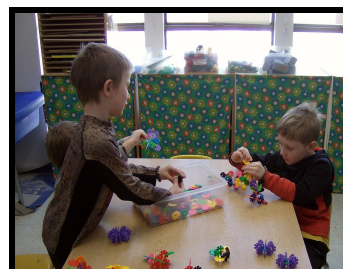

Basin Early Childhood Collaborative Strategic Plan

10.30.2020

Basin School District

100 Centerville Road

Boise, ID 83631





Mission

The mission of Basin Early Childhood Collaborative is to expand the capacity of families, public/private agencies, and the larger community to provide children, ages birth through five, with equitable access to the early childhood supports they need to thrive.

Vision


Every child in East Boise County, from birth through age five, will have equitable access to quality early childhood learning opportunities that will support healthy development and school readiness.

Overview

The Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (AEYC) has been awarded a federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) to support and enhance early childhood systems. Basin School District was then selected by the Idaho AEYC to conduct a local needs assessment for our community and develop a strategic plan which would address the identified needs. Through this grant, the state is analyzing and building upon current systems to maximize parental choice, share best practices, and improve program quality with the goal of enhancing early learning systems statewide to improve literacy outcomes. As part of the PDG B-5 grant, Idaho AEYC is working to accelerate the efforts of local collaboratives, bring together important local stakeholders, and assess early learning systems, resources, and opportunities for families with young children (ages birth through five) in their communities.

Basin School District is the fiscal agent for the PDG B-5 grant and has established an advisory committee composed of several key stakeholders including school administrators, school early childhood educators, Boise County Community Justice, Boise Basin Library, and local daycare providers. The advisory committee is working closely with other community groups and stakeholders to complete the needs assessment and develop the East Boise County strategic plan.

The Basin Advisory Committee has analyzed services that use a mixed delivery system—a system of early childhood care and education services that are delivered through a combination of programs, providers, and settings, such as licensed family and center-based child care programs, public schools, and other community-based



organizations. This process began in May 2020 with assistance, support, and guidance from Idaho AEYC and ACS.

The data collected through the needs assessment process will be compiled at the state level. It has also been used to develop local and state-level strategic plans for phase two of the grant.

Governance Structure

Committee members that would represent key organizations and community support systems were selected to be on the advisory committee. The following were committee members.

Jamie Pilkerton, Basin Elementary Principal and Lead Project Manager

Cynthia Gilbert, Basin Elementary Kindergarten Teacher

Stacey Hofer, Basin Elementary Preschool Lead Teacher

Sarah Nelson, Basin Elementary Preschool Educator


Amanda Leader, Boise County Community Justice Director

Marcy Moore, Boise Basin Librarian

The committee met virtually four times from June through August to discuss possible community needs, to develop the survey, and to analyze the findings. As the committee analyzed the survey results and the other data collected, needs statements were developed. From the needs statements, the committee developed the Basin Early Childhood Strategic Plan.

Needs Statements from the Needs Assessment - [Basin Collaborative Needs Assessment](#)

- Based on the rural status of our district/area, many families do not know about or know how to access community resources in our area (childcare, preschool, medical, WIC, child development resources). We need a resource directory as well as a way to distribute this information to families.

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- Since East Boise County does not have a licensed childcare center or a licensed in-home daycare, parents need childcare services and options that are offered locally.
 - Based on our poverty and ALICE Data, many families are not able to afford quality childcare. We need childcare programs that offer ICCP programming to assist families that live below the ALICE or poverty threshold.
 - Early childhood education plays a crucial role in preparing children for kindergarten and beyond. Without high-quality childcare and preschool education, many of the East Boise County children would not have access to reading materials and resources within their own homes. We need a high-quality child care center and programming for families.
 - While preschool services are offered to four-year-olds in the Basin School District, there is a need for three-year-old services as well as other enrichment learning opportunities and support.
 - There is a need to have parent and community involvement in developing parent workshops/classes and community-based programs for children ages 0 - 5.

Overview of Goals

1. Increase community awareness of resources, information and opportunities to access high-quality early childhood services, childcare, and education for children ages 0 - 5 years old.
2. Expand equitable access to high-quality early learning opportunities in the Basin School District.
3. Increase community and family awareness of how to support children ages 0 - 5 years old in achieving kindergarten readiness.
4. Identify and secure ongoing funding opportunities to support early childhood programming.

Action Plan Specificity: Goals, Strategies and Tasks

Goal 1: Increase community awareness of resources, information and opportunities to access high-quality early childhood services, childcare, and education for children ages 0 - 5 years old.

Goal 1 Strategy 1: Develop and publish a quarterly early childhood newsletter.		
Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Develop a quarterly newsletter with information on two of these topics per quarter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well Baby Check - Physician Information Speech and Language Development Occupational Therapy Developmental Stages Social Skill Development 	Community and Family Outreach Coordinator	Fall of 2021
Publish newsletter to the Basin Website, Idaho World Newspaper, Boise Basin Library, social media accounts (Basin Elementary, PTA, paid sponsorship), and school newsletters.	Community and Family Outreach Coordinator	Fall of 2021
Annually, research additional areas/businesses to distribute the newsletter and update the distribution list.	Community and Family Outreach Coordinator	Annually each August

Goal 1 Strategy 2: Develop and publish a directory of early childhood services and programs that will be updated monthly.		
Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Develop a Google site and/or Facebook page that would serve as a directory for early childhood information and be linked to school and community websites.	Community and Family Outreach Coordinator	Fall of 2021
Research existing early childhood resources and websites to link to the Early Childhood Directory.	Community and Family Outreach Coordinator	January 2021 - August 2021
Gather information on services and resources to include on the website/directory (WIC, HW Infant Toddler Program, GV Health Clinic, Basin Preschool, etc.).	Community and Family Outreach Coordinator	January 2021 - August 2021 and then annually each August
Recruit and hire a manager of the directory who would update and manage the page/site.	Community and Family Outreach Coordinator	April of 2021

Goal 2: Expand equitable access to high-quality early learning opportunities in the Basin School District.

Goal 2 Strategy 1: Develop and open a licensed community daycare within the Basin early childhood programs.		
Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Obtain school board approval for daycare expansion.	Jamie Pilkerton	November 2020
Apply for Idaho STARS licensing specific to the daycare (inspections, procedures, and protocols).	Jamie Pilkerton	January 2020
Train and hire daycare staff (background checks, CPR, curriculum, etc.).	Jamie Pilkerton	December 2020 - June 2021
Open daycare to the public with a capacity of 6 - 8 children.	Jamie Pilkerton	June 2021
Offer a full range of age group services and increase daycare capacity to 15 children.	Jamie Pilkerton and Daycare Lead Teacher	Fall 2022
Increase daycare hours to include opening at 7:00 AM and including after school care until 6:00 p.m.	Jamie Pilkerton	Fall of 2021
Obtain full state licensing.	Jamie Pilkerton and Daycare Lead Teacher	June of 2021

Goal 2 Strategy 2: Assist the Basin early childhood learning center in obtaining licensing for ICCP funding to assist families that live below the ALICE or poverty threshold.		
Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Research what upgrades and changes will be necessary to be compliant for ICCP programming.	Jamie Pilkerton and Daycare Lead Teacher	May 2021
Apply for ICCP licensing and funding.	Jamie Pilkerton	March 2021
Distribute information to parents regarding ICCP programming.	Jamie Pilkerton	May 2021

Goal 2 Strategy 3: Provide daycare staff with training on child development, safety and wellness protocols, nutrition, behavioral management, curriculum and activities.

Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Provide training on basic child development stages.	Cynthia Gilbert	January 2021 - ongoing
Provide training on safety and wellness procedures and protocols for home and school including signs and symptoms of abuse, abandonment, and neglect.	Cynthia Gilbert and Sarah Nelson	Annually and Ongoing
Provide training on child nutrition including healthy meals and snacks.	TBD	Fall 2021 Annually
Provide training on behavioral management.	TBD	Fall 2021 Annually
Provide training on effective curriculum and activities to use with children ages 0-5 years old.	Jamie Pilkerton	Annually

Goal 2 Strategy 4: Expand preschool services to include three year old programming.

Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Determine the capacity we have to offer a three-year-old program.	Stacy Hofer and Jamie Pilkerton	February 2021
Determine staffing needs for expansion.	Jamie Pilkerton	March 2021
Research best practices for a three-year old specific preschool program.	Jamie Pilkerton and Stacey Hofer	March 2021
Implement a small scale or introductory, three-year old program for five to seven students.	Jamie Pilkerton and Stacey Hofer	Fall 2021
Within three years, increase capacity for a comprehensive three-year old program with up to 13 students.	Jamie Pilkerton	Fall 2021

Goal 3: Increase community and family awareness of how to support children ages 0 -5 years old in achieving kindergarten readiness.

Goal 3 Strategy 1: Provide ongoing and regular trainings for community daycare providers including in-home and center daycare teachers.

Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Through the early childhood directory page, provide information	Community and	Beginning in Fall of

and educate in-home providers about ongoing training opportunities/availability.	Family Coordinator	2021
Develop an annual training program sponsored by Basin School District which will include 4 trainings on child development, safety, wellness and nutrition, behavior management and curriculum and activities.	Community and Family Coordinator	Beginning in Fall of 2021
Establish a local collaborative early childhood group and encourage community childcare providers to participate in quarterly meetings where they can share resources, training and ideas as they learn from each other.	Community and Family Coordinator	Beginning in Fall of 2021

Goal 3 Strategy 2: Establish a parent outreach program with a variety of regular and ongoing trainings/workshops.		
Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Explore the option of a new baby welcome packet that can be distributed to families after the birth of the child which will include information on child development, local resources available and new baby swag. Include information on partners such as faith-based organizations, community groups and local agencies that will help fund and distribute welcome packets.	Amanda Leader	1 year
Implement new baby welcome packets that are distributed through the Basin Community Schools Wellness Center.	Amanda Leader and possible Community Schools Coordinator	2 years
Implement the Ready for Kindergarten! Program for Parents.	Sarah Nelson and Stacey Hofer	January 2021
Provide regular parenting classes annually (Love and Logic, Strengthening Families or Parenting with Love and Limits).	TBD	Fall 2022
Research parent outreach programs such as Parents as Teachers that could support at-home learning.	TBD	June 2021
Implement three family night events each school year (blockfest, family reading night, cooking classes).	Community and Family Coordinator	Begin in Fall of 2021
Recruit and hire a parent outreach information and activities coordinator.	Jamie Pilkerton	April 2021

Goal 4: Identify and secure ongoing funding opportunities to support early childhood programming.

Goal 4 Strategy 1: Secure ongoing funding for both 3 and 4 year old preschool programs.		
Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Research how preschool programs are securing ongoing funding.	Jamie Pilkerton and Cynthia Gilbert	January 2021
Gather data on positive impacts of preschool on child development and student achievement which can be used for grants and funding sources.	Jamie Pilkerton and Cynthia Gilbert	Begin May 2021-ongoing
Develop a sustainable funding plan which includes district funding, grants, tuition and scholarship funds.	Jamie Pilkerton	Fall 2022
Explore the option of setting up a preschool foundation which could help with fundraising, scholarships and tax deductions for donors.	Jamie Pilkerton	Fall 2022
Develop a scholarship fund (possibly through a foundation) for preschool tuition and recruit donors through informational fliers explaining the benefits for students as well as tax deductions for the donors.	Jamie Pilkerton	Fall 2022
Research whether ICCP funding could be used to assist with preschool tuition.	Cynthia Gilbert and Jamie Pilkerton	Fall 2021
Determine how to secure funding for a three-year old program (see funding strategies in Strategy 1).	Jamie Pilkerton	March 2022

Goal 4 Strategy 2: Secure funding for community and family awareness and outreach programming.		
Action/Task	Lead	Timeline
Explore options for advertising on the community resource directory page.	TBD	June 2021
Secure funding for the Community and Family Outreach Coordinator position.	Jamie Pilkerton	September 2021
Explore grants for parent workshops and family events.	Jamie Pilkerton	March 2021



Communication, Transparency, and Implementation

I. Basin Early Childhood Collaborative Strategic Planning

- A. Strategic Plan will be reviewed and updated quarterly by the Collaborative Committee.
- B. A working copy of the plan will be regularly updated by committee members as they further develop and make progress toward goals and tasks.
- C. Committee members will regularly communicate with each other between quarterly meetings to give formal updates on the assigned tasks and progress towards goals.
- D. Quarterly meeting notes will be provided to stakeholders.