



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Kids' Potential, Our Purpose.

“Every day, we are honored to take action that inspires the world to discover, love and nurture the greatness in all children.”

DEL Update
to the
Early Learning Advisory Council

January 30, 2008

Jone M. Bosworth, JD
Director



DEL Legislative Update

- ▣ Supplemental budget request
 - ▣ Improving child care safety
 - ▣ Federal audit requirement
 - ▣ Central service agency charges
 - ▣ Transfer program funding



DEL Legislative Update (cont'd)

HB 2597 – Kindergarten readiness assessment

- △ Requires DEL and OSPI to develop single kindergarten readiness assessment in collaboration with Thrive by Five.
- △ Report by October 15, 2009:
 - ⊙ Recommendations on assessment tool
 - ⊙ Reporting system
 - ⊙ Professional development plan
 - ⊙ Communication plan to parents and early learning providers
 - ⊙ All public schools would use beginning in 2010-2011 school year

HB 3168 – Creation of Washington Head Start program

- △ Study to align state-funded preschool with federal Head Start standards and expand to birth to 3 by 2010.
- △ Requires DEL to submit plan by December 1, 2008, on study results and implementation plan.



DEL Legislative Update (cont'd)

- ▣ **HB 2449 – Child Care Center Directors and Workers Collective Bargaining**
 - ▢ Professional development and training
 - ▢ Access to health care and other benefits
 - ▢ Compensation
 - ▢ Other supports
 - ▢ Grievances



DEL Legislative Update (cont'd)

▣ Other legislation:

- ▣ **SB 6813** – Roving early learning intervention specialist in Pierce County to support and report by August 1, 2009
- ▣ **SB 6661** – Child care licensing actions
- ▣ **SB 6444** – Children's product safety

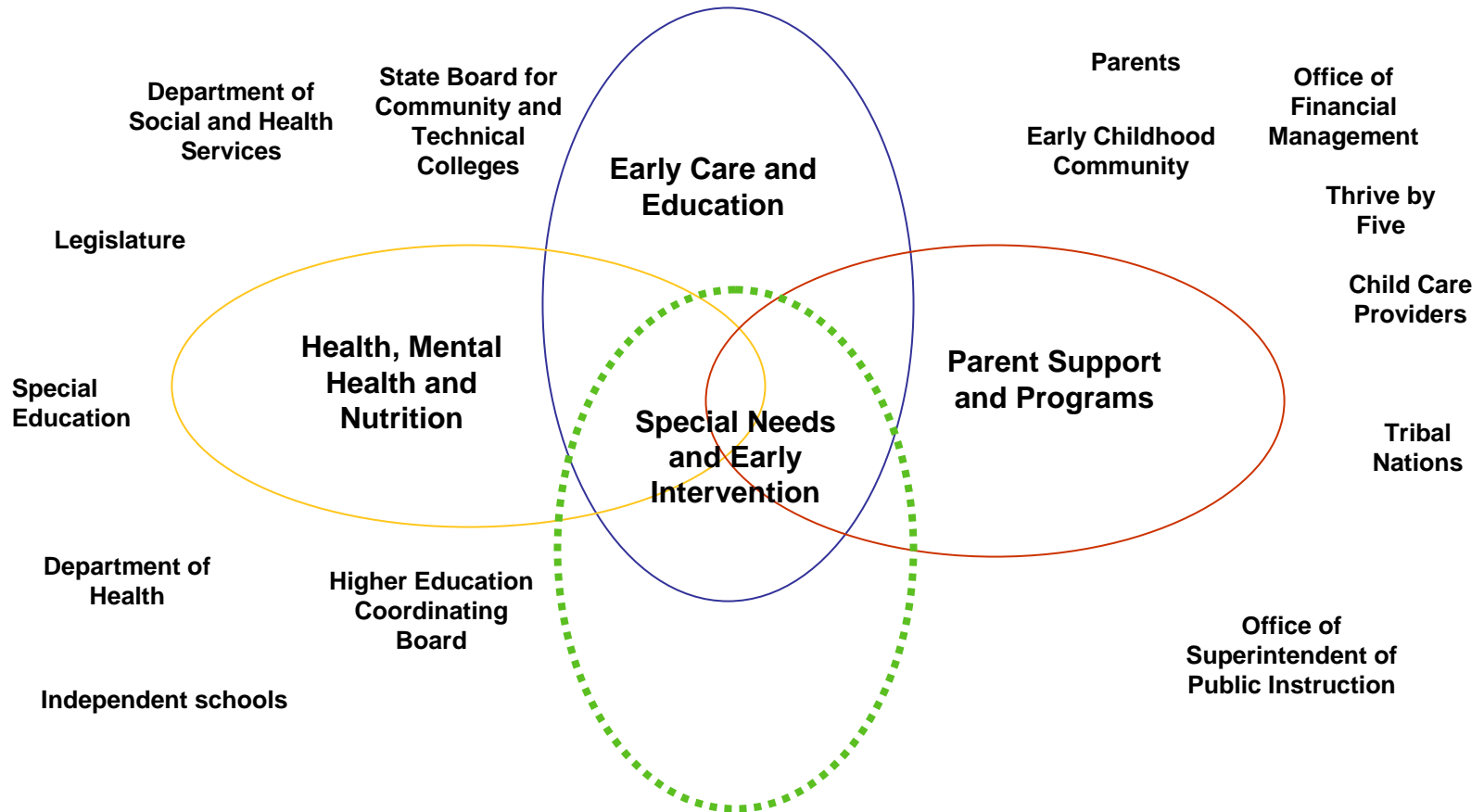


Major reports and studies

- ▣ RCW 43.215.080 – Reports to the Governor and Legislature
 - ▣ “Two years after the implementation of the department’s early learning program, and every two years thereafter by July 1, the department shall submit to the governor and the Legislature a report measuring the effectiveness of its programs in improving early childhood education. The first report shall include program objectives and identified valid performance measures for evaluating progress toward achieving the objectives, as well as a plan for commissioning a longitudinal study comparing the kindergarten readiness of children participating in the department’s programs with the readiness of other children, using nationally accepted testing and assessment methods. Such comparison shall include, but not be limited to, achievement as children of both groups progress through the K-12 system and identify year-to-year changes in achievement, if any in later years of elementary, middle school and high school education.”
- ▣ Others



Statewide early learning system





Mission and Vision

Together, with parents and partners, we offer children world-class learning opportunities so they realize their full potential.

Every day we are honored to take action that inspires the world to discover, love and nurture the greatness in all children.

**Build Public Awareness
and Will to Act**

**Build a Comprehensive
Early Learning System**

**Strengthen Dialogue with
Parents and Caregivers**

**Build Organizational
Excellence**

Build Public Awareness and Will to Act

▣ Challenges:

- ▣ Internal/external communications
- ▣ Web site navigation and content
- ▣ Baseline state-generated data to guide DEL in targeting resources
- ▣ Materials to communicate importance of early learning and DEL's mission

Build Public Awareness and Will to Act

☐ Opportunities:

- ☐ New Web site – launched end of March
- ☐ Parent needs and desires assessment
- ☐ Public awareness poll and campaign



How can you help?

- ❑ Web site redesign input
- ❑ Parent Needs and Desires Assessment results
- ❑ Public awareness campaign