Thank you for attending today’s webinar! We will be starting soon. If you have any questions, please ask them in the zoom chat. Enjoy!

WHAT WORKS: TRANSITION PLANS FOR SUPPORTING EARLY LEARNERS

JUNE 24, 2020
3PM EST
4PM EST
Valerie Joined AASA early in 2019 as an assistant executive director responsible for guiding leadership development services and programs. With years of experience in the superintendency and roles in instructional technology, she knows that AASA’s Leadership Network can be a substantial resource for school leaders trying to keep pace with the rapidly changing delivery of K-12 education.
Edward Manuszak, Ed. S, has served as the Superintendent of Dundee Community Schools since 2016. He is co-chair of the AASA National Early Learning Cohort, team member of the Federal Office of Head Start Expert Work Group, National Association of the Education Young Children Developmentally Appropriate Practice Book Review Team, and Monroe County Great Start Collaborative and Children’s Action Network. He has been a professional educator for 25 years holding various positions as Classroom Teacher, Elementary Building Principal, Director of State and Federal Programs, Director of Early Childhood Education, Presenter and Consultant, Assistant Superintendent and Adjunct Faculty Member at Siena Heights University and Eastern Michigan University. Currently he is working with the AASA and Standards for Success (SFS) to publish the Early Learning Program Assessment Tool © he designed and created that allows for district and program to efficiently and effectively measure their Early Learning Program from Birth through Age Eight.
Panelist/Presenter:
Dr. Dan Wuori, Director of Early Learning, Hunt Institute

Dr. Dan Wuori joined the Hunt Institute as Director of Early Learning in January of 2019. He serves as a subject matter expert and oversees the Institute’s expanding work in the early childhood policy realm. A former kindergarten teacher and school district administrator, Dr. Wuori served as the Deputy Director of South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness – the state’s comprehensive, public-private early learning initiative – from 2005-2018. In this role he worked alongside elected leaders to develop significant, bipartisan support for early childhood education and oversaw system innovations including the delivery of public prekindergarten in private, community- and faith-based preschools, improvements to the state’s IDEA Part C early intervention system, the creation of statewide program accountability standards, and the expansion of evidence-based home visiting programs. A Past President of the SC Early Childhood Association, Dr. Wuori was honored as South Carolina’s 2018 Champion for Children at the state’s annual Summit on Early Childhood. He splits his time between Durham and his family’s home in Columbia, SC.
Michael Kuhrt is the superintendent of the Wichita Falls ISD in Wichita Falls, Texas. A superintendent since 2004, Mike has led three diverse Texas school districts. He has been instrumental in improving instructional practices, classroom technology environments and community perception to garner support for bond and tax referendums. In 2018, Mike was recognized at the Tech Savvy Superintendent of the Year by the Texas CTO Council. His staff routinely presents at early learning and technology conferences around the country and Wichita Falls ISD is recognized as a Google Reference District. Mike is an Executive Committee member of the Texas Association of School Administrators serving as the Advocacy Chair and a member of AASA’s Early Learning Cohort.
Dr. Sharon Pepukayi is the Assistant Superintendent of the Appoquinimink School District in Middletown, DE. She has over 25 years in education having previously served as a teacher, Assistant Principal, and Principal in early learning environments. Dr. Pepukayi directs the Pre-K through Grade 5 students and families in the Appoquinimink community. Outside of her primary role of leading school administrators, she facilitates the district’s aspiring administrator’s leadership program, conducts state-wide administrator mentoring training, serves on the DE Academy for School Leadership Advisory Board, and the Delaware team for revision and alignment of the administrator evaluator system. She leads the effort to ensure the early learners provided educational opportunities based on national best practices. Dr. Pepukayi is directly involved in the growth of the district with its facility expansion plan and new kindergarten center opening in 2021. She has extensive experience presenting at national conferences and symposiums. Dr. Pepukayi has been a member of AASA’s Early Learning Cohort for the past 2 years.
Continuing the legacy of four-term North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt, The Hunt Institute is an education policy resource to governors, state lawmakers and other senior state elected officials.
Early Childhood Transitions Amidst COVID-19: “Maslow Before Bloom”

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs:

- **Physiological needs**: air, water, food, shelter, sleep, clothing, reproduction
- **Safety needs**: personal security, employment, resources, health, property
- **Love and belonging**: friendship, intimacy, family, sense of connection
- **Esteem**: respect, self-esteem, status, recognition, strength, freedom
- **Self-actualization**: desire to become the most that one can be
District Overviews
Appoquinimink School District

- Fastest growing
- Middletown, Delaware- (New Castle County)
- 1 of 19 school districts in the state (3rd largest)
- 2 high schools (3rd is currently being built)
- 4 middle schools (4th will open this upcoming school year)
- 8 elementary
- 3 K centers
- 1 PreK center w/6 additional satellite classrooms
Appoquinimink School District

- 12,000 students
- $12.7 per pupil spending (State- $15.1)
- 21% Low SES
- 3.6% ELL
- 17.7% Students w/Disabilities
- 71 Three year olds
- 200 Four year olds
- 489 Five year olds (3 K centers)

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Wichita Falls is a regional city of 104,000 residents serving a 12 county area of North Texas with medical, social, and governmental services.

14,100 PK-12 students enrolled
66% economically disadvantaged
8% English language learners
11.7% students with disabilities

Majority, minority student population
Focus Question One:

What steps have you taken in your transition plans to address the needs within your own community?
Community Partnerships

- Educational foundations
- Non-profit organizations
- Social services
- Churches
- Child-care providers
- After-school care providers
- Physicians and clinics
- Private schools
Appoquinimink School District - Steps Taken

A. Parallel actions of state
   ● Survey
   ● Focus Groups (July 6) - Academics/Equity
     Health/Wellness
     Operations/Services

A. Summer School- Virtual - July 6
B. Online Registration for K families
C. Transition Meetings and Videos for incoming PreK/K Families
D. Immersion Program (Chinese/Spanish) - Testimonials
Focus Question Two:

What does reopening look like for early learners?
Safely Reopen WFISD
(tentative plan as of June ...)

- **Summer Learning**
  - Waterford Upstart (185 students)
    - 25-30 minutes daily until September 1
    - Focus on EL and Low SES students
  - Optional online June 8-August 1 for returning K-12
  - Summer School face-to-face
    - July 6-31 ELs
    - July 13-30 for K & 1st

- **PK, Headstart and K Roundup for 2020-2021**
  - In person July 7-9
  - Online opened May 26

- **School starts Aug 20**
  - Face-to-face, blended and online options for students
  - All students have access to a device (working on Private LTE towers)
  - Trauma informed literacy and numeracy focus for PK-1st
Appoquinimink School District Reopening

Making Success Stick
- Teletherapy
- Materials Drop Off/Pick Up Spots
- 1-1 meetings
- Delayed opening - modifying school calendar
Focus Question Three:

What are your thoughts and how do you meet the needs of those who choose not to come to school?

What does your first day of school look like?
First Day and What to do for students staying home

First day - Aug. 31st -K/Sept. 2nd- PreK
Connection before Content

Devices
Choice Boards
Recorded Lessons

Appoquinimink School District
Resources

- Council of Chief School State School Officers (CCSSO.org) - *Framework for Planning Restart of Schools*
- DE Institute For Excellence in Early Childhood (University of DE - www.udel.edu)
- DE Office of Early Learning (education.delaware.gov)
- Waterford Early Learning (Waterford.org)
- AASA School Reopening Document
- Education Week Article from June 10
- June 18 Attendance Works and IEL Slide Deck on Transitions
- Education Dive Article from May 19
What are some thoughts on students that haven’t engaged through the remote learning process or have lost contact?
Questions or Comments?

Dr. Eddie Manuszak, Superintendent, Dundee Community Schools

Dr. Sharon Pepukayi, Assistant Superintendent, Appoquinimink School District

Dr. Dan Wuori, Director of Early Learning, Hunt Institute

Michael Kuhrt, Superintendent, Wichita Falls ISD
AASA Early Learning Cohort

- Superintendents from around the country making “Early Childhood Matter Most”
- Cohort began April 2017
- Made 6 site visits and 3 in person workshop session to various locations around the country
- Webinars and Twitter Chats now
- Sharing best practices, research based approaches and working with urban, rural and suburban districts
- Many thought partners: NAEYC, OHS, NHSA, Buffet ECI, Waterford Research, PBS
Early Learning Program Assessment Tool © (ELPAT)
• Designed by AASA Early Learning Co-Chair, Edward Manuszak, Dundee Community Schools Superintendent
• Published by Standards for Success, LLC
• Comprehensive Digital Tool designed to measure how effective their Early Learning Programs are for children from Birth through Age Eight that provides helpful resources
• Four Age Categories, 53 indicators
• More Info: INFO@STANDARDFORSUCCESS.COM
The Early Learning Program Assessment Tool standards cover four distinct age groups from Birth through Third Grade, and include instructional practice (engaged play, literacy & language, language development, math, & science, social studies), family & community engagement/outreach, professional development, social/emotional development, curriculum & resources, learning environment, developmental assessments, and health & wellness development.

The SFS Early Learning Program Assessment Tool (ELPAT©) was created by Edward Manuszak, AASA Early Learning Cohort co-Chair and Superintendent in Dundee, MI. We are pleased to introduce a systemic, research-based tool designed to offer direction in best practices in Early Learning. This tool is a comprehensive and universal way for school leaders to get a quick snapshot of how effective their Early Learning programs are for students and families. The assessment is broken down into a superintendent/district survey and four distinct age groups:

- **B**: Birth to 3 years
- **P**: Preschool 3 years to 5 years
- **K**: Kindergarten Grade K
- **E**: Elementary Grades 1 through 3

The ELPAT© tool is designed to be utilized as a site-dependent assessment that can be compared within the district or Early Learning cohort by like demographic programs. We have organized the assessment to be a yearly pre- and post-assessment that allows for progress monitoring and tracking of implemented strategies based upon the research to address the needs of your learners and community.

Standards include:

- Instructional practice
  - Engaged play
  - Literacy & language
  - Language development
  - Math, science, & social studies
  - Family & community engagement/outreach
- Professional development
  - Social/emotional development
  - Curriculum & resources
  - Learning environment
  - Developmental assessments
  - Health & wellness development

Schedule a demo at 844-737-3825 x1, or email info@standardforsuccess.com.
THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING TODAY’S WEBINAR!

WE URGE YOU TO CONNECT WITH ONE ANOTHER VIA LINKEDIN, TWITTER, EMAIL, PHONE~ INVESTING IN RELATIONSHIPS PAYS HUGE DIVIDEND