

Males of Color Initiatives in America's Great City Schools: Expanding Pre-K

Follow Through on the Pledge: As of January 15, 2016

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS

Males of Color Initiatives in America's Great City Schools
By the
Council of the Great City Schools

City School System	Launched or Expanded Pre-K (1)
Anchorage	Actions on preschool will target students with highest needs, smaller class size, gender balance in programming, collaboration with Kids Corps/Head Start, and collaborating on kindergarten readiness with ARISE community coalitions.
Atlanta	Use state early learning standards to address social and emotional needs of pre-k students—and plan lessons around them.
Austin	Expanding birth to 3 partnership with AVANCE, Head Start.
Clark County (Las Vegas)	Pre-K provided to schools with high numbers of students of poverty and English Language Learners. These classes are capped at a ratio of 10 students to 1 adult.
Cleveland	Working to ensure that preschool efforts better serve Males of Color. Increase number of seats rated 3 stars by adding staff and forming partnerships.
Columbus	District offers 750 four year olds developmentally appropriate early childhood programs in 41 elementary schools aligned with the State Early Learning Content Standards taught by teachers with either pre-k certification or a master's degree in early childhood education. Program also provides family outreach, health and social services, and kindergarten transitions. Literacy data show participants need less intervention in kindergarten than non-participants.
Denver	Increase mill levy to expand full day ECE for all 4-year olds, and expand seats for 3-year olds in partnership with community providers targeting underserved areas. Partner with community to increase quality, establish standards and assessments, and increase resources for summer reading-loss programs, particularly for ELLs
District of Columbia	Established a three-school pilot program with professional development to support school readiness for Males of Color.

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Duval County	<p>Introduced Success by Six at two schools.</p> <p>Expanded access to three-year old programs in low-income areas from 800 to 1,450 students</p> <p>Partnered with Head Start in public schools.</p>
El Paso	<p>District will launch Pre-K center in August 2015.</p>
Fort Worth	<p>Began a Universal Pre-K program in 2014 and added 12 additional Pre-K classrooms in 2015.</p> <p>Pre-K enrollment available for all students in Fort Worth ISD.</p>
Hillsborough County	<p>District will monitor observation, assessment and evaluation data on pre-k and Head Start teachers to determine areas of strength and need.</p> <p>Correlate VPK assessment results with Kindergarten Readiness Assessment to determine impact of program.</p> <p>Evaluate effect of new pre-k and Head Start expansion into high-poverty schools.</p> <p>Monitor implementation of pre-k professional development during walk-throughs.</p>
Houston	<p>Will convene key stakeholders to agree on best practices for a continuum of care to facilitate whole child development to ensure school readiness.</p> <p>Develop evidence-based metrics to evaluate school readiness.</p> <p>Implement recognized standards to ensure the quality of childcare providers and teacher.</p> <p>Will expand the number of children participating in high-quality full-day pre-K programs.</p>
Louisville	<p>Continue CADRE menu of professional development of professional development geared toward the needs of “at promise” students.</p>

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Miami-Dade County	<p>Collaborate with community groups to provide curriculum support, training, and advice to early childhood providers on how to better serve Males of Color.</p> <p>Leverage the Teenage Parent Program to provide information on pre-school opportunities to better serve Males of Color.</p>
Milwaukee	<p>Providing vision screenings for kindergarten students and other elementary students with special health or education needs.</p> <p>Also partnering with Smart Smiles program to provide oral and dental health services to students.</p> <p>Expanding sports physicals, offering more health fairs, expanding wellness activities, and working with parents to coordinate health activities.</p>
Orange County	<p>Researched best practices in promoting academic success at pre-k level.</p> <p>Gathered best practices from most successful pre-k teachers.</p> <p>Discuss ways to better serve pre-k males of color</p> <p>Compiled academic and social development strategies and communications plan.</p> <p>Offered enhanced professional development for pre-k teachers.</p> <p>Monitored implementation, and tracked performance of pre-k males of color.</p>
Palm Beach County	<p>Partnership with Head Start to ensure that all students, particularly boys of color, have received quality pre-K preparation by providing professional development for Head Start teachers to ensure that the instruction is aligned with State Standards.</p>

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Portland	<p>Are creating early learning hubs in four targeted communities with partner agencies (including key culturally specific partners—Albina Head Start, Indian Education, Neighborhood House, Teen Parent Program, Oregon Community Foundation, Concordia University, Multnomah Education Service District, Native American Youth and Family Center, Home Forward, and Oregon Solutions).</p> <p>Expanded the number of children participating in full-day pre-k programs.</p> <p>Offering universal kindergarten for every five-year old at no cost—was grant funded previously.</p> <p>Gathered research on best practices in pre-k.</p> <p>Enhanced professional development for pre-k teachers, kindergarten teachers, and community providers.</p> <p>Expanded early kindergarten transitions.</p>
Providence	<p>Expand the number of pre-k seats for males of color by moving the early childhood program from Gregorian Elementary School to Asa Messer Elementary School.</p> <p>Work with state and city officials to expand the availability of pre-k opportunities.</p>
Rochester	<p>District currently offers universal pre-k for every four year old at no cost to families—was mostly half-day programming in previous years.</p>
Sacramento	<p>Expanded Transitional K program</p> <p>Implemented the First 5 Play is a FUNdamental play group program for infants and toddlers</p> <p>Opened 5 additional Early Head Start Infant/Toddler classrooms</p>
San Francisco	<p>Developed plan to enhance Tier 2 and Tier 3 Behavioral RTI supports for PK – 3rd grade students</p>
Toledo	<p>RttT, SIG, Academic Turnaround, EWS, Inclusion, gender-based k-12.</p>