

*[Public Pre-K Programs](http://content/2007-winter-leadership-session-04.pdf) Leadership Conference Feedback
Results*

Title: Preschool Special Education

1. What are some strengths and positive points made in this session?
 - Information on the federal indicators was clarifying
 - Strengthening communication and data collection across the state allows us to move forward
 - Information about State plans to address federal indicators was clarifying
 - Systems for data collection will be improved
 - Facts/best practice information related to Child Outreach was helpful
 - Work on Child Outreach and indicators has been collaborative
 - Assessment system selected by State is aligned with RI Early Learning Standards and is developmentally appropriate
 - State guidance for communities regarding best practice in Child Outreach; manual to be released soon
 - State provided funds for hearing screening equipment to ensure every community had access to appropriate equipment
 - The improvement process involves setting targets and working toward compliance
 - Future professional development to correspond with identified needs will be provided
 - Efforts to ensure consistency and standards from district to district
 - Honest information about data collection efforts
2. What are some challenges, concerns, or questions remaining for you on this session topic?
 - Ensuring that data accurately reflects practice
 - Need more information about RTI at the preschool level
 - Practical/logistical concerns about how to meet federal and state mandates
 - How to improve kindergarten screening practices
 - How can districts consistently demonstrate improvement related to social-emotional development
 - What are State plans for 2007-2008 regarding outcomes indicator
 - Should there be an Early Childhood Coordinator in each district?
 - Data should be made available on RIDE's website

- How to document number of families who opt out of screening for Child Outreach
 - How to monitor that children are receiving the services described in their IEPs
 - How to align Head Start assessments with state-wide requirements for children with IEPs participating in Head Start
 - How is Outcomes data going to be used?
 - Forms that are easy to understand will aid data collection
 - Concerns about how cuts in educational funding will affect ability to respond to new mandates
 - Access to time is a major challenge – time to assess, to collaborate, time for professional development.
 - Parents need easier access to clear, correct information about how the Child Outreach system works
 - How reach more children for screening
 - Need more information on resource and referral sources for early care and education programs
 - Technical assistance needed to ensure district data is collected in the same manner and is therefore accurate
 - Need to standardize district consideration of social-emotional development in determining needs for services
3. Please identify some preliminary steps you will take as a result of this information.
- Will review Creative Curriculum assessment tool
 - Determine where own district stands on each federal indicator
 - Facilitate discussion in district about culturally-sensitive screening
 - Begin attending monthly Child Outreach meetings
 - Seek funding to align Head Start screening tools with Child Outreach tools
 - Work more closely with district's Child Outreach Coordinator
 - Will share information with colleagues not present
 - Review district policies/procedures with regard to federal and state mandates
 - Will encourage children who receive minimal services to participate in early education programs
 - Begin using Creative Curriculum paper assessment system until money for on-line system is available
 - Establish a positive networking system and relationship with Early Intervention
 - Will discuss recommended screening tools with own agency