



Investing in Quality Early Education for California's Children

Deborah Kong
President

March 9, 2016

Overview

1. Why Quality Early Ed?
2. Governor's Budget Proposal
3. The Opportunity



**Why do kids need
quality early
experiences?**

**The years before
kindergarten are a
unique window of
opportunity**

Providing Children with the Strong Foundation to Reach Their Full Potential



Children develop:

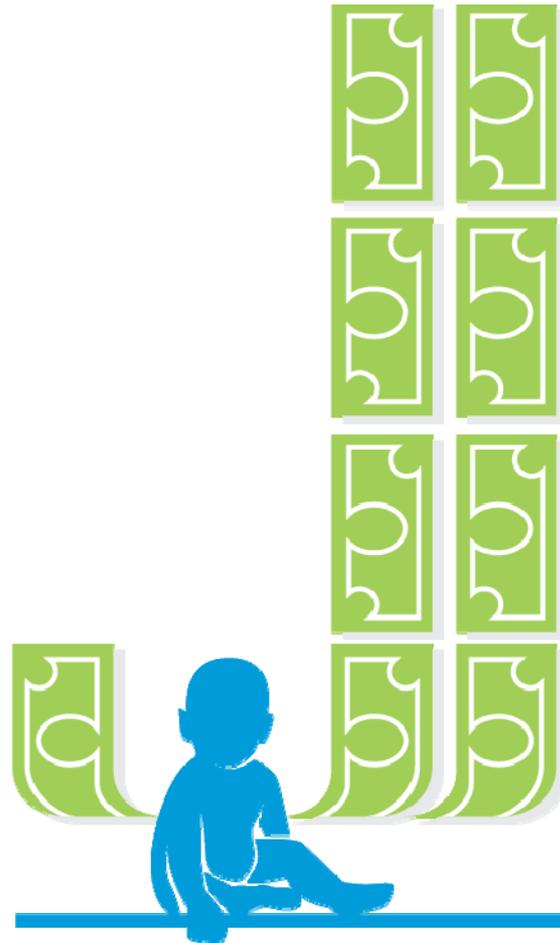
- Language, literacy and math skills
- Social/emotional and self-regulation skills needed to succeed
- Problem solving capacities

National Institute for Education Research

Preparing More Children for Kindergarten

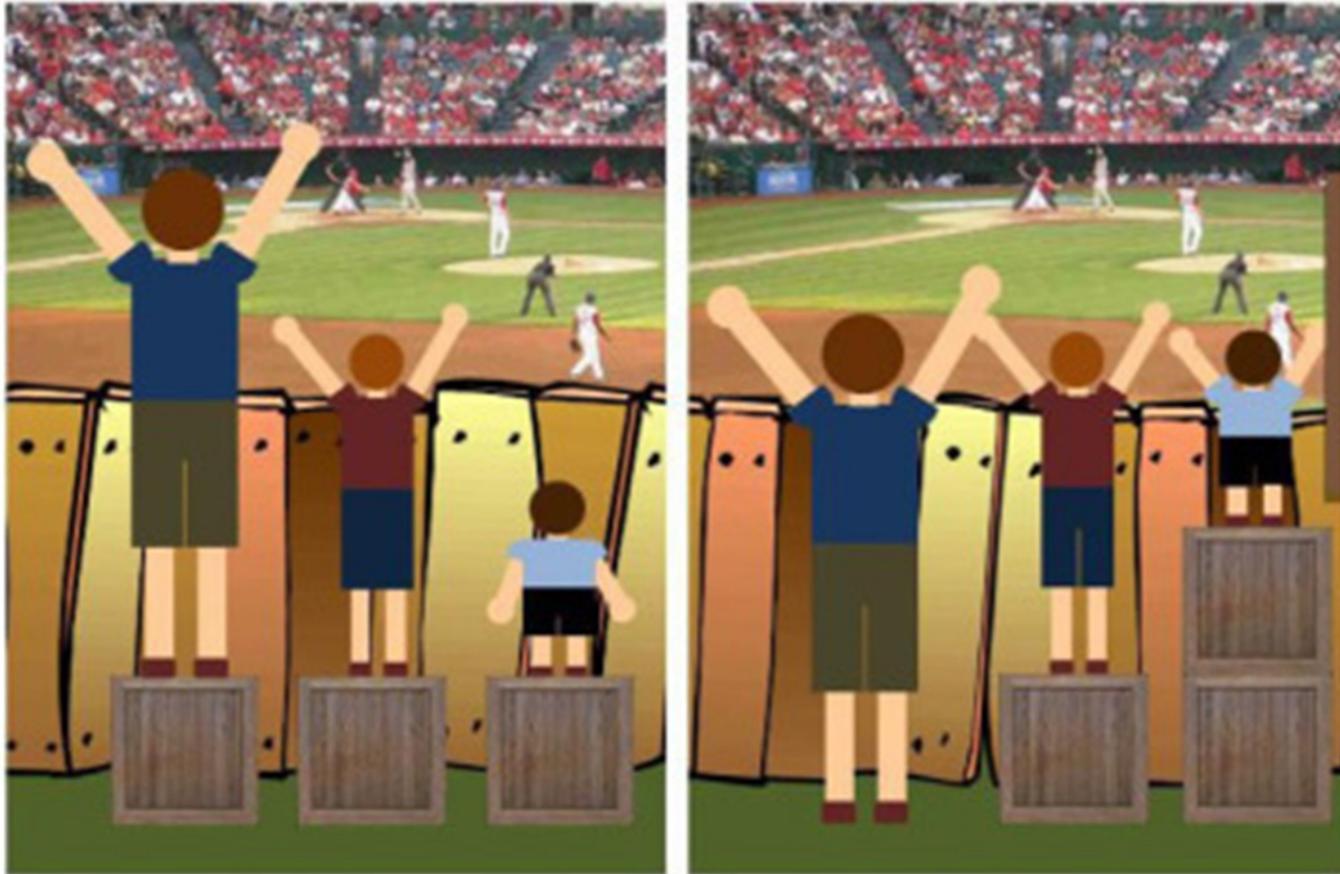


- AIR finds children in TK have as much as a five-month learning advantage in literacy skills, math skills, and executive function when they start kindergarten
- Yet more than 30,000 low-income 4 year olds and many more 3 year olds still do not have access to pre-k



**THERE IS A RETURN OF
\$8 FOR EVERY \$1
SPENT ON
EARLY EDUCATION.**

The Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality cites quality preschool as one of the most effective ways to reduce the achievement gap.





**What does
quality look like?**

Building Blocks of Quality

1. Comprehensive early learning standards and curricula
2. Appropriate child assessments
3. Professional knowledge and skill
4. Ongoing support for teachers
5. Support for diverse learners



Learning Policy Institute

Building Blocks of Quality

- 6. Meaningful family engagement
- 7. Sufficient time
- 8. Appropriate class size and teacher-student ratio
- 9. Comprehensive program assessments
- 10. Quality Rating and Improvement Systems



Learning Policy Institute

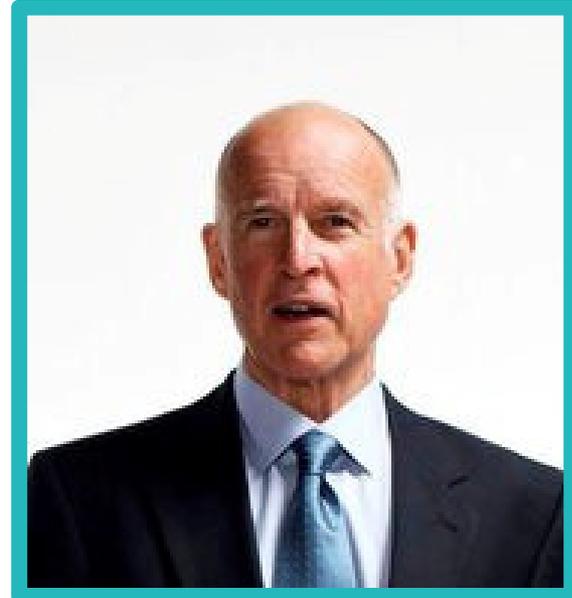


Gov. Brown's 2016-17 Early Education Budget Proposal

Governor's Block Grant Proposal

Proposed Block Grant:

- Combines TK, State Preschool, quality improvement funding
- Concepts of Local Control Funding Formula
- Removes TK entitlement
- Quality standards not specified



Governor's Block Grant Proposal: Many Questions Remain

- If ADA funding is severed from TK, what happens to children entitled to public school education?
- What quality standards will apply?
- What becomes of the state's commitment to provide preschool for all low-income 4-year-olds?
- What about community-based preschool providers?



Department of Finance Stakeholder Process: Next Meeting

Monday, March 14, 2016
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Fresno County Office of Education
Conference Room 101T
1111 Van Ness Avenue
Fresno, CA 93721

<http://fresno.k12oms.org/1139-110500>



The Opportunity



Thank You!

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