



PRE-K OUR WAY

Prepared for school, ready for success.

www.prekourway.org

PRE-K OUR WAY NEWS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017



Spring is (almost) here! The first burst of a new season saw the Governor and Legislature renewing focus on correction of some inequities in the existing state aid formula. Pre-K Our Way believes that there is no more important educational investment we can make than to expand our state's existing, successful, high-quality pre-k program to the 50,000 3- and 4-year-olds waiting every year—since 2008.

SCHOOL FUNDING

In February, [Pre-K Our Way testified at separate hearings](#) by the State Senate's Select Committee on School Funding Fairness and the Assembly Education Committee. At each hearing, we stated that "the real reason a school aid formula exists is as a statement of our commitment to equality, quality and improving educational outcomes." Additionally, Pre-K Our Way's testimony to each committee shared that "school funding says much about our goals—New Jersey's goals—for public education and the children it serves."

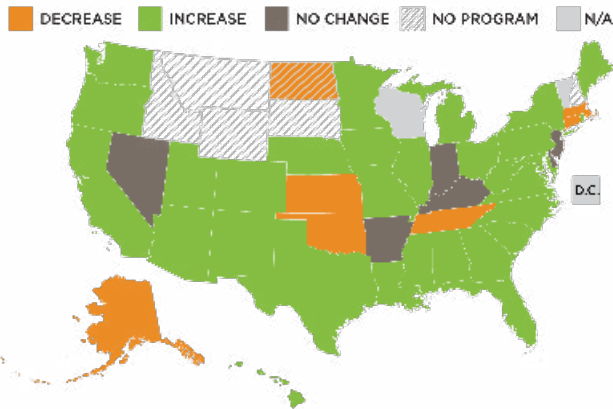
As the Legislature considers the school funding formula, Pre-K Our Way presents one message: it is time to fund educational improvements—and time to build on pre-k's success for our state's future rather than to take steps backward. New Jersey must maintain its investment in a proven success: pre-k for the existing 35 districts. In addition, the state must implement the existing law that promised this high-quality pre-k program to another 50,000 3- and 4-year-old children every year and across virtually every other community funded as a key educational improvement in the school aid formula.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION ON MARCH 21 AND 23

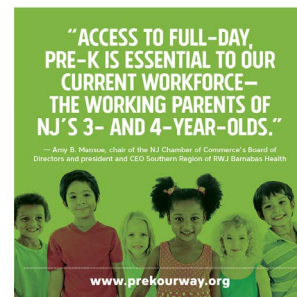
We're just a few weeks away from Pre-K Our Way's next two opportunities to share critical information—and strategy—to increase the statewide priority of pre-k. Join us at one of two upcoming meetings: [March 21 in Glassboro for South/Central](#) and [March 23 in Iselin for North/Central](#). Come to network and be part of the discussion. Make your voice heard. There are only a few spots available for Iselin, and fewer than 8 available for Glassboro! This is the last group opportunity to influence action and important strategy until the final weeks before summer!

PRE-K FUNDING AND SUPPORT IN THE NEWS

Did you see the recent report from [Education Commission of the States](#)? Their map shows NJ has stayed 'no change' in investing in pre-k funding. That's not right!

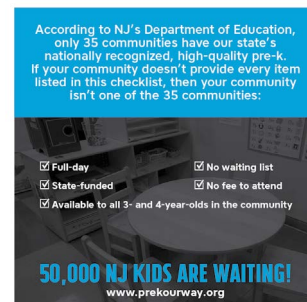


We agree with the New Jersey State Chamber [and its recent support for pre-k expansion in NJ.](#)



FINALLY...

Every year, 50,000 3- and 4-year-olds wait across hundreds of NJ communities—like yours. Our children should already have NJ's full-day, state-funded pre-k. Watch in the coming weeks for more info—and what you can do to make it happen! #50000NJkidsarewaiting #ExpandNJPreKNow



Have questions? Contact us at info@prekourway.org

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