



PreK to 3 Design Team



Presentation to Minnesota's Future
Erin Gavin, McKnight Foundation
February 7, 2016

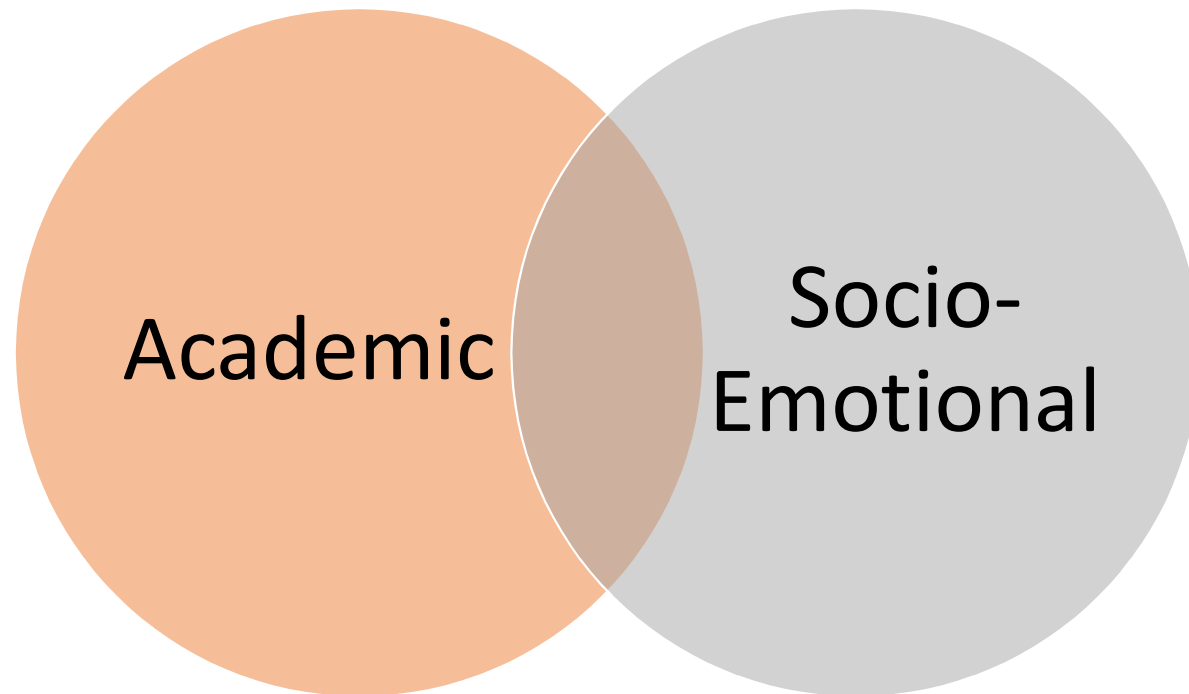


PreK to 3 Design Team – Quick History

- Group of folks interested in early childhood, including some from Minnesota's Future, began meeting in 2013.
- Professional facilitation added in June of 2014. Support provided by the McKnight Foundation and the West Central Initiative Foundation
- Dubbed themselves the PreK to 3 Design Team (P3 Design Team)

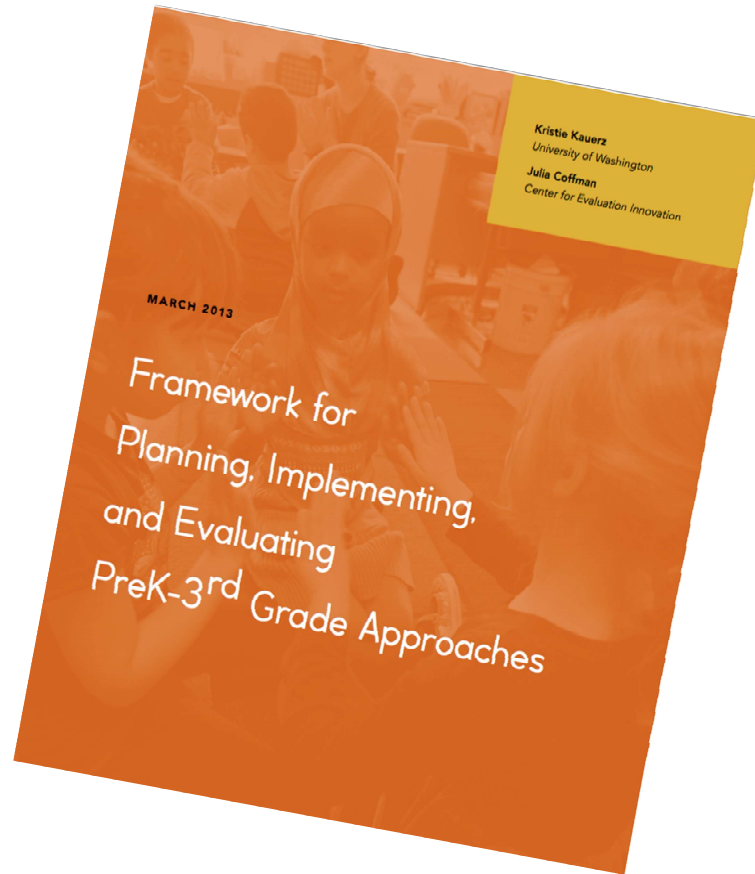


Vision for PreK Work



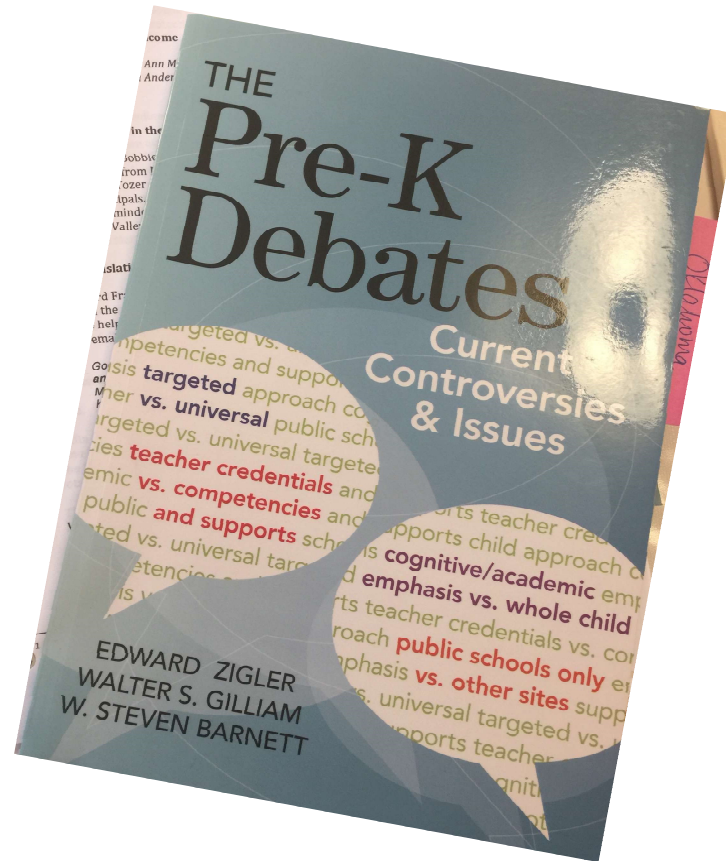


Year One



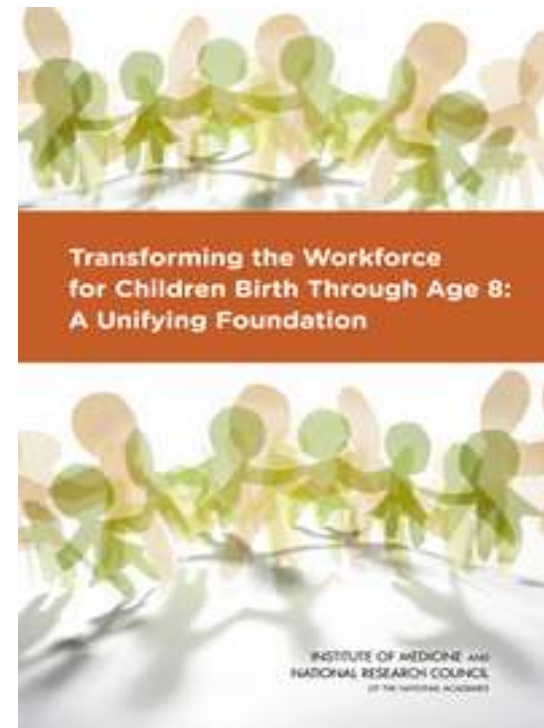
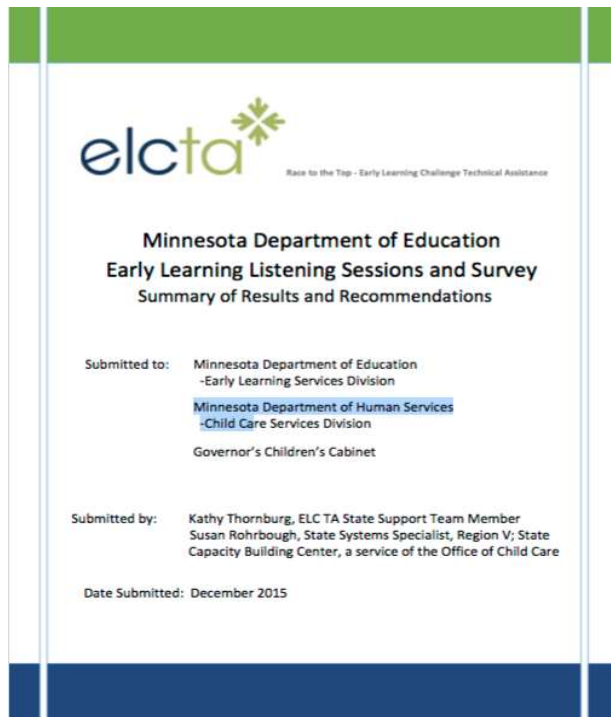


Year Two





Also in Year Two





Moving to Mixed-Delivery, Voluntary Preschool for Four Year Olds: An Approach for Minnesota





Recommendations Re Access

- Voluntary
- Phase-in access – start with 185% of poverty
- Targeted Universalism
- Local approach
- Birth to 3 matters



Recommendations re Quality

Some of the recommended key quality criteria are embedded in Parent Aware and some push beyond current standards:

- Learning Environment
- Cultural Awareness and Responsiveness
- Alignment, Inclusion and Support



Recommendations re Setting/Location

- Quality is more important than setting
- Families need, want and deserve choice
- Local communities should design solutions for their circumstances
- Mixed-delivery



Recommendation re Workforce

- Teacher effectiveness is key
- Need to diversify and support the workforce; geographically, economically and racially
- State should commit to *transforming the workforce*
- **NOT ready to require a BA credential**



Recommendations re Teacher Credentials

- Early childhood educators should be provided with **meaningful, affordable and accessible opportunities** to increase their formal education, including a content specific BA
- Because of concerns about the lack of systemic and cultural equity and a shifting political landscape, **we no longer recommend requiring a BA within 10 years**
- It is critical that we create pathways towards a BA, but we cannot require them until we have addressed the following:
 - Attention to issues of systemic bias and racism
 - Support to retain and grow current workforce particularly providers of color
 - Cost of obtaining a BA
 - Access to higher ed programs in all areas of the state
 - Alternative pathways




Recommendations re Infrastructure and Local Collaborative Hubs

- Better outcomes for children can be obtained by combining expertise, planning and resources to create high quality mixed-delivery systems
- We envision a local collaborative or hub where there is real shared decision making and implementation. This allows:
 - Mix of stakeholders
 - Sharing of resources
 - Parent voice and participation
 - Voices of those not always at the table – community providers, providers of color
 - Joint advocacy
 - Natural move toward a PreK to 3 approach



Next Steps – Year Three

- Continuing to provide advice to state agencies as requested
- Continuing as a learning community
- Diving into workforce issues – along with others!
- National Academies work focus areas:
 - Creating Pathways to a BA
 - Opportunities for student teaching and support for new teachers
 - Higher education issues – programs, access, pathways
 - All with commitment to equity in educational outcomes



The report will be available at
West Central Initiative's
web page at prek3.wcif.org



Questions? Contact Nancy Jost at
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