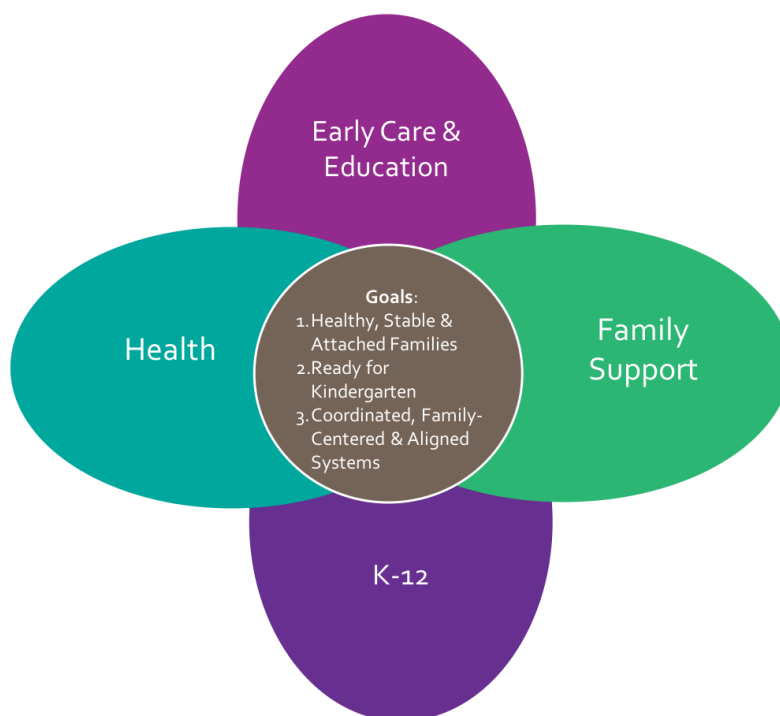


Oregon Early Learning System Strategic Plan Background Information

Overview of Oregon's Early Learning System Strategic Plan

- **Captures what is most strategic to advance an Oregon early learning system for children ages prenatal to five and their families** toward the vision or system goals over the next five years that:
 - Children arrive ready for kindergarten
 - Children are raised in healthy, stable & attached families
 - Coordinated, family-centered & aligned systems
- **Identifies shared interest and focus on child and family outcomes** and corresponding strategies, not individual programs
- **Keeps accountability and commitment** across sectors
- **Captures current momentum** - drives early childhood agenda– lifts up what sectors are doing
- **Identifies critical areas for cross-system efforts**



Who is Receiving Work from the Strategic Plan

- Early Learning Council
- Individual sectors/state agencies: ELD, Education/K-12, Human Services, Health, Housing
- Partnerships/collaborations among state agencies where cross-sector work is needed
- Early Learning Hubs

Getting from ELC Process to Strategic Plan

- ELC hosted stakeholder panel presentations organized by each sector
 - Panelists included parents, providers, advocates, agency staff and content experts within each sector.
- Agency partners provided materials outlining their priorities relating to children and families prenatally through five.
- The Governor's Children's Cabinet convened workgroups through the summer providing additional guidance and recommendations.
- ELC members submitted reflections after each sector – the content of these reflections are captured in the themes document. The content of each theme can inform the plan.

Review of the Themes

The following list summarizes the themes captured from the debriefs the Council had after engagements from Human Services, Early Care & Education, K-12, Health, and Housing:

1. Cultural Responsiveness & Equity
2. Access to ECE
3. Affordability of ECE
4. Supply of ECE Settings
5. Quality of Settings
6. Standards/Regulations Alignment
7. Child Development Outcomes
8. Workforce
9. Trauma-Informed Care
10. Inclusion
11. Supporting Families
12. Family-Centered Systems
13. Use of Data
14. Financing & Leveraging Resources
15. Building a Systems Approach
16. State-Community Connections
17. Geographic Specific Needs
18. Community Context
19. Connecting with Business
20. Role of Early Learning Council

Cross cutting issues that were identified to be addressed across and throughout the strategic plan include: equity and address geographic context/specific needs across Oregon.

Transitioning from Themes to Strategies

To start the process of developing a strategic plan, the themes developed by the Early Learning Council were reviewed and organized by the three system goals:

Themes Organized by the 3 System Goals

Children arrive ready for kindergarten	Children are raised in healthy, stable & attached families	Coordinated, family-centered & aligned systems
Child Development Outcomes	Supporting Families	Equity and Cultural Responsiveness
Inclusion	Family-Centered Systems	Family-Centered Systems
Quality of Settings	Community Context	State-Community Connections
Access to ECE	Geographic Specific Needs	Use of Data
Affordability of ECE		State-Community Connections
Supply of ECE Settings		Building a Systems Approach
Workforce		Workforce
		Trauma-Informed Care
		Financing & Leveraging Resources
		Standards/Regulations Alignment
		Role of Early Learning Council
		Connecting with Business

To develop the strategic plan for each of the system goals, the Council's themes and reflections along with all information submitted by state agencies, regional entities, providers and parents were reviewed to determine how to transition the content into specific objectives and strategies. Each objective consists of approximately five cross-sector strategies to advance the work of the early learning system.

Best Beginnings July Input Session

The Best Beginnings Committee convened on July 19th to provide deeper input on the five themes they identified as most connected with their work. The Committee offered three visions: one about children and families, one about programs who serve Oregon's youngest children and families, and one about the early

learning system. Throughout this input session, the Committee outlined their recommended priorities for each theme, as well as strategies and activities for ensuring cross-sector engagement and the “biggest bang for the effort.” This feedback has been shared with strategic plan writers as they outline proposed strategies within each theme-turned-objective. Some recommendations fall to an “activity” level, which will not be reflected in this stage of the strategic plan. Rather, activities for the Council, agencies, partners and committees will be captured in a workplan after the strategic plan is adopted.

Key Dates

ELC Meeting – September 27

- Provide the strategies matched to the system goals and objectives.
- Provide synthesis of process and findings from the process.
- Provide outline of the plan.

ELC Retreat – October 29 & 30

- First total draft presented

ELC Meeting – November 30

- Final draft presented (full report and executive summary) for adoption
- Recommended edits
- Adoption (*ELC can adopt with recommended edits and staff will share the final version during December*)
 - ELD/BUILD working with designer to finish publication by Leg Session

Expectations in October

ELD Staff will share a survey requesting the Best Beginnings Committee’s input on the objectives and strategies related to the themes of Cultural Responsiveness & Equity; Supply of Quality, Affordable, Accessible ECE Settings; Workforce; Use of Data:

- 1) Early Care & Education Workforce
- 2) Family have access to affordable, high quality early care and education.
- 3) Family health is supported.
- 4) Data
- 5) Workforce across the Early Learning System
- 6) Equity

Committee members will review each of these objectives and strategies and note the following information:

- Strategies that are particularly strong or resonate with you as the “right” strategies
- Areas of concern regarding cross-sector partnership and the ability to move the work forward.
- Terminology confusion or concerns (note in chat box or via email – not for discussion)

Ongoing Feedback and November Meeting

At the November meeting, staff will share the overall feedback they received from the Committee, how it was incorporated into the October first draft, and any high-level takeaways from the Council retreat. Each draft will be shared with all committees as soon as they are available. While meeting times may not align, **committees as members of the public are encouraged to submit written feedback on the strategic plan** as testimony.

Feedback can be emailed to Alyssa.chatterjee@state.or.us.