

Governors' Forum on Quality Preschool

**PRESENTED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION CENTER FOR BEST PRACTICES
HOSTED BY GOVERNOR JEB BUSH**

**Orlando, Florida
December 15-16, 2003
Walt Disney World Swan**

Agenda

Sunday December 14, 2003

4:00 - 6:00 pm **Registration for State Teams and Guest Participants**
Swan Ballroom Foyer
The registration table will be open Sunday afternoon for those arriving the day before the Forum. Please be prepared to present photo identification at registration.

Monday December 15, 2003

7:45-8:45 am **Registration for State Teams and Guest Participants**
Continental Breakfast
Swan Ballroom Foyer
Please be prepared to present photo identification at registration.

9:00-9:30 am **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Osprey Ballroom
The morning sessions are being televised live on The Florida Channel cable network and the live feed will begin promptly at 9:00. Ballroom doors will close at 9:00 am.

Governor Dirk Kempthorne (Idaho), NGA Chairman
Governor Jeb Bush (Florida), Host Governor

9:30-9:45 am **The Case for Quality Preschool: It Can Be Done**
Osprey Ballroom
The opening plenary will outline the case for quality preschool and discuss why gubernatorial leadership is essential to engaging key stakeholders and the public on this critical issue.

David Lawrence, Jr., President, Early Childhood Initiative Foundation
Former Publisher, Miami Herald and Detroit Free Press

9:45-11:30 am **Governors' Roundtable Discussion on Quality Preschool**
Osprey Ballroom
Governors will discuss the motivations, strategies, challenges and opportunities that exist for promoting quality preschool in their states. Experts from the education, research, business and policy communities will join the discussion.

Governor Jeb Bush (Florida)
Governor Jim Doyle (Wisconsin)
Governor Jennifer Granholm (Michigan)
Governor Dirk Kempthorne (Idaho)
Governor Judy Martz (Montana)
Governor John Rowland (Connecticut)

***Moderator:** Ray Suarez, Senior Correspondent, The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer
David Lawrence, Jr., President, Early Childhood Initiative Foundation
Former Chairman and Publisher, Miami Herald and Detroit Free Press
W. Steven Barnett, Director, National Institute for Early Education Research
Sandy Garrett, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Oklahoma
Dorothy Strickland, Professor of Reading and Samuel DeWitt Proctor Professor of Education,
Rutgers University*

11:30-12:00 pm

Media Q&A Panel

Osprey Ballroom

Governors and a panel of reporters will participate in a moderated Q&A session on quality preschool.

June Kronholz, Education Reporter, The Wall Street Journal

Lynn Olson, Senior Editor, Education Week

Robert Tanner, National Writer, Associated Press

12:00-1:00 pm

Lunch

Swan 6

Lunch for Teams and guests

1:00-1:30 pm

Break

1:30-2:30 pm

The Role of State Leaders in Promoting Quality Preschool

Osprey Ballroom

State leadership is critical to promoting high quality preschool programs. The leadership of governors, along with that of legislators, business leaders, commissioners of education and human services, and others, is essential to encourage policy coordination among existing programs and services, avoid duplication of effort, and maximize state and federal resources. Session participants will learn about two state approaches—Florida and Michigan—to creating quality preschool policies.

***Moderator:** Sue Urahn, Director, Knowledge Resources and Education Program, The Pew Charitable Trusts*

Toni Jennings, Lieutenant Governor of Florida

Tom D. Watkins, Jr., Superintendent of Education, State of Michigan

2:30-3:15 pm

The Economic Development Case for Preschool

Osprey Ballroom

This session will outline the evidence that quality preschool can be an effective economic development strategy.

Arthur J. Rolnick, Senior Vice President and Director of Research, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

3:15-3:30 pm

Break

3:30-5:00 pm

Concurrent Sessions

State Strategies for Financing Quality Preschool

Swan 1

Financing and sustaining quality preschool programs can be a significant challenge for states. This session will describe different strategies states can pursue to finance preschool initiatives.

Moderator: *Anne Mitchell, Early Childhood Policy Research*

Elizabeth Burmaster, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Wisconsin

Jerry Stermer, President, Voices for Illinois Children

Preschool in an Era of Diversity

Swan 2

The ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and socioeconomic composition of America's young children has never been so diverse. This session will discuss how quality preschool can help children of all backgrounds reach their full potential in school and in life.

Moderator: *Antonia Lopez, Director of Early Care and Education, National Council of La Raza*

Linda Espinosa, Associate Professor, University of Missouri-Columbia

Jane Henderson, Executive Director, First 5 California Children and Families Commission

Evelyn Moore, President, National Black Child Development Institute

Engaging New Voices to Promote Quality Preschool

Swan 3

The "unexpected messenger" can often be a powerful voice in support of quality preschool. This session will identify effective strategies to engaging new partners and identifying their role in moving a preschool agenda.

Moderator: *Sanford Newman, Executive Director, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids*

Sheriff Michael Carona, Orange County, California

Rob Mosbacher, President, Mosbacher Energy Company

George Askew, Executive Director, Docs for Tots

Preschool as an Economic Development Strategy

Swan 4

This session will discuss the costs and benefits of preschool as an economic development strategy, and offer tips on how to engage the economic development community in support of quality preschool.

Moderator: *Charles Kolb, President, Committee for Economic Development*

W. Steven Barnett, Director, National Institute for Early Education Research

Arthur J. Rolnick, Senior Vice President and Director of Research, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Susan Pareigis, Director, Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation

6:00-8:00 pm

Dinner: Defining the CEO's Role in Promoting a Preschool Agenda

Northern Hemisphere Foyer, Dolphin Hotel

The dinner address will highlight the importance of quality preschool from the business community's perspective and suggest strategies to engage business leaders as champions for early learning.

Rob Mosbacher, President, Mosbacher Energy Company

Tuesday December 16, 2003

7:30 am

Continental Breakfast

Swan Foyer

8:00-9:30 am

Public Engagement and Communications Strategies

Osprey Ballroom

Recent polls suggest growing public support for investments in quality preschool. This morning plenary will outline effective strategies for building public will and communicating messages to diverse audiences. Panelists will also identify successful tools and strategies for moving a preschool agenda at the state level.

Moderator: *Joan Benso, President and CEO, Pennsylvania Partnership for Children*

Christopher Blunt, President, Overbrook Research

Joshua Ulibarri, Senior Analyst, Lake, Snell, Perry and Associates

Margaret Blood, President, Strategies for Children/Early Education for All

9:30-11:00 am

Concurrent Sessions

Aligning the Goals of Preschool and K-12

Swan 1

The No Child Left Behind Act requires states to measure student achievement in reading and math by the end of third grade. Research shows that quality preschool can help states meet these goals by promoting school readiness among young children. This session will review recent state efforts to link preschool and K-12 learning standards, and discuss the challenges and appropriate methods for measuring results for young children.

Moderator: *Amy Wilkins, Executive Director, Trust for Early Education*

Craig T. Ramey, Director, Georgetown University Center on Health and Education

Deborah J. Stipek, Dean, Stanford University School of Education

Susan Tave Zelman, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Ohio

Building a High-Quality Preschool Workforce

Swan 2

Research shows that quality preschool is directly linked to the qualifications and training of teaching staff. This session will discuss the evidence to support the need for highly-qualified teachers, and present strategies for creating a high-quality preschool workforce.

Moderator: *Mark Ginsberg, Executive Director, National Association for the Education of Young Children*

Marcy Whitebook, Director, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley

Ellen Frede, Assistant to the Commissioner, Early Childhood, New Jersey Department of Education

The Delivery and Governance of Quality Preschool

Swan 3

States administer preschool programs through a number of state and local governance structures and deliver programs in multiple early care and education settings. This session will describe state approaches to program delivery and governance.

Moderator: *Rachel Schumacher, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Law and Social Policy*

Carolyn Cobb, Director, North Carolina More at Four

Marsha Moore, Director, Georgia Office of School Readiness

Toward Early Success: Bridging Policies for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Swan 4

Research shows that the first three years of life are critical to brain development and school readiness. This session will discuss how states can incorporate the needs of infants and toddlers into a quality preschool agenda, drawing on lessons learned in several states.

Moderator: *Patricia Kempthorne, First Lady, State of Idaho*

Joan Lombardi, Director, The Children's Project

Barbara Reisman, Executive Director, The Schumann Fund for New Jersey

11:00-12:30 pm

Team Time

Osprey Ballroom

Teams meet to discuss what they have heard, consult with experts, and develop their top three action steps for quality preschool in their states.

12:30-3:00 pm

Lunch and Team Report Out

Osprey Ballroom

Facilitator: Anna Lovejoy, Senior Policy Analyst, National Governors Association Center for Best Practices Education Division

2:30-3:00 pm

Final Messages

Osprey Ballroom

Dane Linn, Director, National Governors Association Center for Best Practices Education Division

3:00 pm

Adjourn

This forum is presented with support from The Pew Charitable Trusts, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, the Milken Family Foundation, the Foundation for Child Development, and The George Gund Foundation. The NGA Center for Best Practices would also like to acknowledge the contributions of the following organizations: the Trust for Early Education, the National Institute for Early Education Research, and the Council of Chief State School Officers.