

**The Early Learning Partnership Resolution**  
**Between**  
**The Washington State Department of Early Learning**  
**And**  
**The Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction**  
**And**  
**Thrive By Five Washington, the Early Learning Fund**

**Whereas,** The Washington State Department of Early Learning, Thrive by Five Washington, the Early Learning Fund and the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction are delighted to collaborate on behalf of all young children and families in Washington State; and

**Whereas,** we commit to jointly support the development of high quality, aligned early care and education programs that respect and reflect the rich diversity of children and families throughout our state; and

**Whereas,** at the heart of our shared efforts is our understanding that “school readiness” encompasses four concepts:

Ready Children + Ready Schools + Ready Parents and Families +  
Ready Communities

**Ready children** are healthy and socially, emotionally, and cognitively prepared for success in school and life;

**Ready schools** are prepared to meet the individual needs of the diverse children who enter kindergarten;

**Ready parents and families** have the information and resources needed to be their children’s first and most important teachers;

**Ready early learning professionals and communities** have the information and resources needed to support parents, children and schools; and

**Whereas,** The Department of Early Learning, Thrive by Five Washington, and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction are committed to working together to create an environment in Washington State in which there are ready children, ready schools, ready parents and families, and ready communities, and

**Whereas** we agree that by working collaboratively together, every child in Washington may reach her full potential and will have the best opportunity to succeed in school and life.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved,** that the Leadership of The Early Learning Partnership has identified the following five priority areas on which to focus:

- Early Learning and Developmental Benchmarks;
- Early Learning Professional Development System;
- Information Technology System, Data and Resource Mapping;
- Kindergarten Assessment Process; and
- Early Literacy Development; and

**Be It Further Resolved,** that the Department of Early Learning will take lead responsibility for Early Learning and Developmental Benchmarks; Early Learning Professional Development System Mapping; Information Technology System, Data and Resource Mapping; and,

**Be It Further Resolved,** that the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction will take lead responsibility for implementation of a Kindergarten Assessment Process; and,

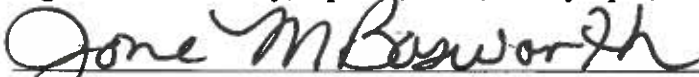
**Be It Further Resolved,** that Thrive By Five Washington will take lead responsibility for Early Literacy Development, and Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Companions to the Early Learning and Developmental Benchmarks; and

**Be It Further Resolved,** that each organization considers “lead responsibility” to mean convening interested parties, including but not limited to parents, early learning and K-12 professionals, and the primary responsibility for document production; and,

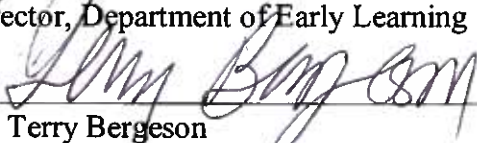
**Be It Further Resolved,** that while an organizational lead for each of the priority areas is now identified, the Leadership of The Early Learning Partnership agrees to meet quarterly to assess the progress in each of the priority areas; and

**Be It Finally Resolved,** that each organization will provide input, support, and actively participate with the others on each priority area to ensure the advancement of a seamless, learner-focused, world-class early childhood education system in Washington State.

**Signed now this day, April 8, 2008, in Olympia, Washington ...**



Jone M. Bosworth, JD  
Director, Department of Early Learning



Dr. Terry Bergeson  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction



Dr. Graciela Italiano-Thomas  
President, Thrive by Five Washington