote a comprehensive set of early learning standards; and support teams to develop an action plan to implement Pre-K to Grade 3 strategies in their local settings.

To encourage the work moving forward, the Pennsylvania Department of Education Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) offered all Pennsylvania P-3 Governor's Institute teams the opportunity to apply for a P-3 Prototype stipend of up to \$10,000. The stipends were approved for proposals building directly upon their team's work from the P3 Governor's Institutes, creating sustainability for continued cross-sector relationship building between P-3 administrators and community entities, and implementing high quality strategies around P-3 alignment.

The purpose of the stipend is to financially assist teams in exploring one or more P-3 systems change strategies (e.g. learning journeys, immersion experiences, multi-stakeholder meetings) and/or strategies detailed within Kristie Kauerz, *Framework for Planning, Implementing, and Evaluating PreK- 3rd Grade Approaches*.

Baldwin Whitehall School District

Goal: Established Kids Kount whose mission is "To raise awareness and promote the community resources that enrich, engage, and educate the lives of our youngest learners and their families." Kids Kount is a consortium including members of our local libraries, preschools, teachers and administrators. Baldwin Whitehall would also like to expand parts of their pre-K-to-K transition program to include more teacher visits to preschools, more activities for families and an increase visits by preschool families to the elementary school.

Bradford Area School District

Goal: The P-3 Prototype Stipend will support teachers and child care providers with job-embedded and ongoing professional development to create and sustain early learning environments that reflect intentional teaching, playful interactions, and family engagement. They are going to partner certified teachers and child care providers together to form a professional learning community where they can observe each other during the school day to strength programs, develop practitioners, and build a network of support. In addition, they will immerse another group of P-3 parents in a leadership experience designed to empower them as leaders, build better relationships between school and home, and inspire new thoughts and ideas. From talking with a core group of parents and giving surveys to our families, they are now going to offer these trainings in the neighborhoods that need the most support.

Easton Area School District

Goal: Seek to eliminate any barrier a family might encounter in supporting their child's academic success due to transportation issues. Easton Area proposed the establishment of a transportation service whereby families with transportation issues may receive a round trip taxi ride to and from either the school or a third-party support service. In this way, they will gain access that in the past has created a barrier to participation and support. This proposal is linked to strategies learned at the P-3 Governor's Institute in that they seek to promote Family Engagement in creating meaningful changes in adult behaviors in increasing parental support and participation of academics as well health and well-being of the students.

Greater Nanticoke School District

Goal: Implement their project priority statement, that "birth to grade 3 administrators, staff, teachers, and parents should collaborate in providing a learning environment and holistic instruction driven by attentiveness to all learning domains and developmental levels." Since their participation in the July 2015 Governor's Institute in Scranton, they held a professional development in-service on P-3 math for preschool through third grade teachers, began to utilize the KEI during the 2016-17 school year, and developed a P-3 Parent-Child newsletter brochure promoting family engagement specific to our community.

Pennridge School District

Goal: The P-3 team, "EXPANDING BRIDGES", is comprised of individuals from Bedminster Elementary School, Kiddie Academy of Plumsteadville (KAP), Northampton Community College (NCC-Training Entity), and A Parent's Hope (medical psychologist/counseling and consulting firm). Team membership includes administrators, teachers, and community members. The "EXPANDING BRIDGES" team is a continuation of the 2016 P-3 Governor's Institute team. The intention of the "EXPANDED BRIDGES" team is to facilitate a smooth transition from preschool to school-aged education programs. With the P-3 stipend, Pennridge will establish more community involvement to improve family engagement, engage pre-k and K-3 teachers in shared Professional Development, establish a common assessment tool, hold more consistent transition planning and more intentional vertical and horizontal collaboration between all pre-k and k-3 teachers.

Pottsgrove School District

Goal: The proposal aims to strengthen communication between a local elementary school and two child care providers within the local community by establishing meetings between the team members to implement curriculum alignment and parent involvement. Furthermore, meetings will focus on professional development that expands the team members' understanding of early childhood development and curriculum. The information gained and products developed from the meetings will be shared with community stakeholders at subsequent meetings.