Race to the Top

Early Learning Challenge Grant

Maryland’s State Plan

Submitted to the U. S. Department of Education

Maryland Public Schools: #1 in the Nation AGAIN in 2011
Scope of the RTT-ELC

- High quality, accountable programs
- Promoting early learning and development outcomes for children
- A great early childhood education workforce
- Measuring outcomes and progress
Maryland’s State Plan

• Vision
  – Complimentary early childhood education reform to Maryland’s K-12 reform under the current RTT, thereby creating a seamless Birth to 12 reform agenda

• Mission
  – Enhancing existing system and focus on improving school readiness for children of high need
Maryland’s State Plan

- Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System
  - **Project #1**
    - Creating Local Early Childhood Councils
  - **Project #2**
    - Implementing a Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System for all early learning and development programs, named Maryland EXCELS

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• Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System

• **Project #3**
  – Establishing an Early Childhood Breakthrough Center that provides quality capacity building for programs participating in Maryland EXCELS and expand models of excellence to attendance areas of Title 1 schools in school improvement.

• **Project #4**
  – Revising the early learning standards to align with Common Core Standards

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• Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System

• **Project #5**
  – Professional Development to promote the use of the early learning standards by all early learning and development programs

• **Project #6**
  – Refining Maryland’s comprehensive assessment system in early childhood, including the Maryland Model for School Readiness (MMSR) Kindergarten Assessment

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• **Project #7**
  – Addressing the health and behavioral needs of children through a coherent set of early intervention and prevention programs.

• **Project #8**
  – Creating a Coalition of Family Engagement and three statewide outreach efforts to promote family engagement in being their children’s first teacher.
Maryland’s State Plan

• Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System

  • **Project #9**
    – Establishing Leadership in Early Learning Academies for educators from school and early childhood programs to promote rigorous yet developmentally appropriate teaching practices for prekindergarten through grade 2

  • **Project #10**
    – Enhancing the existing early childhood data system to link with the Maryland Longitudinal Data System

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