



# At a Glance

February 6, 2007

## Update on Interim Report on the First Year Implementation of the Child Development Education Pilot Program (CDEPP)

### Background of CDEPP / First-Year Evaluation

- A two-year pilot providing high-quality, full-day four-year-old kindergarten programs for at-risk children in 37 plaintiff districts (Abbeville County School District et al. vs. SC)
- The State Dept. of Education (SDE) is responsible for implementation of CDEPP in public schools; Office of First Steps implements program among non-public school providers.
- Public and private providers receive \$3,077/child to cover cost of instruction; \$185/child for transportation cost; and \$10,000/class for materials and supplies to equip new classrooms. (Total appropriation from General Assembly: \$23,575,680 in non-recurring general fund monies and Capital Reserve Fund appropriations.)
- EOC to evaluate newly established services that serve children with CDEPP funding, comparing new data. For initial evaluation, team members concentrated on collecting fundamental process information: numbers of children served; first-year projected expenditures; and the implementation process used by SDE and First Steps. Report findings are based on data received from reporting agencies as of December 14, 2006-January 3, 2007, as well as results of surveys and telephone interviews. The data are updated to reflect the 90-day count collection in public schools and an update of private provider data dated January 8, 2007. Subsequent evaluation reports are scheduled and listed on the reverse side.

### Updated Findings

- Based upon the 90 day counts, CDEPP is serving 2,919 students. The SDE is serving 2,624 four-year-olds in CDEPP and the Office of First Steps, 295.
- Eight of the 37 plaintiff districts did NOT participate in CDEPP.
- \$8,981,763 is the total projected annual expenditure for instruction. It is projected that \$12.1 million in non-recurring funds appropriated for CDEPP will not be expended in the current fiscal year (51 percent of the total appropriation of \$23,575,680.)
- As required by Proviso 1.75, the estimated surplus will be carried forward to fund services for three-year-old children in First Step Services.

### CDEPP Total Projected Expenditures (Updated Through February 6, 2007)

	Total Appropriation	TOTAL Projected Annual Expenditures <sup>1</sup>	TOTAL Projected Administrative & Training Budget	TOTAL Projected Surplus
Department of Education	\$15,717,104	\$9,794,933.03	\$175,551.75	\$5,746,619.22
Office of First Steps	\$7,858,576	\$1,262,290.00	\$280,000.00	\$6,316,286.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$23,575,680</b>	<b>\$11,057,223.03</b>	<b>\$455,551.75</b>	<b>\$12,062,905.22</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes funds for instruction, supplies/materials, and transportation.

- The number of four-year-olds eligible for the federal free- or reduced-price lunch program served in all state- and federally-funded pre-kindergarten programs (including CDEPP in public schools and in private providers, public school pre-kindergarten programs, Head Start, and ABC vouchers) is estimated to have increased in the 37 plaintiff districts by 652 students in 2006-07 compared to 2005-06.
- Statewide, the number of four-year-olds eligible for the federal free- or reduced-price lunch program served in all state- and federally-funded pre-kindergarten programs also increased by 764 students. (Table below compares participation in all 85 school districts vs. participation in 37 plaintiff districts.)

**Summary of Numbers of Students Participating in State-Funded Four-Year-Old Pre-Kindergarten Programs,  
2005-06 and 2006-07 School Years  
(Data Updated February 6, 2007)**

PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT GROUP	ALL 85 DISTRICTS		37 PLAINTIFF DISTRICTS	
	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07
Four-year-old Population Estimate	56,114	57,251 (+1,137)	11,746	11,642 (-104)
Children in Poverty* Estimate	35,010	36,794 (+1,784)	9092	9116 (+24)
4-yr-olds eligible for Free- or Reduced-Price Lunch Estimate	29,737	30,495 (+758)	8016	7926 (-90)
Public School 4K Total Served (includes CDEPP, EIA, Title 1, and locally funded programs)	21,145	20,509 (-636)	5095	5170 (+75)
Public School Pay Lunch Served	8142	7438 (-704)	1564	1355 (-209)
Public School Lunch Status Missing	132	3 (-129)	55	3 (-52)
Public School Free/Reduced, 1 <sup>st</sup> Steps, ABC, Head Start Total	21,546	22,310 (+764)	5930	6582 (+652)
Free- or Reduced-Price Lunch Students NOT Served	8191	8185 (-6)	2086	1344 (-742)

\* Children in Poverty includes children eligible for the Federal free- or reduced-price lunch program and/or Medicaid services; these students meet the eligibility requirements for participation in the CDEPP program.

**Updates to the Interim Report**

- Incomplete and inconsistent data at this point in CDEPP implementation rule out validation of the funds “following the child,” as established in Proviso 1.75
  - The quality of the data from the 90<sup>th</sup> day data collection is greatly improved over the 45<sup>th</sup> day collection, reflecting quality improvement efforts on the part of school districts, providers and state agencies.
  - Evaluation team suggests “continuation of the pilot for an additional year to better inform future legislation.”
- Accessibility of information and marketing of the educational services available needs to be further enhanced.
- Among public and/or private providers, challenging issues include licensing requirements; availability of qualified teachers; insufficient funding for services; transportation costs; and marketing.

**Timeframe for Additional Reports**  
 July 2007 – Year 1 Interim Report  
 January 2008 – Year 2 Interim Report  
 July 2008 – Year 2 Final Report

**For additional information, contact the EOC at (803) 734-6148.**

**A full copy of the Interim Report can be found online at [www.sceoc.org](http://www.sceoc.org).**