

Presentation to the Children, Families, Health and Human Services Committee

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Siri Smillie, Education Advisor, Governor Bullock

Jamie Palagi, Administrator, Human and Community Services Division,
DPHHS



Increasing access to high quality preschool for 4 and 5 year old children in
Montana

High level overview HB 639

- Section 11 and 12 of HB 639
 - \$6 Million over the biennium
 - To increase access to preschool for 4 and 5 year olds
 - To test multiple delivery models
- Program Criteria
 - Minimum 5.5 hours/day or 28 hours/week
 - Teaching credentials (licensed in public school, BA with 20 ECE credits in non public school settings)
 - Research based curriculum, aligned with Montana Early Learning Standards
 - Prioritization of enrollment to high needs children (25%)
 - 1:10 staff to child ratios; class sizes no more than 18 students



Eastgate Elementary



STARS Preschool Programs

Public

- Alberton Elementary
- Cherry Valley STARS Preschool Program, Polson
- Eastgate Elementary, East Helena
- Hawthorne Elementary, Helena
- Lockwood School District
- Marion Elementary
- Ronan School District
- W.F. Morrison Elementary, Troy MT.
- Lolo School District

Private

- ABC Academy, Helena
- Beartooth Children Center, Red Lodge
- Discovery Place, Bozeman
- Early Childhood Center, Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell
- Kountry Kare, Shepard
- Small Wonders, Lewistown
- Stepping Stones, Dillon

Head Start

- Explorers Academy, Billings and Laurel



Variety of Facility Types

Mandy Berens-
Kountry Kare



Discovery Place



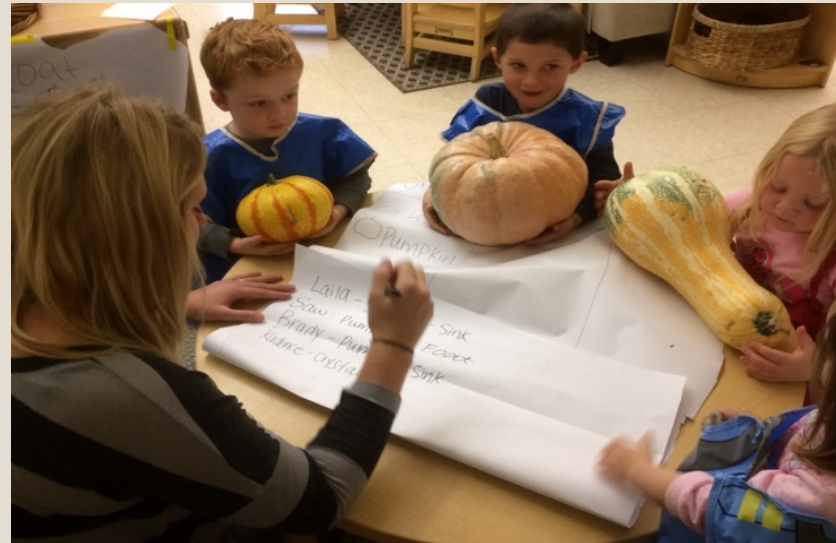
Explorers
Academy, Billings
Head Start

Troy Elementary

Budget by program type for FY 2018

Program Type	Public School	Private	Head Start
FY18 allocations	\$1,348,366	\$817,792	\$215,591

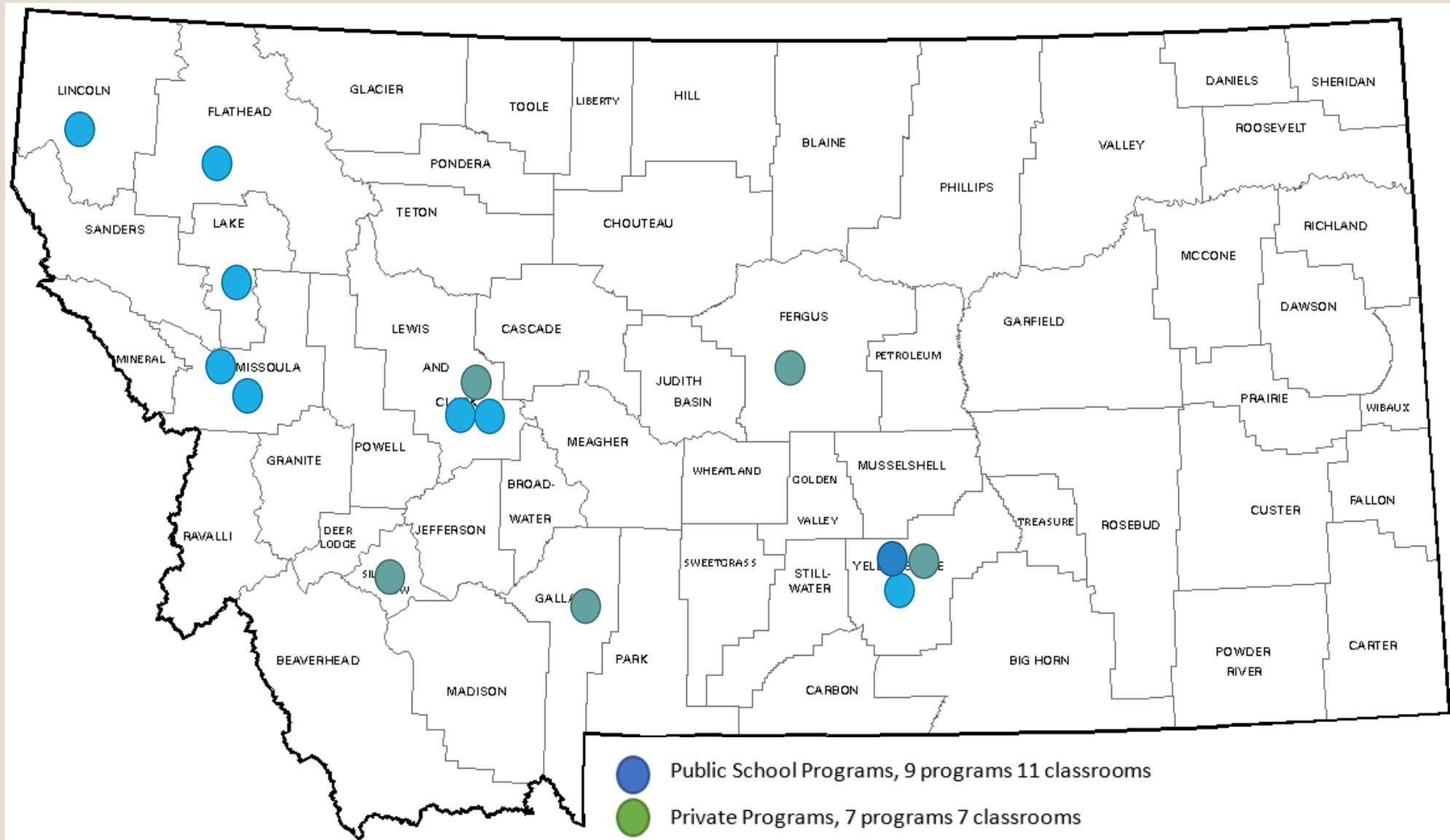
Sink or float predictions,
Early Childhood Center Flathead
Community College, Kalispell



Rural/Urban

	Class AA	Class A	Class B
Public	5	2	2
Private	3	3	2
Head Start	1	1	0

*School District Size (based on High School enrollment). Class AA: 779+, Class A 307-778, Class B: 108-306, Class C: 1-107



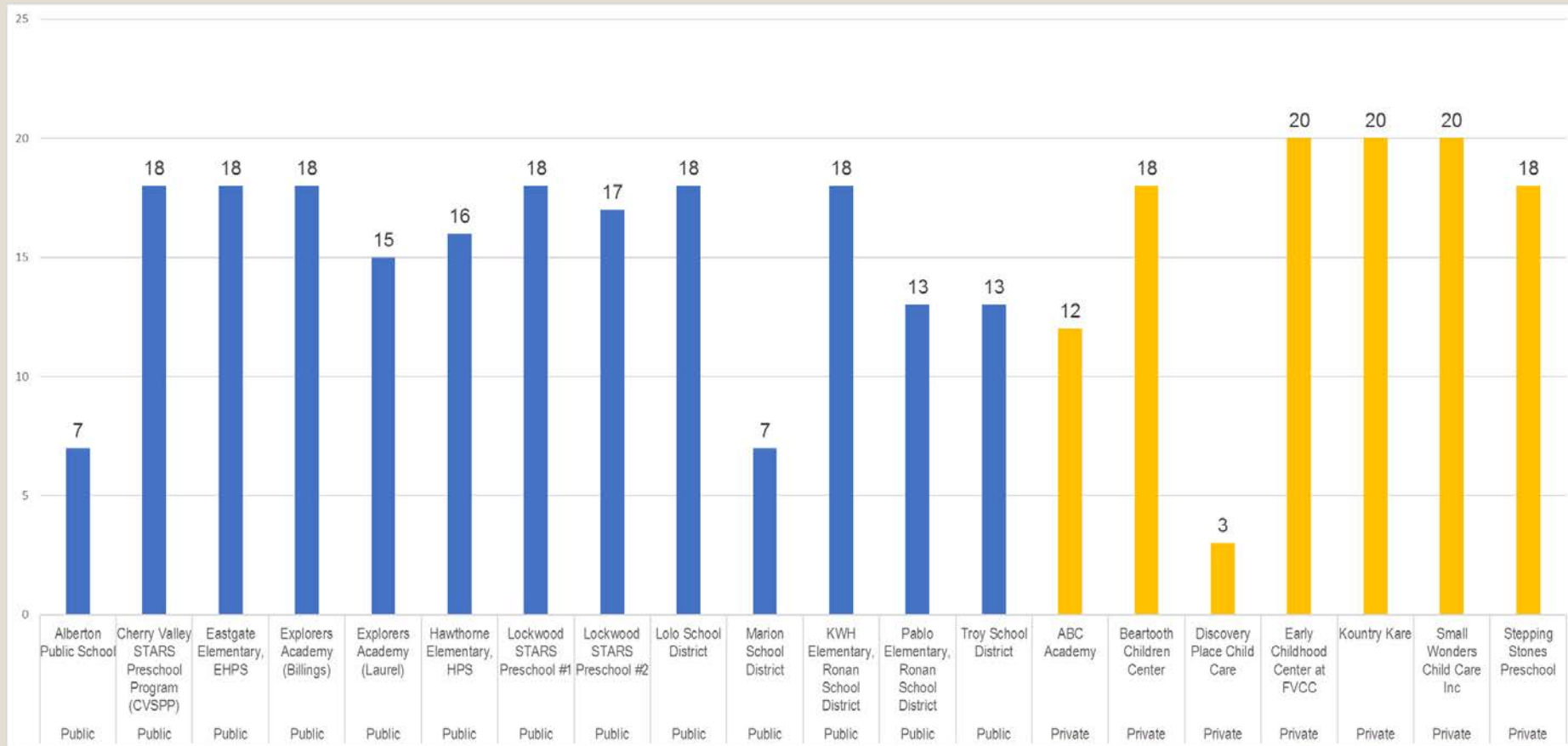
- Public School Programs, 9 programs 11 classrooms
- Private Programs, 7 programs 7 classrooms
- Head Start Program, 1 program 1 classroom

What do we know so far?

Year one report will be available in the Fall

Enrollment – mid year data

Total Enrollment Program Wide = 307
 Average Class Size Program Wide = 15



Public Enrollment = 196

Private Enrollment = 111

Q2 Enrollment – Student Retention

Program Student Retention Rate = 96%

Program Type	Beginning Enrollment	Student Exits	Continued Enrollment	Student Retention Rate
Private	115	5	110	96%
Public	187	8	179	96%
Program Total	302	13	289	96%

Q2 Standards – Attendance

Program Type	Q1 Average Attendance	Q2 Average Attendance
Private	90%	88%
Public	93%	89%
Program	92%	88%

Student Demographic Data continued

Ethnicity	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	11%
Asian	0%
Black	0%
Hispanic/Latino	4%
White	79%
Two or More Races	5%
Total	100%

Student Demographic Data

Based on voluntary survey data, 83% participated in the survey

Household Size	
3 or Less	20%
4-6	73%
7 or More	7%
Total	100%

Family Income	
Less than \$10,000	9%
\$11,000 - \$30,000	19%
\$31,000- \$50,000	18%
\$51,000 - \$70,000	25%
Over \$71,000	29%
Total	100%

Mid year Enrollment – Students With High Needs Identified Program by Program Type

62% of Students in the Program are High Needs Identified

Program Type	Enrollment Count at End of Q2	Count of High Needs Students	% of Students High Needs Identified
Private	111	49	44%
Public	196	140	71%
Grand Total	307	189	62%

26% of Students Identified With High Needs in Multiple Areas

Program Type	Student Enrollment Count	Count of Students w/High Needs Identified in Multiple Areas	% of Students w/High Needs Identified in Multiple Areas
Private Total	111	21	19%
Public Total	196	59	30%
Grand Total	307	80	26%

Evaluation Progress

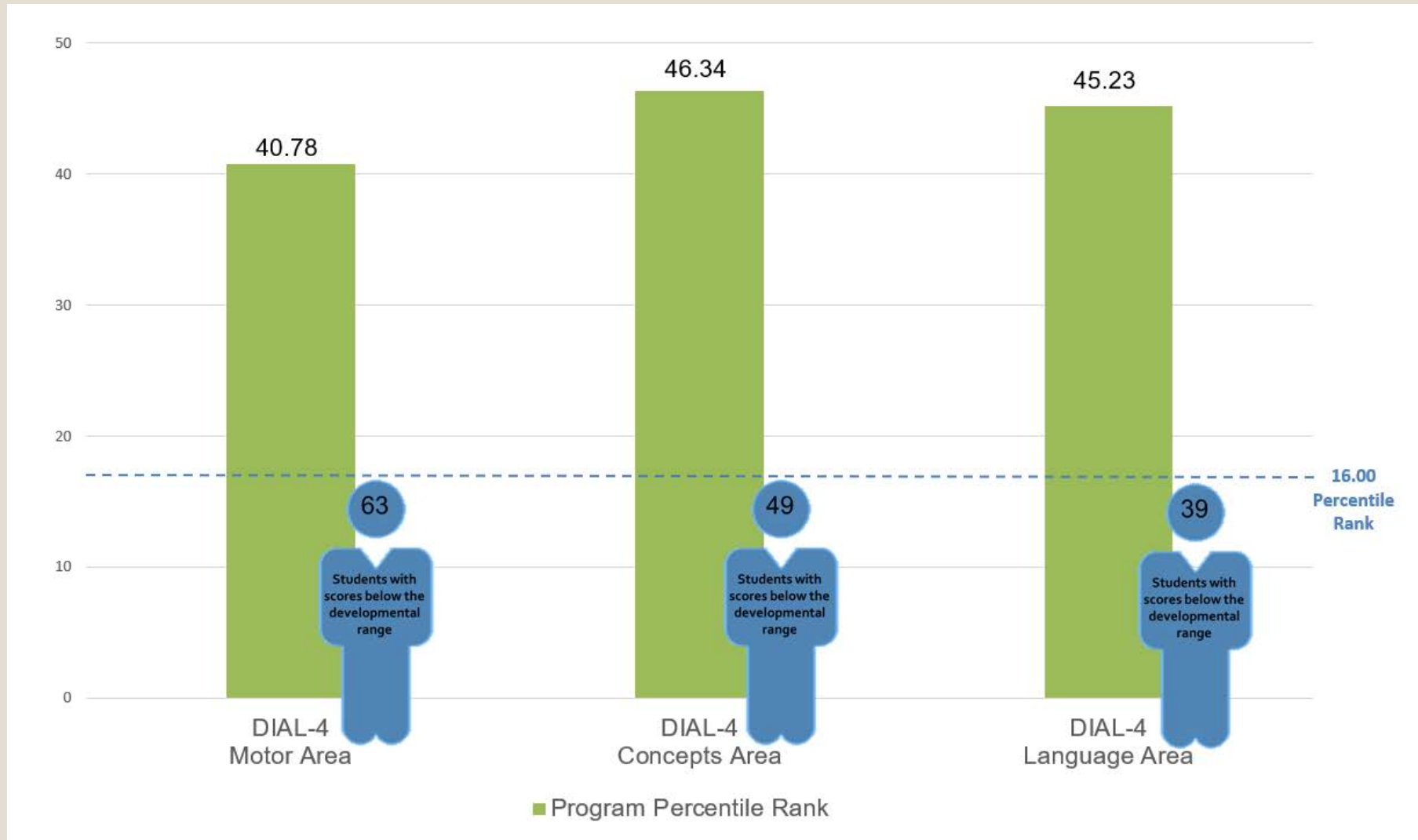
- State level data
- Program level data
- Budget data
- Demographic data
- Environmental classroom data
- Child level data
- Qualitative and Quantitative analysis

The big question - does preschool have an impact on school readiness and student success later in life?

School readiness- child assessment

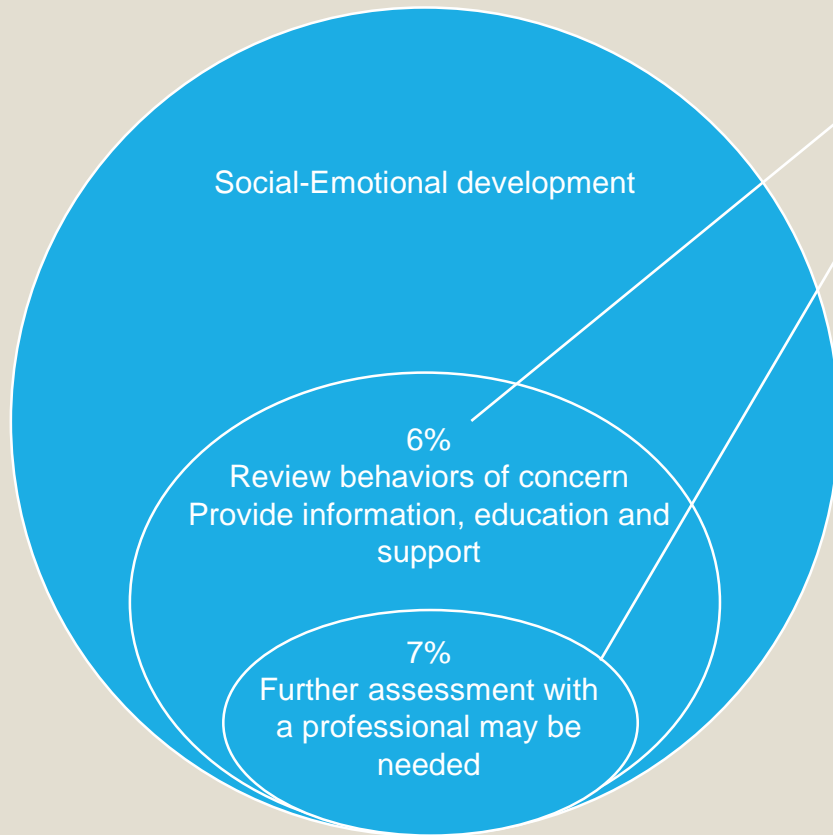
- **The Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning (DIAL)**
 - Motor
 - Concepts
 - Language
- **Ages and Stages Questionnaire- Social Emotional, 2nd ed. (ASQ-SE2)**
 - Screening tool about children's social-emotional development, and provides information related to self regulation, communication, autonomy, compliance, adaptive functioning, affect, and interaction with people
 - Parents complete the ASQ-SE2

Baseline percentile rank: DIAL-4



Ages & Stages Questionnaires®: Social - Emotional Second Edition (ASQ:SE-2™)

ASQ:SE-2 Baseline Data 92% of Students Evaluated



Potential Follow-up Actions

- Refer to/for
 - To early intervention/early childhood special education
 - For social-emotional, behavioral, or mental health evaluation
- Provide
 - Activities and plan to rescreen at a later date
 - Parent education materials
 - Information about available parenting classes or support groups
- Inform teaching practices and classroom strategies
- Onsite support staff are working with classrooms
- Share results with primary care provider
- continue monitoring or evaluations, parent conferences, etc.

Environment/Classroom Assessments

- State of Montana Department of Health and Human Services Health and Safety Inspections
 - Year one- initial inspection, suggestions for improvements
 - Year two- 2 follow up inspections will occur in Fall and Spring
- Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale- Revised (ECERS-R)TM
 - Baseline data collected in the Fall
 - Another assessment in the Spring

Next steps:

- Looking at year 1 data now as well as pre-post (classrooms just finished up)
- We hope to show growth over time and/or comparison data at future meetings

For more information, visit starspreschool.mt.gov

Contact

Siri Smillie, Education Policy Advisor to Governor Bullock, 444-3188, ssmillie@mt.gov

Jamie Palagi, Administrator HCSD, DPHHS, 444-6676, jpalagi@mt.gov

Any questions?

