

Department of Education and Early Development Early Learning

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Anji Gallanos



Early Learning is a Vital Link to School Success

- Achievement gaps appear early and widen over the years that children are in school.
- Investments in early childhood pay off much greater than compared to efforts made in later grades.
- DEED continues to identify which children have access to quality education.
- DEED continues to support pre-elementary programs with implementing quality programs.
- Locally designed, efforts supported by department technical assistance are more sustainable.
- Collaborative efforts between agencies and stakeholders are the most cost-effective.

How do we define Pre-Elementary
in DEED?



How do we intersect with
DHSS to support services for
all children?

How does this work align with
Statute and DEED initiatives?

How have parents, families and
communities been engaged in
guiding this effort?

Definition of Pre-Elementary and School Readiness

- **Pre-Elementary in DEED**

- AS 14.07.020 (c) In this section, "pre-elementary school" means a school for children ages three through five years if the school's primary function is educational.

- **School Readiness**

- Alaska does not have an adopted definition.
- Guiding understanding of school readiness:

School readiness describes both the preparedness of a child and their family to engage in and benefit from learning experiences. In order to best prepare young children for school, families and community service providers must work collectively to ensure that every child is ready for higher engagement in learning.

Overview of DEED Early Learning

**Early Learning
Coordination Grants**

**Pre-Elementary
Grants**

Head Start State Grants

Grants to school districts

Head Start Association

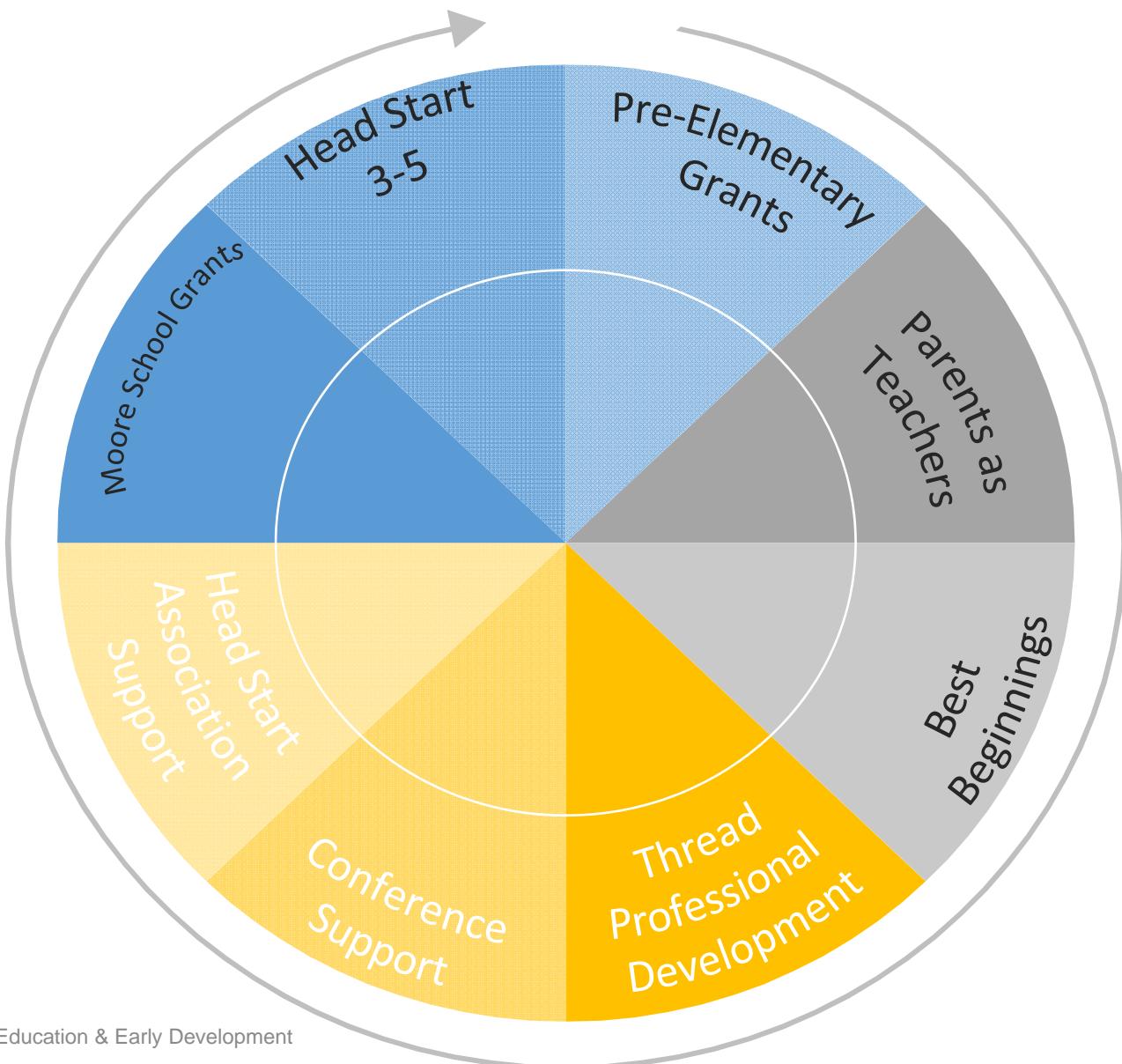
Grants for low performing
schools (Moore)

Best Beginnings

Parents as Teachers

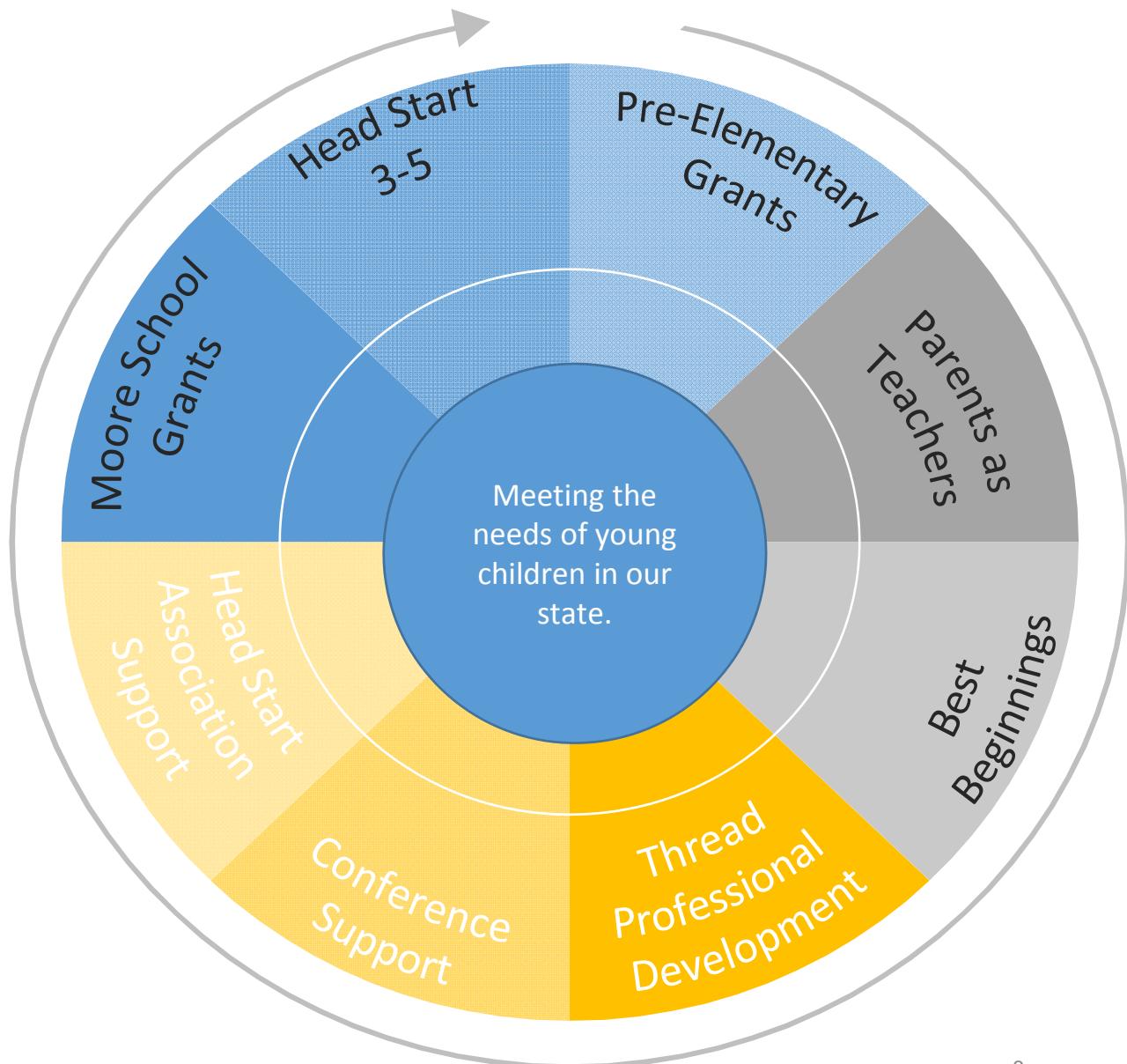
threadAlaska

Early Learning Coordination



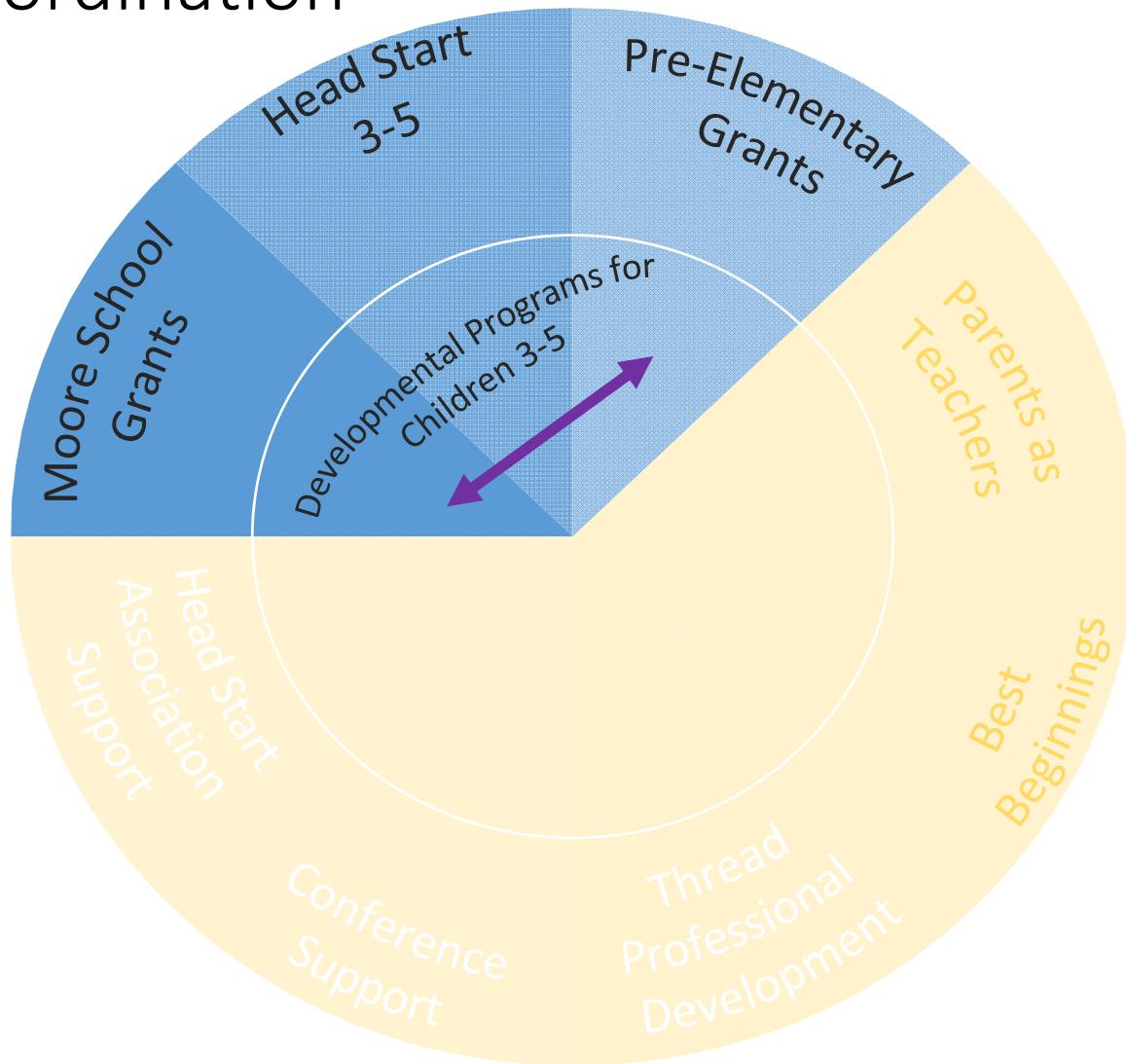
Early Learning Coordination

- Collaborative Early Learning efforts.

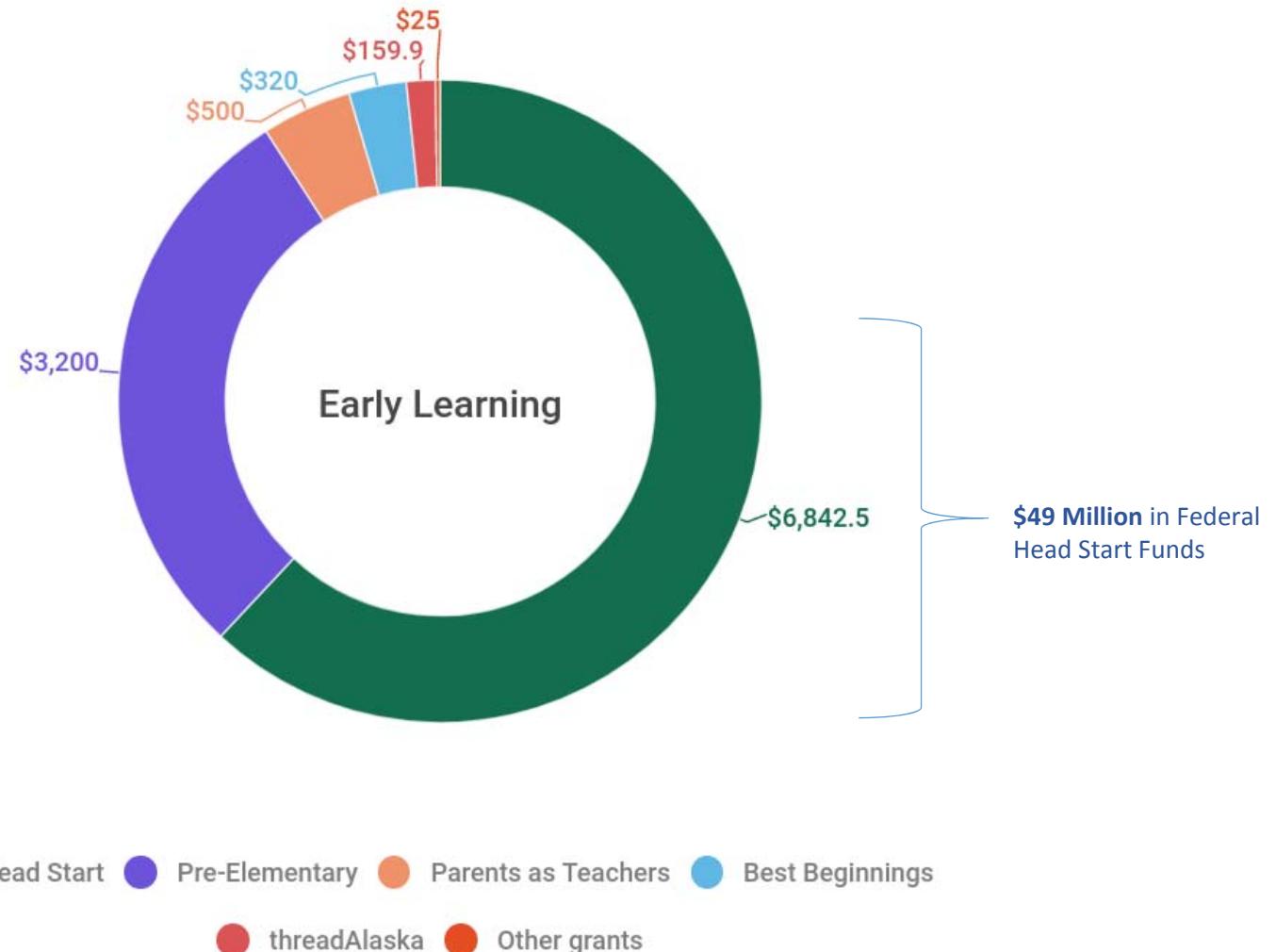


Early Learning Coordination

- DEED Early Learning programs work together to support state goals
- Programs are locally designed and driven by program or district goals.
- Must meet state requirements through grant reporting.



Early Learning General Fund Distribution



Head Start State Grants

Head Start Key Points

- ▶ State grants can be used for program activities in addition to the federal funds received by Head Start programs.
- ▶ Alaska is one of 7 states that provides state funds for HS.
- ▶ Alaska is one of the top three in the amount of funds provided by the state to Head Start
- ▶ DEED funds State slots for children participating in HS.
 - ▶ Some programs offer state slots. 261 total state slots.
- ▶ DEED is committed to focusing on equitable access to quality programs.

Head Start State Grant Distribution FY 18

Head Start Grantee	State General Funds	Federal Funds	Federal Funded Enrollment		State additional
			0-2 yo	3-5 yo	
Alaska Head Start Association	\$22.0	0	0		
Aleutian/Pribilof Association	\$30.0	\$959.2		24	22
Association of Village Presidents	\$358.0	\$2,467.1		102	124
Bristol Bay Native Association	\$74.0	\$1,421.29		29	57
CCS	\$567.1	\$0.00	102	135	165
Central Council of Tlingit Haida	\$441.2	\$2,639.8		106	158
Chugachmiut	\$30.0	\$618.0		10	13
Cook Inlet Native Head	\$95.0	\$2,554.5	64	108	136
Council of Athabascan	\$57.5	\$505.1	30		
Fairbanks Native Association	\$107.3	\$3,879.8	175	83	108
Kawerak	\$570.0	\$3,023.8	26	80	120
Kenaitze Indian Tribe	\$31.5	\$611.8		28	36
Kid's Corp	\$818.7	\$2,925.0	27	66	238
Metlakatla Indian Community	\$30.	\$685.4	39	15	15
Play N Learn	\$439.6	\$1,721.1	44	86	87
RuRal CAP	\$2,589.1	\$6,788.7	166	273	353
Tanana Chiefs	\$583.2	\$2,344.6	138	52	38
Totals	\$6,842.5	\$33,145.00	673	1197	1670
					261

Head Start 4 year old children served

1670

4 year olds receiving federal Head Start enrollment.

Head Start Federal Counts preschool grants

9718

17% of 4 year old children
 $1670/9718$ children

Based on October 1, 2017 Fall Oasis

Pre-Elementary Grants

Pre-Elementary Grant Key Points

- ▶ **\$3,200.0** (\$2,000.0 Pre-Elementary Grants + \$1,200.0 Moore Districts)
- ▶ Grants are structured to provide support for local implementation of quality pre-elementary programs.
 - ▶ Grants that encourage district sustainability.
 - ▶ Grants that support districts with building and developing quality programs.
 - ▶ Grants that encourage community and family engagement.
- ▶ All grant programs receive 1:1 support, peer collaboration and technical assistance.
- ▶ Allocation of \$1,200.0 additional funds doubled the number of children served. Increased the number of districts receiving assistance.
- ▶ Four grants partner with Head Start.

Pre-Elementary Grant Distribution FY 18 Total 877

Head Start Grantee	State General Funds	4 yrs	4 yr in HS partnerships	District Funded
Anchorage School District	\$301.3	0	48	
Matanuska Susitna School District	\$354.0	68		85
Lower Kuskokwim School District	\$419.0	115		24
Nome Public Schools	\$223.7	20	20	
Yukon Koyukuk School District	\$155.3	25		
Bristol Bay School District	\$134.2	9		
Chugach School District	\$137.4	47		
Hoonah School District	\$131.0	9		
Juneau School District	\$150.0	20		
Fairbanks Northstar	\$148.1	40*		
Sitka School District	\$153.2		17	
Bering Strait School District	\$353.5	98		37
Iditarod School District	\$30.0	10		
Kashunamiut School District	\$30.0	10		
Lower Yukon School District	\$100.0	20		
North Slope School District	\$90.0	23		
NW Arctic School District	\$131.1	142		
SE Island School District	\$50.0	10		
Yupiit School District	\$79.0		20	
Totals	\$3,200.	626	105	146

Pre-Elementary
grants 4 year old
Access

772

Unduplicated district
support

9718

Kindergarten Children

7% of 4 year old
children
 $772/9718$
children

Based on October 1, 2017 Fall Oasis

Children being served/entering kindergarten children, by district.



7% of 4 year old children
772/9718 children

- Anchorage School District ● Juneau School District ● Mat Su School District
- Lower Yukon ● North Slope ● Yukon Koyukuk School District ● Sitka School District
- Lower Kuskokwim School District ● Kashunamuit ● Nome Public Schools ● Iiditarod
- SE Island ● Bering Strait ● Bristol Bay School District ● NW Arctic ● Yupiit
- Chugach School District ● Hoonah School District

Head Start and Pre-
Elementary Grants
for 4 year old
children.

2442

Head Start/District 4 yo

9718

Kindergarten Children

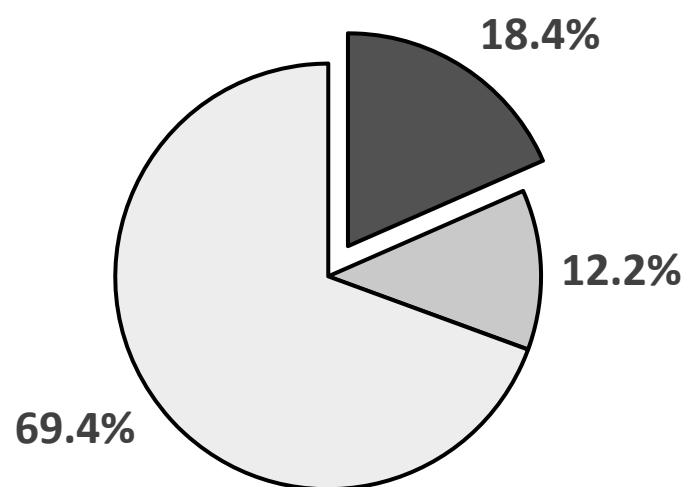
25% of 4 year old
children

$2442/9718$
children

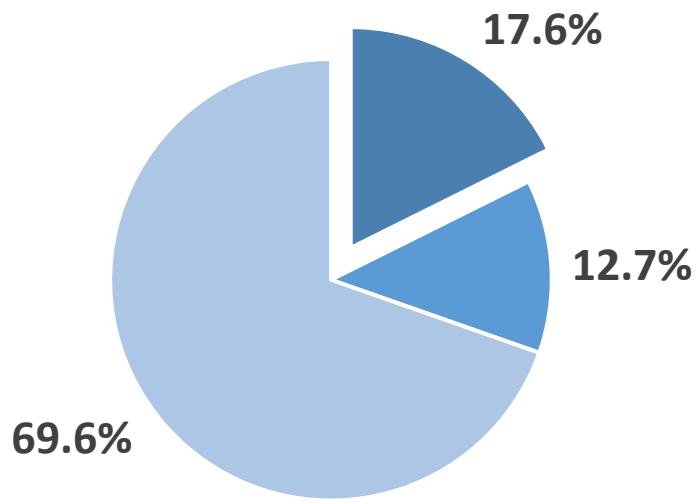
Based on October 1, 2017 Fall Oasis

Committed to Increasing Quality & Access

Alaska Kindergarten Entry Assessment



2016/2017

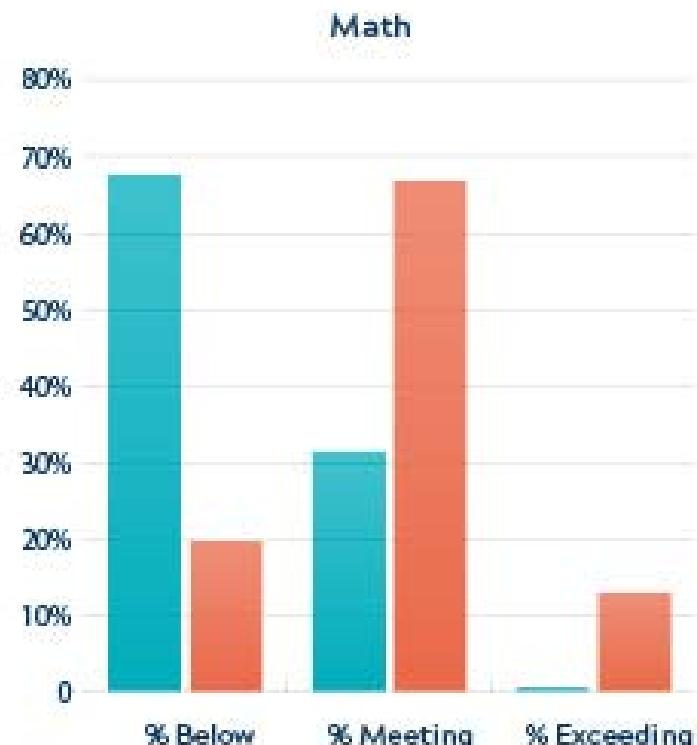
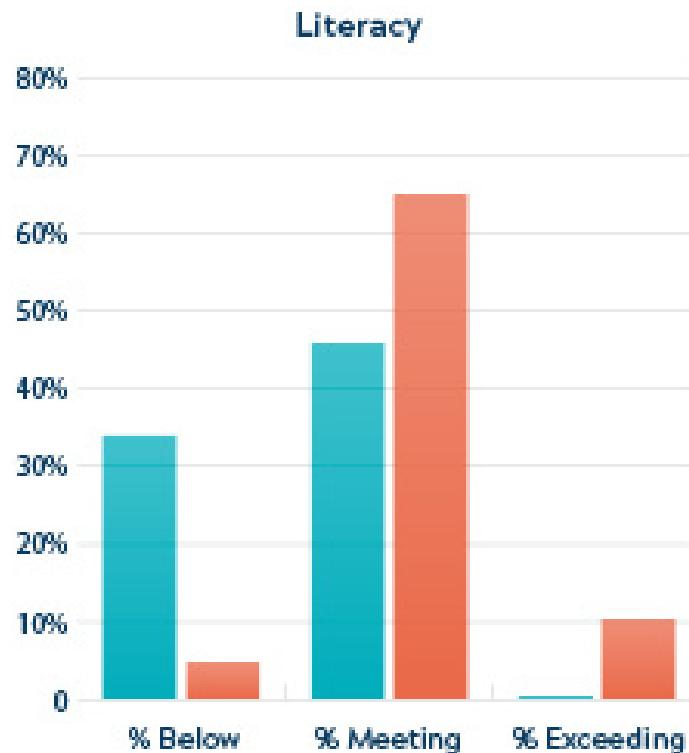


2017/2018

'17 '18

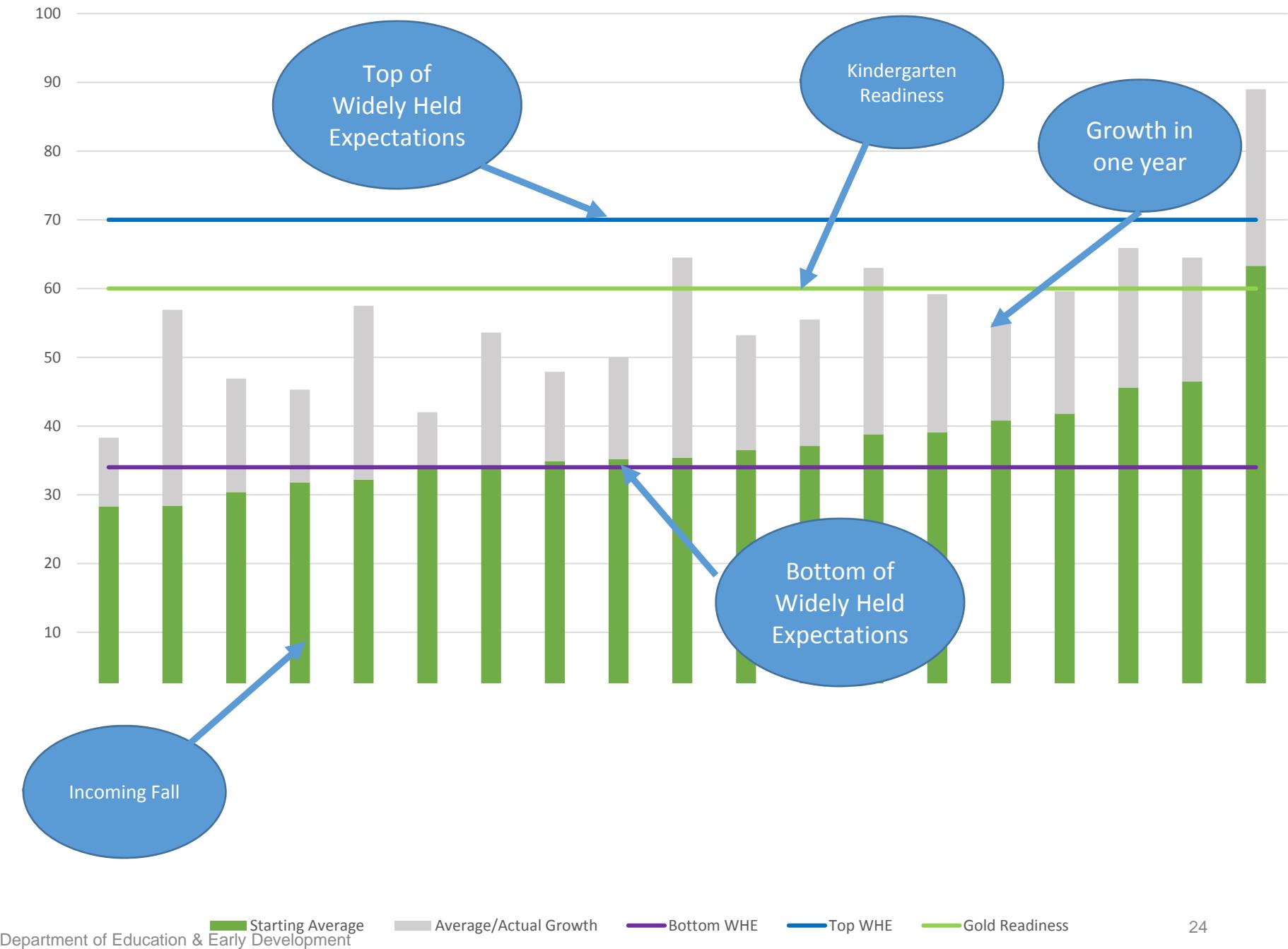
- ■ Children Demonstrating Kindergarten Readiness on all 13 goals.
- ■ Children Demonstrating Kindergarten Readiness on all 11/13 goals.
- ■ Children Demonstrating Kindergarten Readiness on 10 or fewer goals.

2016/2017 Pre-Elementary Data Results



■ Fall ■ Spring

2016-2017 Comparison WHE to Gold Readiness (Literacy)



Learn and Grow

ALASKA'S QUALITY EARLY CARE AND LEARNING SYSTEM

Learn & Grow is a recognition system that advances the quality of early care and learning to foster the success of young children.



Learn & Grow

Four Domains

- Administration and Leadership
- Staff Qualifications
- Learning Environment
- Family and Community Engagement



LEARN & GROW HAS **5 LEVELS**
OF PROGRAM QUALITY



EACH LEVEL HAS
4 QUALITY DOMAIN AREAS



EACH QUALITY DOMAIN AREA HAS
A SET OF SPECIFIC **STANDARDS**
THAT DEFINE A LIST OF **ACTIVITIES**



Learn & Grow

PROGRAMS MEET THESE **STANDARDS**
AND ASCEND THE **LEVELS** BY
COMPLETING ALL THE **ACTIVITIES** AT
EACH LEVEL OF QUALITY

Thank you!