



EARLY LEARNING TASK FORCE SESSION 6

3/16/2023



Welcome,

Purpose of the Early Learning Task Force

- Develop a three-to-five year plan for early learning in the Ferndale School District
- Examine Ferndale's current early learning programming
- Align our early learning programs with inclusive, best practice that follows state requirements
- Elevate early learning

Outcomes for Today's Meeting

- Connect
- Session outcomes and Big Ideas
- Early Recommendations
- Administrator and Teacher Effectiveness
- Reflections
- Next Week...



Activator

PLAY IS OFTEN TALKED ABOUT AS IF IT WERE A RELIEF FROM SERIOUS LEARNING. BUT FOR CHILDREN PLAY IS SERIOUS LEARNING. PLAY IS REALLY THE WORK OF CHILDHOOD.
-FRED ROGERS

\$1 

INVESTED IN EARLY CHILDHOOD YIELDS A \$16 RETURN

INCREASED

- High School Graduation
- College Matriculation
- Economic Development & Personal Income

DECREASED

- Special Education/Remediation
- Dependence on Social Welfare
- Crime-related Costs & Incarceration Rates

Benefits of Play

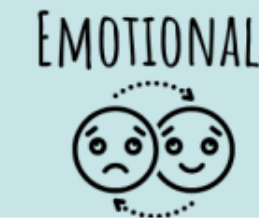
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- Increased memory
- Improved focus



- Better ability to plan
- Practice making decisions

- Reflect on feelings
- Act out new situations



- Teaches empathy
- Experience different perspectives

- Develops fine motor skills
- Develops gross motor skills



- Improves sleep
- Improves appetite
- Develops balance

- Practice planning
- Practice problem-solving



- Improves ability to make friends
- Practice following rules

- Discuss rules of a game
- Practice talking with others



- Builds vocabulary

- Teaches how things work
- Allows children to create their own worlds.



- Children learn to take risks

Session 5: Outcomes and Big Ideas

Family Engagement

Big Idea:

- Launch a family engagement task force to examine best practices and create an implementation plan for a high leverage system

Possible Outcomes for Spring and Fall of 2023:

- Kindergarten "welcome" night in Spring
- Ferndale family fair before school starts

Continuity and Pathways

- Formal policies for placement
- System to gather and access behavioral, academic, and other student data from Jump Start and developmental preschool
- Jump Start in home schools
- Inclusive learning environments at student's home schools
- Moving developmental preschool to an inclusive setting
- Serving students with IEPs in their community preschool
- District event for Jump Start, Head Start, and community partners to come together to learn about students entering kindergarten
- System to review cumulative folder and transitions reports regularly

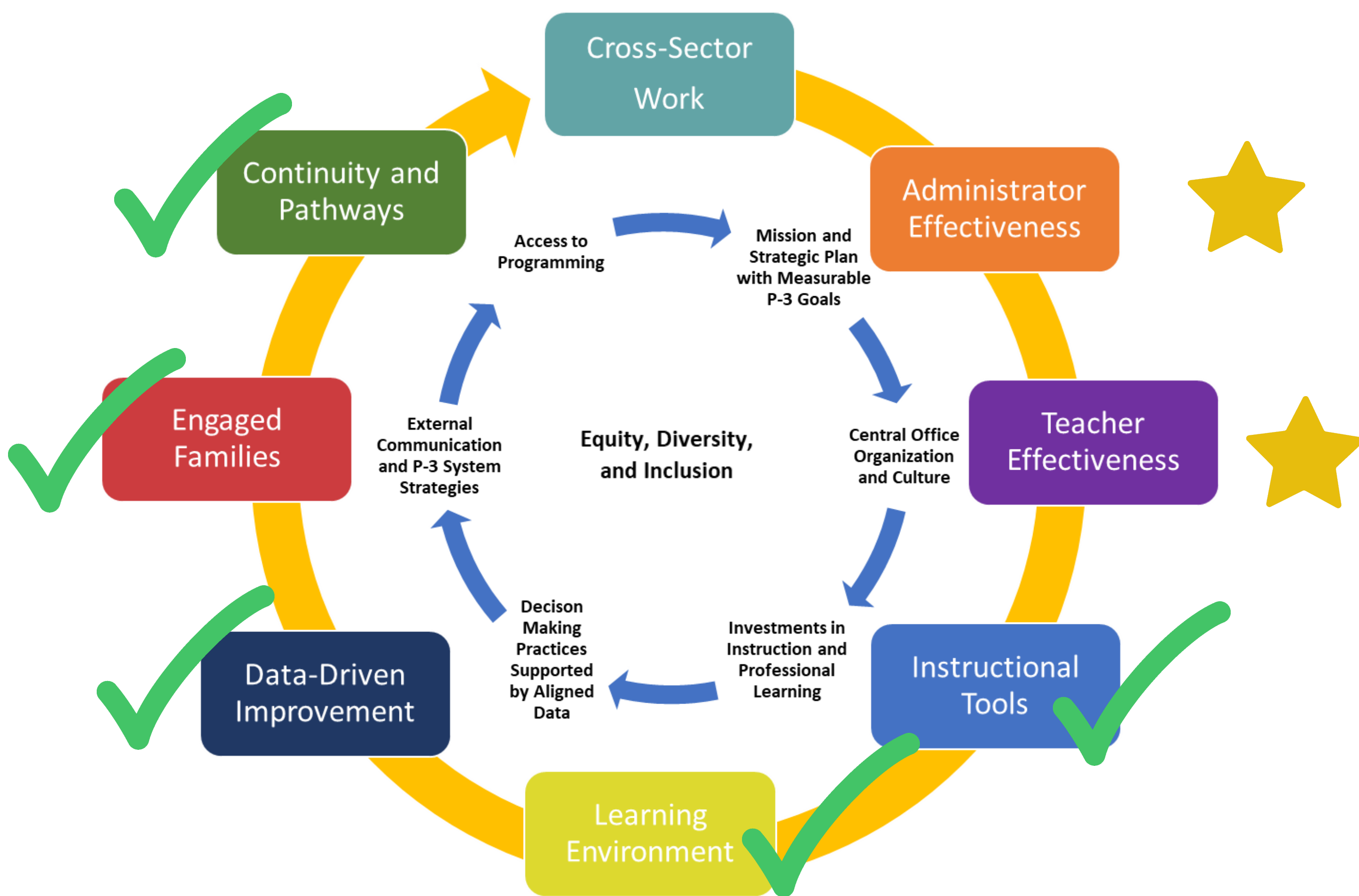
Early Recommendation

Big Idea Statement:

Inclusive early learning programs located in neighborhood schools with developmentally appropriate learning environments that reflect child development and play based learning, where learning is supported through student centered observational assessment and where families are honored as their child's first teacher and valued partners with continuity within and across age and grade levels P-3 through alignment, professional learning and partnerships.

Early Recommendations

1. **Inclusive early learning programs**
2. Located in **neighborhood schools**
3. Developmentally appropriate **learning environments**
4. Child development
5. **Play based learning**
6. Student centered **observational assessment**
7. Families are honored as their child's first teacher and valued partners
8. Continuity within and across age and grade levels P-3.
9. Alignment, professional learning and partnerships



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Administrator Effectiveness

Goal:

Administrators (district superintendents, school principals, ECE directors) actively create a culture and organizational structures that ensure the quality of P-3 learning.

Guiding Question

What is the vision for Ferndale?

Framework in Action

P-3 Strategies

Visible Leadership

Administrators demonstrate that P-3 is a priority to both internal and external stakeholders.

Foster Teamwork

Administrators foster teamwork among individuals, especially teachers, at all levels within the P-3 work.

Instructional Leadership

Administrators are effective instructional leaders, P-3



Administrator Effectiveness

Session 6: Administrator Effectiveness

Goal: Administrators (district superintendents, school principals, ECE directors) actively create a culture and organizational structures that ensure the quality of P-3 learning.

P-3 Strategies	What could this look like?
Visible Leadership: Administrators demonstrate that P-3 is a priority to both internal and external stakeholders.	

Framework in Action

Teacher Effectiveness

Goal:

Teachers are actively dedicated to providing high-quality instruction and effective learning experiences for all children, P-3

Guiding Question

What is the vision for Ferndale?

Framework in Action

P-3 Strategies

Focus on Instruction

Teachers' professional learning is focused on effectively supporting children's language/reading, math, social, and emotional development; and on providing instruction for all learners that is culturally relevant and differentiated.

Visible Practice

Peer observations of classroom practices are regularly used to understand and improve teachers' effectiveness in creating high-quality instructional, social, and emotional climates .

Work as Teams

Teachers work as teams, both horizontally and vertically, to improve instruction and increase effective classroom practices.



Teacher Effectiveness

Session 6: Teacher Effectiveness

Goal: Teachers are actively dedicated to providing high-quality instruction and effective learning experiences for all children, P-3

P-3 Strategies	What could this look like?
Focus on Instruction: Teachers' professional learning is focused on effectively supporting children's language/reading, math, social, and emotional development; and on providing instruction for all learners that is culturally relevant and differentiated.	

Framework in Action

Next Time:

Cross-Sector Work

Mechanisms, resources, and structures exist that reflect, support, and sustain shared vision, collaborative relationships, and mutual accountabilities between ECE/0-5 and K-12.

**Follow our work on the
[FSD website](#)**

**Next Meeting
Thursday, March 30**

**Bringing it all
together.**