Preppy K – Our Journey
The correct people in the room:

– District leadership
– Principals
– Teachers
– Facilities
– Personnel
– Early childhood
– District childcare

Every journey begins with the first step.
Collaboration

• Kindergarten teachers
• Parent advisory committee
• Early learning program staff
• Teachers - monthly PLC meetings
Partnerships

• OCDE
• Children & Families Commission of OC
• Packard Foundation
• Early Edge/Preschool California
• Statewide Transitional Kindergarten PLC

FRIENDS
Program Decisions

- Developmentally appropriate
- Student centered
- Research-based
- "Hybrid" program
- Curriculum
- School sites
- Class size/model
Purpose of Preppy-K

- Build confidence
- Develop skills:
  - Social emotional
  - Fine/gross motor
  - Language / vocabulary
  - Problem solving
  - Reading/math readiness
- Provide an environment that ensures all students experience success
Signature Practices

- Teacher selection
- Special education
- No combination classes
- “Blocks” program
- Centers
- Consistent program
- Ongoing staff development
Curriculum Focus

- Social/emotional development
- Phonemic awareness
- Letter names and sounds
- Motor skills
- Handwriting
- Writing
- Oral language
- Listening skills
- Early number sense
Preppy-K
Through the years in PYLUSD...

2010-11 – Planning
2011-12 – 9 classes
2012-13 – 16 classes (2 SDC, 1 midyear*)
2013-14 – 17 classes (2 SDC, 2 midyear*)
2014-15 – 19 classes (2 SDC, 3 midyear*)
2015-16 – 27 classes (3 SDC, 1 Homeschool)
2016-17 – 30 classes (3 SDC, 1 Homeschool, 26 General Education)*

* Midyear – Opened in Dec or Jan
* Expanded – Students turning 5 after Dec 2 begin at start of year
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

• Priority Areas
  – Age eligibility
  – Income eligibility
  – Definition of “at-risk”
  – Teacher education and professional development
  – Curriculum
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

• Priority areas cont.
  – Class size
  – Environment and Facilities
  – Required Minutes/length of day
  – Distribution of future funding
  – Accountability
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

• Student Priority
  – All students

• Age Eligibility
  - Age 4-5 - Transitional Kindergarten
  - Age 3-4 State Preschool (low income)
  - Age 0-3 - Headstart & Early Headstart (low income)
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant cont.

• Income Eligibility
  – All students

  *TK is instrumental in meeting the social emotional development needs, language development needs and the academic needs of students from all income levels.*
“At Risk”

Students who need to grow in any of several domains; social emotional, language and literacy, English language development, mathematics, physical development (fine and gross motor)
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant cont.

- Teacher Education & Professional Development
  - TK – Fully credentialed elementary teacher with 24 units of early childhood or equivalent
  - State Preschool lead teacher
    AA degree with 24 units of early childhood or 60 education units (6 admin units, 2 adult supervisor units, and a site supervisor permit)

These requirements provide for high quality **within** the classroom.
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

• Curriculum
  – All programs must provide developmentally appropriate curriculum
  – Aligned to Preschool Learning Foundations and Curriculum Frameworks
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

• Required Minutes/length of day
  – Full day or half day – local decision
  – Coordination of services to best meet the needs of students and families
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

- Distribution of future funding
  - Fully fund early childhood programs
  - Continue to provide ADA for TK to protect the program from economic downturns
  - Provide full ADA for expanded TK
  - Increase amount allocated for State Preschool
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

- Accountability
- American Institute for Research

*Impact of California’s Transitional Kindergarten Program 2013-14*

- *TK improves pre-literacy and literacy skills*
- *TK improves students’ mathematical knowledge and problem solving skills*
- *TK supports children’s behavioral self-regulation*
Governor’s Proposed Early Education Block Grant

- **Local PYLUSD data**
  - *Students that attended TK scored from 6 to 8 months ahead of the group “all kindergartners”*
  - *Maintained lead in 1st and 2nd grades by a smaller margin*

- *(Kdg – DIBELS Next PSF, 1st and 2nd DIBELS Next DORF)*
Transitional Kindergarten is a WIN…WIN…WIN…WIN…WIN…WIN…

WIN for the children…WIN for the teachers…

WIN for the families … WIN for the districts…
The journey continues…

Dorie Staack dstaack@pylusd.org 714-985-8654