

Department of Education and Early Development Early Learning

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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

Head Start State Grants

Head Start Association

Best Beginnings

Parents as Teachers

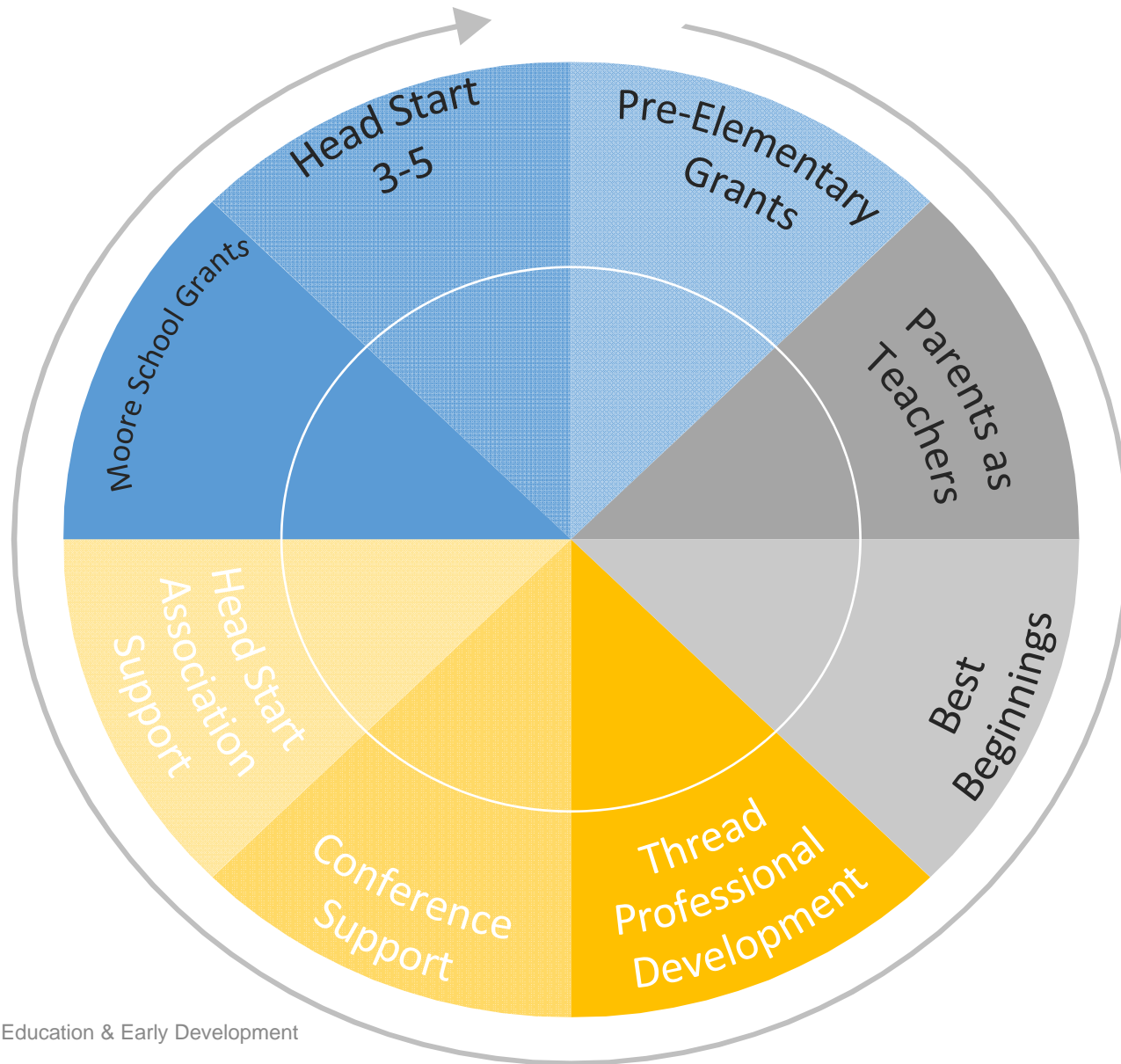
threadAlaska

Pre-Elementary Grants

Grants to school districts

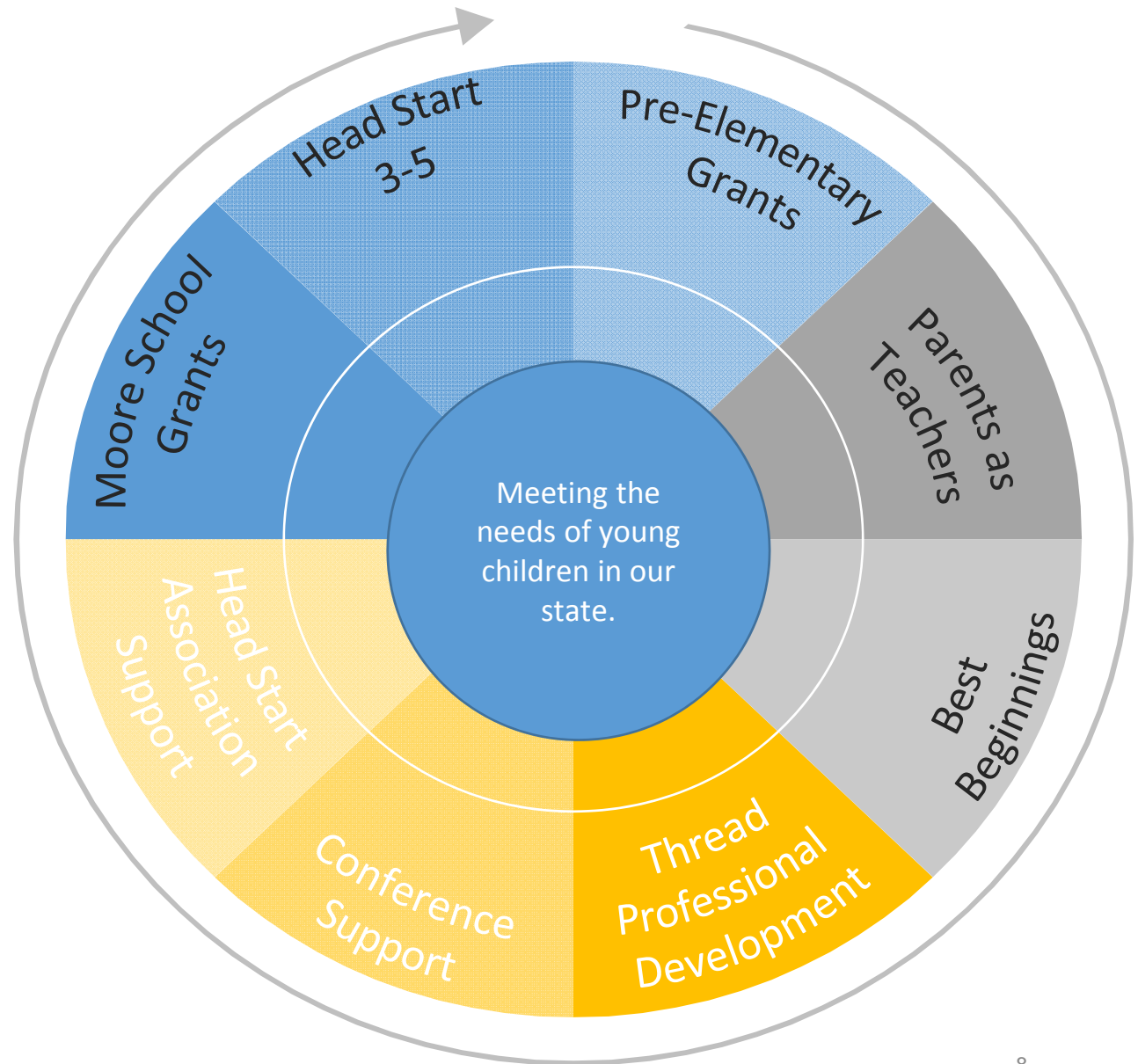
Grants for low performing
schools (Moore)

Early Learning Coordination



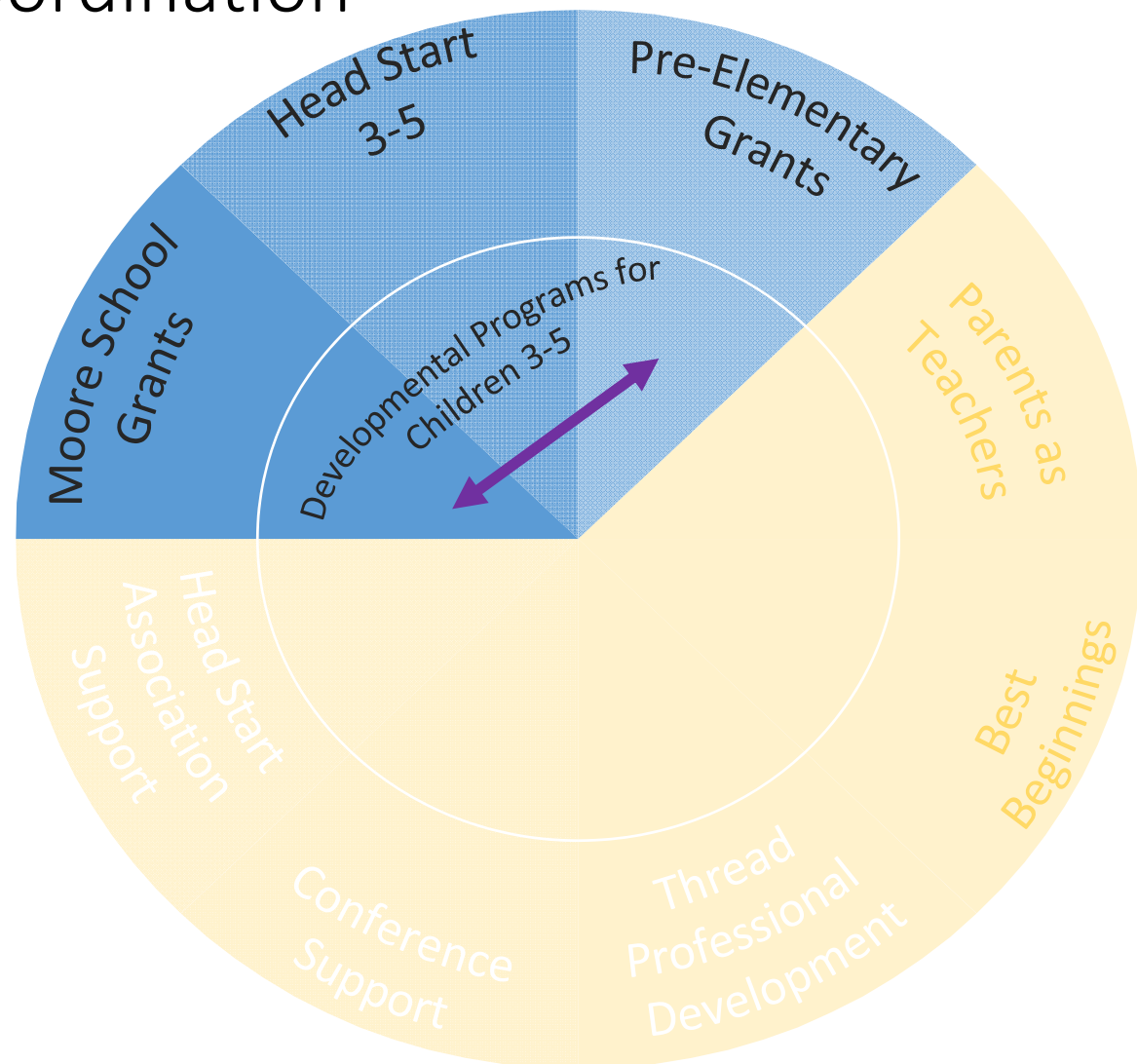
Early Learning Coordination

- Collaborative Early Learning efforts.

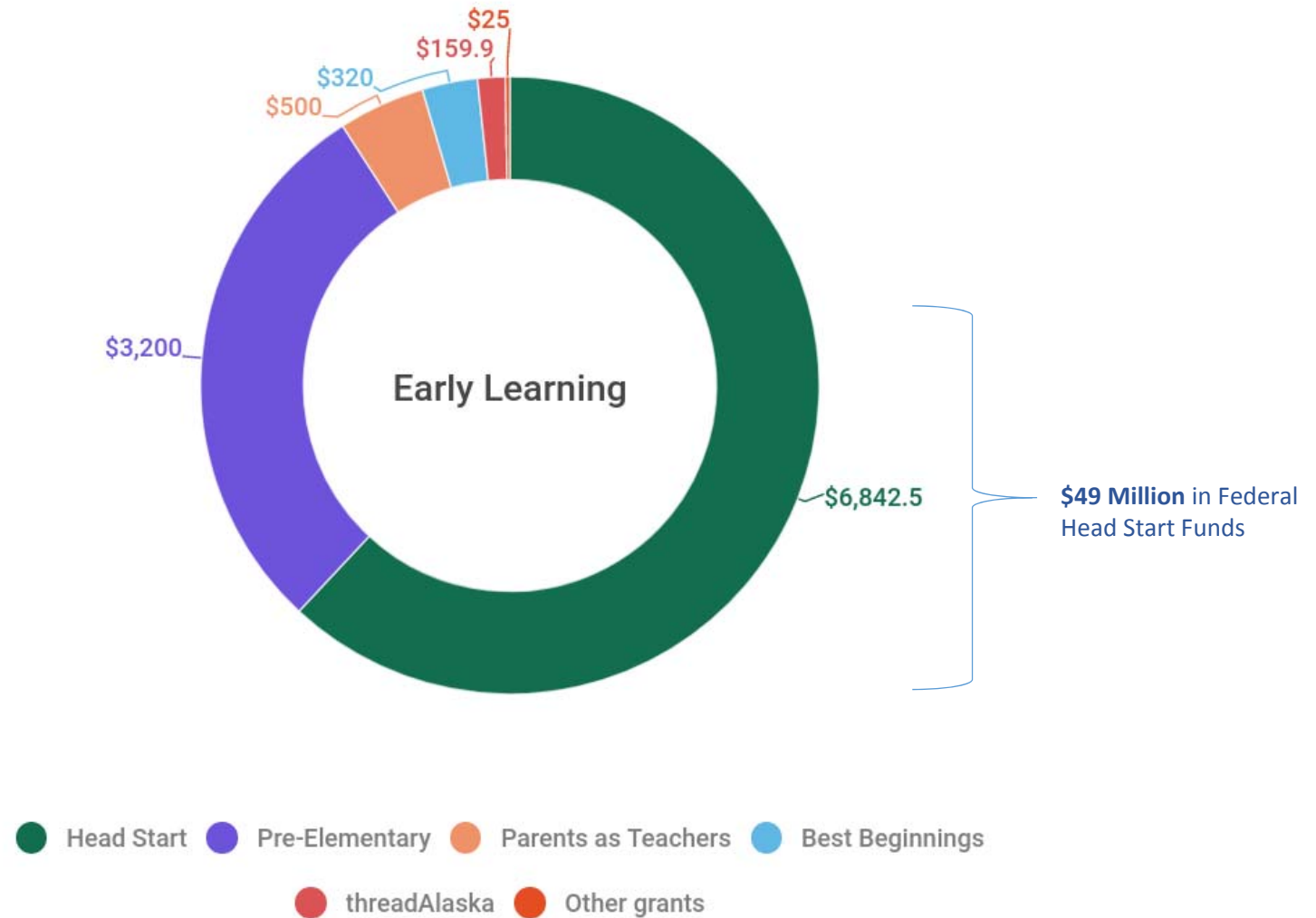


Early Learning Coordination

- 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	66
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	12
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	18
RuRal CAP	\$2,589.1	\$6,788.7	166	273	353	100
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		
Yupiiit 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 Koyokuk School District
- Sitka School District
- Lower Kuskokwim School District
- Kashunamiut
- Nome Public Schools
- Iditarod
- SE Island
- Bering Strait
- Bristol Bay School District
- NW Arctic
- Yupitit
- Chugach School District
- Hoonah School District

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

2442

Head Start/District 4 yo

9718

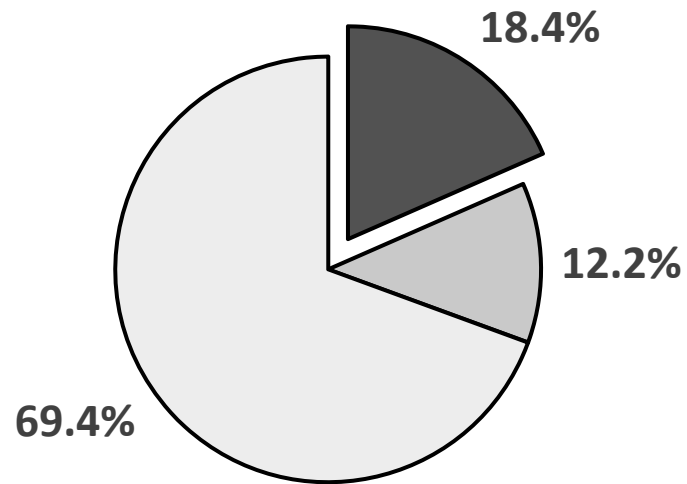
Kindergarten Children

25% of 4 year old
children
2442/9718
children

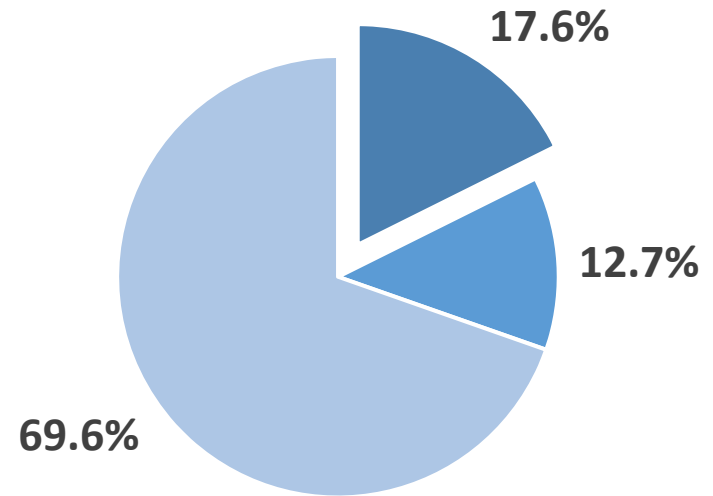
Based on October 1, 2017 Fall Oasis

Committed to Increasing Quality & Access

Alaska Kindergarten Entry Assessment



2016/2017



2017/2018

'17 '18



Children Demonstrating Kindergarten Readiness on all 13 goals.

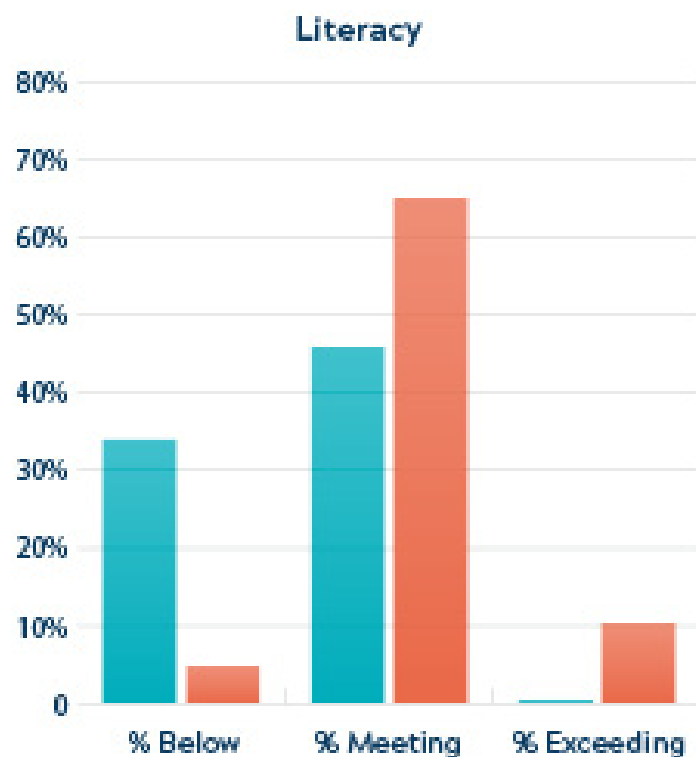


Children Demonstrating Kindergarten Readiness on all 11/13 goals.



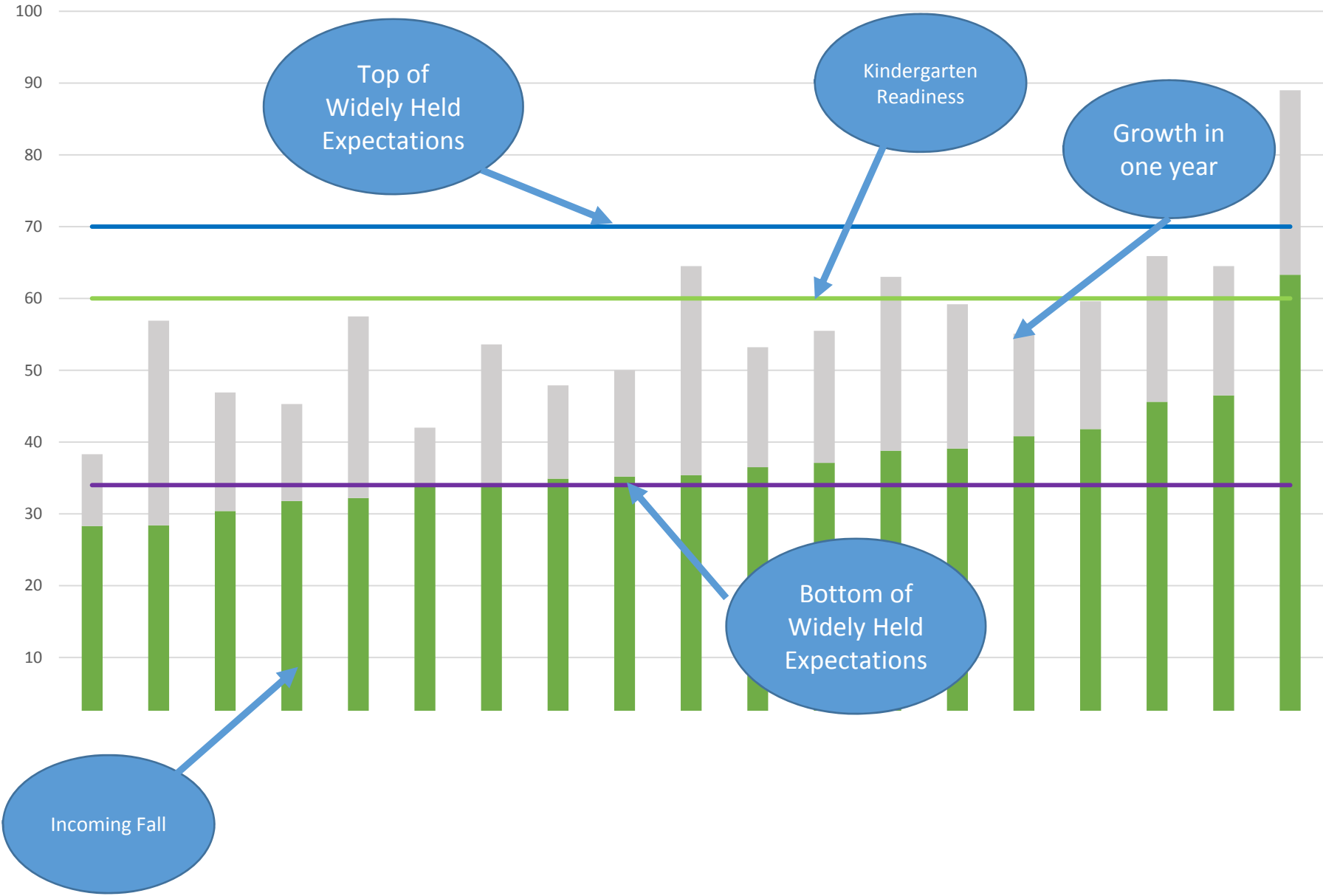
Children Demonstrating Kindergarten Readiness on 10 or fewer goals.

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!