



Zachary Early Childhood Network



Zachary Early Childhood Network Blueprint 2022-2023

Introduction

Zachary Early Childhood Network (ZECN) is working to improve family access to high-quality early learning experiences for children and to increase support for programs. The network is comprised of 10 publicly funded early childhood providers located in the Zachary Community School District. Currently, some centers in the network serve students from birth to 3 and/or 4. With an overall performance rating of high proficient, the network is working diligently to continue to improve in all areas of CLASS and T.S. Gold. ZECN coordinates enrollment through the media and community outreach. Tenured and qualified directors lead the sites and meet in monthly network meetings. Challenges are staff turnover and the ability to have collaborative training with all centers. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused major staffing challenges. However, the Zachary Early Childhood Network will continue to work collaboratively to ensure that a high-quality education is provided to children of the community.

Guiding Statements

Vision: Every child in the Zachary community will have access to high quality early childhood instruction through Tier 1 curriculum.

Mission: The Zachary Early Childhood Network mission is to provide our students with a well-rounded early childhood education that includes academics, social and emotional learning, and development of a lifelong love of learning.

Strategic Plan 2022-2023

Goal 1: Achieve “Excellent” Overall Rating on the Louisiana Early Childhood Annual Performance Profile.

Strategy: The strategy is to support teachers in enrollment and completion of ancillary certification.

Existing Resources: Personnel willing to participate in training.

Needed Resources: Purchase slots from Teachstone to provide training.

Performance Metrics: Number of teachers participating in training
Number of teachers receiving certification

Goal 2: Increase stakeholder engagement

Strategies: Promote and increase family engagement through community outreach through community events.

Existing Resources: Participation by all early childhood centers and a supportive community.

Needed Resources: Community partnerships that will expand and strengthen the ZENC partnerships to include parents, teachers, health care providers, and community leaders from all sectors including business leaders, faith-based leaders, and other community organizations.

Performance Metrics: Documentation of participation in community events, Chamber membership, informational sessions, attendance at local school orientations, brochures, web and Facebook presence.

Increase in center enrollment

Goal 3: Provide high quality professional development to increase the knowledge, skills and capacity of early learning centers in the ZECN.

Strategies: Purchase slots from Teachstone to provide training in infant, toddler, and Pre-K categories. Train teachers and directors so they can shadow and observe at their sites.

Existing Resources: Current number of observers in the network

Needed Resources: Participants for training and Teachstone slots

Performance Metrics: Increase in number of observers

