

COMMUNITY FORUM QUESTIONS -- May 11, 2011

- 1) What has been the primary contribution of Quality Preschool (and, specifically Preschool for All) in the targeted communities across San Diego?
- 2) What are the top three attributes/components of a Quality Preschool program?
- 3) What parent education services do parents want?
- 4) How can providers do a better job of following up with appropriate services for children when issues are identified in a universal screening?
- 5) Which is more important – to ensure the quality of the First 5-supported preschool initiative, or to re-examine and possibly expand the number of children served?
- 6) Some school districts across the state are contributing federal Title 1 funds to expand or improve preschool services. What's happening in San Diego County? Are there other opportunities for communities to contribute facilities or matching funds for the Quality Preschool Initiative?
- 7) In light of funding reductions that were approved by the Commission on May 9th and other information that has been discussed at this meeting, what recommendations would you give the First 5 Commission to improve the implementation of the Quality Preschool Initiative?

TPAC MEETING QUESTIONS -- May 23, 2011

- 1) As provided in the presentation materials, national/state best practice research has identified ten key components for a Quality Preschool. Of these ten components for Quality Preschool, which are the best and the least understood by the public? (Rank from 1-10, with "1" being best understood and "10" least.)
 - o Intensive education (small classes, low ratios, regular attendance)
 - o Adequate physical space and materials
 - o Family involvement
 - o Services provided in a culturally and linguistically responsive manner
 - o "Curriculum" or plan of activities
 - o Adequate # of well-trained, qualified staff
 - o Compensation sufficient to limit turnover & promote continuity of care
 - o Teachers who interact responsively with children to help develop their social-emotional, thinking & language skills.
 - o Commitment to continuous quality improvement
 - Based on observation of teacher performance & children's progress
 - Followed by coaching to promote improvement.
 - o Program directors that understand child development & know how to recruit, train & support staff.
- 2) It is important that San Diego County find ways to sustain Quality Preschool. Thinking in these terms, which of the following approaches do you think is likely to be the most effective and achievable? (Rank from 1 to 4, with "1" being most likely and "4" least.)
 - o Parent investment fee or co-payment
 - o Business community scholarships for children who do not qualify for publicly supported programs
 - o School district allocations of Title 1 funds to preschool
 - o Local ballot initiative (such as a parcel tax or sales tax)
- 3) How can programs become more innovative in the use of technology to reach not only the children, but also the parents and teachers?