



**The 2016-17 Preschool Promise Demonstration Year is coming to a close, and we're gearing up for our first year of offering the Preschool Promise in every Dayton neighborhood.**

We touched 800 Preschoolers this year, and we're projecting that number will increase to more than 1,200 children this coming year! Preschool Promise is "growing up" as quickly as our kids!

## How we're doing on the 3 pillars of the Preschool Promise

### EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY:

- We've created an 8-person Preschool Promise "street team" to spread the word about Preschool Promise.
- The "street team" has canvassed more than 36 locations and attended 50 neighborhood meetings, civic gatherings and events.
- The "street team" is at the Job Center weekly to recruit families and has begun visiting community health centers regularly.
- The team is building relationships with Preschool Promise providers, giving them important information they need to recruit families.
- We've helped organize multiple Open Houses at Preschool Promise providers.
- We've contracted with The Ohlmann Group to spread the Preschool Promise message on targeted radio stations, in digital ads and using billboards.
- Our ads on Greater Dayton RTA buses are "airing" as the buses pass Preschool Promise provider locations.
- We have nearly 600 followers on Facebook.

### EXPANDING QUALITY:

- Altogether, teachers at Preschool Promise sites received more than 2,000 hours of hands-on, individualized professional coaching in their classrooms.
- 50 providers from across Montgomery County have been trained in "Conscious Discipline," a highly effective classroom behavior management strategy.

- 15 providers have been trained on implementing a quality curriculum.
- 4 Preschool Promise providers have earned their first Star Rating under Ohio's voluntary Step Up to Quality initiative.
- 2 additional Preschool Promise providers are applying for their Star Rating this summer.
- Over 70 sites are signed up to participate in the 2017-18 school year (an increase from 35 sites in the 2016-17 school year.)

### What our community is saying

"My coach has changed my whole outlook on things. She holds me accountable. I love her."

— Preschool Promise teacher

"Going into kindergarten my son is not going to be one of the kids who doesn't know what's going on and has to have extra help or a tutor."

— Mom of Preschool Promise child

"I'm very excited about the changes I'm seeing. They (children who have attended a Preschool Promise program) have those pre-reading, pre-writing and pre-math skills. They're confident, and that confidence opens the door for them to learn more."

— Kindergarten teacher

"It's only natural that if these kids are coming from great Preschools, they're going to have to go to great Kindergartens. It (Preschool Promise) is only going to force our schools to do better."

— Preschool Promise Parent Advisory Board member

**ASSISTING FAMILIES:**

We launched a **Star Attendance Program**, offering our Dayton families \$25 for each month their child has a 90% or better attendance rate for the 2017-18 school year.

We've created new resources to explain **Preschool Promise to families**, including a fun 2-minute "Why and how to sign up" video.

Our 18-member **Parent Advisory Board** continues to meet monthly to ensure our policies and practices support families.

**WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:**

**We have to improve children's attendance at Preschool.** To get the most out of Preschool, children need to attend every day and on time. Many families don't think Preschool is "real school." If we instill good attendance habits early, children will be more likely to have strong attendance in Kindergarten and beyond.

**Educating administrators and teachers about how families will benefit from Preschool Promise is paramount.** They're in constant contact with families, and they are important recruiters for us. Getting the word out to them is labor-intensive.

**Our work to improve quality is working.** Teachers are raving about the free coaching and professional development they're receiving.

**Preschool Promise providers are energized and feeling supported in ways they never have before.** The community's recognition of their role in getting children ready for Kindergarten is elevating them and their work.



**Thank you  
for your generous support  
of the Preschool Promise!**