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# EARLY CHILDHOOD INDICATORS OF PROGRESS: *Minnesota's Early Learning Standards*

2005



**FAMILY MEMBERS**



**TEACHERS AND CAREGIVERS**



**COMMUNITY MEMBERS**



**POLICYMAKERS**

*A framework for understanding and communicating a common set of developmentally appropriate expectations for children in the preschool period of ages three to five, presented within a context of shared responsibility and accountability for helping children meet these expectations*

*Minnesota*  
**Department**  
*of* **Education**



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

## BACKGROUND AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The *Early Childhood Indicators of Progress: Minnesota's Early Learning Standards* (2005) is a project of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS). The first edition was printed under the title *Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress: A Resource Guide* in 2000 by the former Minnesota Department of Children, Families & Learning. An Early Childhood Indicators of Progress Task Force that included early childhood practitioners and members of the Minnesota Association for the Education of Young Children (MNAEYC) and the Minnesota Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (MAECTE) developed it. It was widely reviewed at that time by many individuals representing a diversity of early childhood education and care programs.

This 2005 revision was drafted by an interagency committee working with early childhood consultant Gail Roberts and included:

Lisa Backer, MDE, Early Childhood Special Education  
Karen Carlson, MDE, Early Learning Services  
Betty Cooke, MDE, Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Family Education  
JoAnn Enos, DHS, Child Development Services  
Barbara O'Sullivan, MDE, Early Childhood Education/School Readiness  
Debbykay Peterson, MDE, Early Childhood Screening/Kindergarten  
Sandy Simar, MDE, Head Start Collaboration  
Deb Swenson-Klatt, DHS, Child Development Services  
Nancy Wallace, early childhood education consultant and author of the first edition/St. Francis Public Schools

The following members of the original Early Childhood Indicators of Progress Task Force received the revised draft to review:

Sharon Bahe, St. Paul Public Schools  
Sandra Benson, St. Francis Public Schools  
Denise Bryant, Child Care  
Marilee Christensen-Adams, Anoka-Hennepin Public Schools  
Lois Engstrom, MDE, Retired  
Linda Frost, Mankato Public Schools  
Lynn Galle, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
Dan Gartrell, Bemidji State University  
Sharon Henry-Blythe, Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association  
Mary Jo Hensel, Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial School District  
Gretchen Irvine, Augsburg College  
Margie McMahon, White Bear Lake Public Schools  
Nancy Penn, St. Peter Public Schools  
Anita Segador Beaton, Metropolitan State University  
Melissa Shablott, St. Paul Public Schools  
Kathy Simonson, Elk River Public Schools  
Vicki Thrasher Cronin, Ready4K

The revised draft was also provided electronically for review and feedback on statewide list serves reaching hundreds of administrators, teachers, and caregivers in the following Minnesota early childhood education and care programs:

Child Care Centers/Family Child Care/Tribal Child Care  
Child Care Resource and Referral  
Early Childhood Family Education  
Early Childhood Screening  
Early Childhood Special Education/Part C  
Head Start  
School Readiness

Members of MNAEYC and MAECTE also reviewed it, and MNAEYC passed a resolution in support of it.

Feedback was carefully reviewed by the interagency committee and incorporated into this final edition. The support and contributions of members from the early childhood education associations, staff from early childhood education and care programs, and many others who reviewed and provided feedback on this document are gratefully acknowledged.

**EARLY  
CHILDHOOD  
INDICATORS  
OF PROGRESS:**

***Minnesota's Early Learning Standards***

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