



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

May 28, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Presentation on Office of Great Start Report

Executive Order 2011-8 created the Office of Great Start (OGS) within the Michigan Department of Education. The OGS is charged with leading efforts to coordinate and integrate Michigan's investment in children from birth through age 8 including prenatal. The Executive Order also identified four early childhood outcomes:

1. Children are born healthy.
2. Children are healthy, thriving, and developmentally on track from birth to third grade.
3. Children are developmentally ready to succeed in school at time of school entry.
4. Children are prepared to succeed in fourth grade and beyond by reading proficiently by the end of third grade.

As required under section 1002 of Public Act 200 of 2012, the Michigan Department of Education Office of Great Start was charged to create a comprehensive state plan for early childhood learning and development. The legislature detailed several requirements that this report must fulfill, including specific fiscal components and an early childhood systems analysis. The legislature also directed OGS to include performance metrics that should be used to measure progress toward achieving early childhood learning and development outcomes.

The Office of Great Start through funding from the Kresge Foundation engaged Public Sector Consultants and the Citizens Research Council to carry out the necessary work to complete the report. The result of this work is a state plan that was developed in collaboration with the Department of Community Health, Department of Human Services, the Early Childhood Investment Corporation and community stakeholder input.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT
DANIEL VARNER – SECRETARY • RICHARD ZEILE – TREASURER
MICHELLE FECTEAU – NASBE DELEGATE • LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY
KATHLEEN N. STRAUS • EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

The recommendations included in this report are informed by 48 interviews with policymakers, service providers, and advocates at the state and local levels; three focus groups with parents of young children; and nearly 1,300 online survey responses from early childhood educators, administrators, service providers, and parents and grandparents of young children.

[Attachment A](#), *Great Start, Great Investment, Great Future*, is the final report including the executive summary, analysis of the current system, current investments in early childhood, the stakeholder feedback summary, and the vision and recommendations for achieving early childhood in Michigan.

[Attachment B](#), *Appendix I*, is the first appendix to the final report including an early childhood program inventory summarizing 89 programs and services by ages served, eligibility criteria, type of program or service, and state or federal funds invested.

[Attachment C](#), *Appendices*, is the remaining appendix items to the final report including the fiscal map, key informant interview summary, parent focus group summary, stakeholder survey summary, Michigan's early childhood dashboard, and difficult questions of PA 200 of 2012 report requirements.