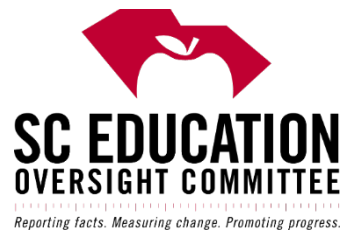


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# SC Education Oversight ASA Subcommittee Meeting

March 18, 2024



# Approval of ASA & PA Subcommittee Minutes January 22, 2024

*Dr. Patty Tate*



**SC EDUCATION  
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**  
Reporting facts. Measuring change. Promoting progress.

# Data Trailblazer Award

*Tenell Felder, EOC Communications Manager*



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# 2024 Data Trailblazer Awards

*Recognizing schools that demonstrate using creative data visualization and data story telling that has resulted in student achievement.*



- Aug. 2024- EOC's 1<sup>st</sup> annual Data Trailblazer Awards will be presented at the EOC Retreat
- 8 nominations thus far ...
- Nominations can be submitted at [expectmoresc.com/home/data-trailblazer/](https://expectmoresc.com/home/data-trailblazer/)

# State Funded, Full Day 4K Report for FY 2022-23 and 2023-24



*Dr. Jenny May*



**SC EDUCATION  
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

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# Pursuant to Proviso 1.48

Of the funds appropriated, \$300,000 shall be allocated to the Education Oversight Committee to conduct an annual evaluation of the South Carolina Child Development Education Pilot Program and to issue findings in a report to the General Assembly by March first of each year. To aid in this evaluation, the Education Oversight Committee shall determine the data necessary and both public and private providers are required to submit the necessary data as a condition of continued participation in and funding of the program. This data shall include developmentally appropriate measures of student progress....The Education Oversight Committee shall use this data and all other collected and maintained data necessary to conduct a research based review of the programs implementation and assessment of student success in the early elementary grades along with information, recommendations, and a timeline for how the state can increase the number of students served in high-quality programs.

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# Terms

## 4K Experience

## Definition and Data Source

### CERDEP 4K

CERDEP in public schools: Data comes from SCDE using 5K data with CERDEP 4K designation.

### First Steps 4K

CERDEP in non-public school settings: Data comes from First Steps enrollment for the current reporting year and is matched with 5K data from SCDE to ensure each student is counted once.

### \*Head Start

Head Start programming: data comes from SCDE 5K data where Head Start was listed as the 4K experience at enrollment in Kindergarten.

### Other Public 4K (non-CERDEP)

4K classes offered by public schools that are not funded by CERDEP (e.g. EIA or district funded): Data comes from SCDE using 5K data with other 4K designation.

### Private 4K

4K classes in non-public school settings that are not funded using state CERDEP dollars (e.g. DSS vouchers/childcare scholarships, private pay, etc.): Data in this category reported within comes from SCDE 5K data where private 4K was listed as the 4K experience at enrollment in Kindergarten.

# What to Know When Reading this Report:

- Focus on state-funded full-day 4K *utilization and impact*
    - Potentially Unserved= Students eligible for, but not accessing CERDEP. Some of these students may be accessing district funded or other programs, or it may not be known. Head Start students do not count as CERDEP or potentially unserved.
  - Data has improved!
-



# Since Last Year:

Recommendations	Outcomes
Expand opportunities for CERDEP access	<p>The 2023-24 Governor’s budget request specified an increase in the levels of funding for full-day 4K. The General Assembly approved a budget which increased the minimum reimbursement rate for instructional costs from \$4,800 to \$5,100 and the minimum reimbursement rate for transportation from \$587 to \$620 per student.</p> <p>Review of marketing, First 5 and Palmetto PreK portals, review of waitlist processes.</p>
Continue to find meaningful ways to evaluate program quality	<p>Beginning with the 2021-22 Appropriations Act, both CERDEP 4K programs and non-profit independent schools participating in CERDEP are “not required to be approved, registered, or licensed by the Department of Social Services in order to participate in CERDEP.” The 2023 report included a recommendation to monitor non-licensed independent schools participating in CERDEP to prevent any issues that may compromise the quality of CERDEP programs or the health and safety of the children they serve. Since this change, seven programs do not have a license as they are not required to, and 30 licensed programs choose not to participate in ABC Quality. Because this is the first year for this change in policy, it is the continued recommendation that EOC staff continue to monitor the impact over time.</p>
Expand coordination and collaboration	<p>PDG Planning Grant participation to study waitlists across all early childhood sectors.</p>

# Key Findings:

Based on **57,804** enrolled kindergarten students during the 2023-24 school year ...



**34,878** of those students were designated Pupils in Poverty.

Thirty-six percent of Pupils in Poverty, or **14,294** students, were served by CERDEP.



**8,288** The number of Pupils in Poverty known to be served in another 4K experience that is not CERDEP (e.g. district funded or Head Start)

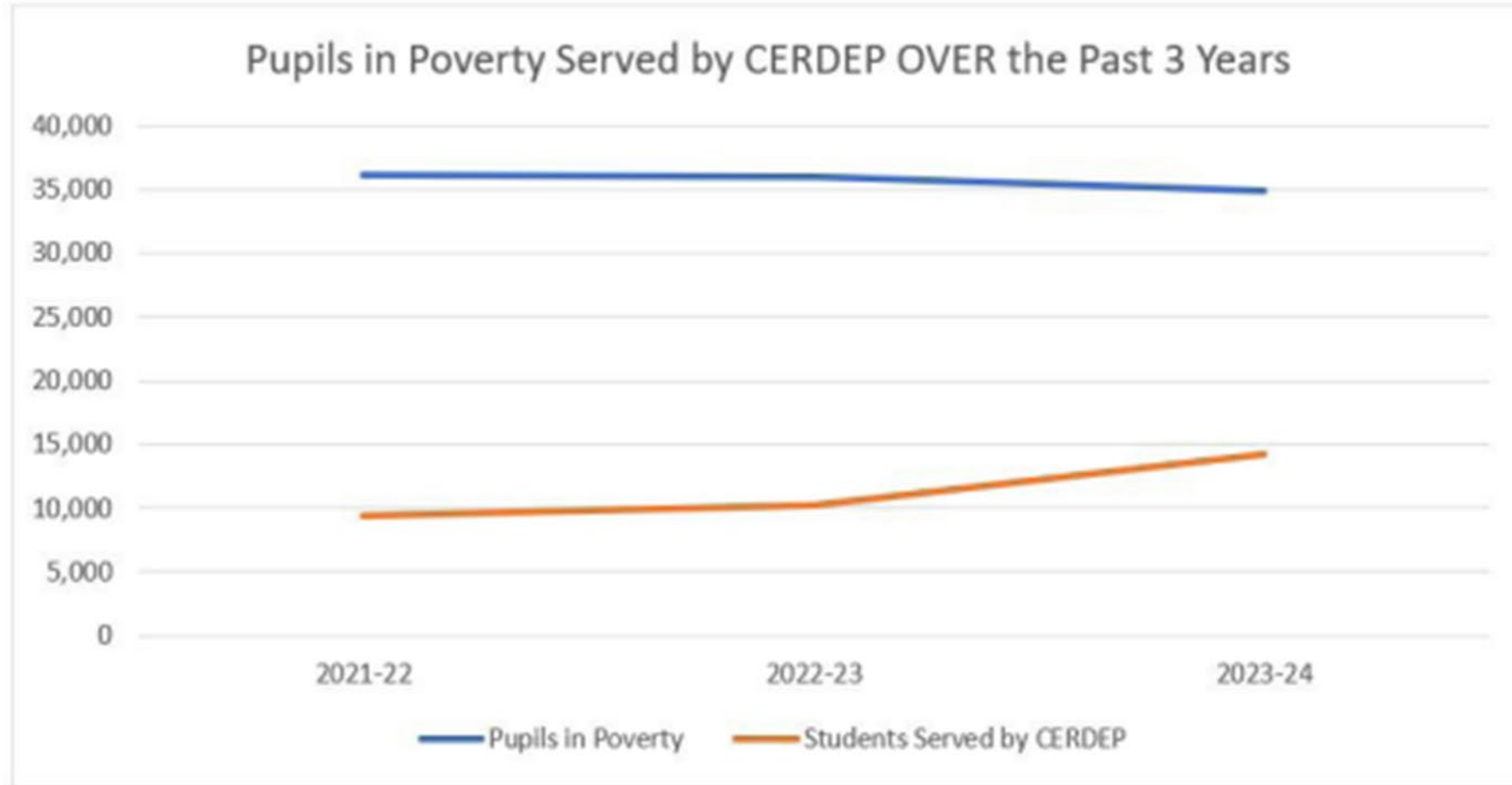


**12,668** Pupils in Poverty whose four-year-old preschool experience during the

The State's investment in full-day 4K programs has continued to increase.

**\$106,698,962** was spent on 4K for the 2022-23 Fiscal Year, which is the largest investment to date.

# How Many Four-Year-Old Children in South Carolina are in Poverty?



# How Many Children are Served by CERDEP?

4K Experience	Pupils <b>NOT</b> in Poverty 5K 2023-24	% of Pupils <b>NOT</b> in Poverty in 5K by 2022-23 4K Experience	Pupils in Poverty 5K 2023-24	% of <b>ALL</b> Pupils in Poverty Served in this Setting 2022-23 4K Experience	<b>Total</b>
CERDEP 4K	1,920	8%	12,001	33%	<b>13,921</b>
First Steps 4K	603	3%	2,546	7%	<b>3,149</b>
Head Start	285	1%	1,401	4%	<b>1,686</b>
Other Public Pre-K	4,153	17%	6,911	19%	<b>11,064</b>
Private 4K	649	3%	92	0%	<b>741</b>
Unknown	16,202	68%	12,981	36%	<b>29,183</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,812</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>35,932</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>59,744</b>

# How Many Potentially Eligible Children are NOT Served by CERDEP?

School Year	Pupils in Poverty Potentially Not Served	% Pupils in Poverty Potentially Not Served
2020-21	26,721	74%
2021-22	25,864	72%
2022-23	21,385	60%

School District	Count of students on Waiting List sent by SCDE to First Steps
Aiken	62
Anderson 04	6
Bamberg 03	5
Darlington	52
Greenwood 50	2
Jasper	22
Lancaster	16
Lexington/Richland 5	3
Newberry	6
Richland 02	8
Spartanburg 01	10
York 03	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>203**</b>

# What is the Financial Investment in CERDEP?

	2019-20 (FY 20)	2020-21 (FY 21)	2021-22 (FY22)	2022-23 (FY23)
Number of New CERDEP Classrooms Funded/Approved	69	30	113	101
Total CERDEP classrooms	888	881	1,059	1160
Total Expenditures	\$75,873,168	\$58,886,320	\$88,653,568	\$106,698,962
Funds Carried Forward	\$2,641,918	\$12,028,297	\$13,238,453	\$16,453,061

# Were Children Ready for Kindergarten this Year?

Kindergarten Readiness by PIP Status						
KRA Performance Level	PIP	(% PIP)	Not PIP	(% Not PIP)	All	(% of All)
Emerging Readiness	10,386	30%	3,073	13%	13,459	23%
Approaching Readiness	12,427	36%	5,684	25%	18,111	31%
Demonstrating Readiness	10,907	31%	10,877	47%	21,784	38%
Did Not Participate	1,158	3%	3,292	14%	4,450	8%
<b>All</b>	<b>34,878</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22,926</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>57,804</b>	<b>100%</b>

# What is the Impact of CERDEP on Kindergarten Readiness?

Pupils in Poverty Kindergarten Readiness by 4K Experience										
KRA Performance Level	Emerging Readiness		Approaching Readiness		Demonstrating Readiness		Did Not Participate		Total	
	Number	% of 4k exp at level	Number	% of 4k exp at level	Number	% of 4k exp at level	Number	% of 4k exp at level	Number	% of 4k exp of total KRA Scores
CERDEP 4K	2,298	19%	4,285	36%	4,636	39%	593	5%	11,812	33%
First Steps 4K	734	29%	1,049	41%	748	29%	*	*	2,546	7%
Subtotal All CERDEP	3,032	21%	5,334	37%	5,384	37%	593	4%	14,358	41%
Head Start	461	33%	568	41%	356	25%	16	1%	1,401	4%
Other Public 4K (non-CERDEP)	1,929	28%	2,316	34%	2,211	33%	339	5%	6,795	19%
Private 4K	*	*	33	36%	44	48%	0	0%	92	0%
Unknown	5,065	40%	4,351	34%	3,045	24%	207	2%	12,668	36%
Subtotal Non-CERDEP	7,455	36%	7,268	35%	5,656	27%	562	3%	20,956	59%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,502</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>12,602</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>11,040</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>1,155*</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>35,314</b>	<b>100%</b>



# All Students at Risk

<b>4K Experience during School Year 2022-23</b>	<b>Students with Disabilities in 5k</b>	<b>Total Students</b>	<b>% of Students with Disabilities</b>
<b>CERDEP 4K</b>	1,369	13,679	10%
<b>First Steps 4K</b>	93	2,859	3%
<b>Head Start</b>	191	1,686	11%
<b>Other Public Pre-K (Non-CERDEP)</b>	2,163	10,897	20%
<b>Private 4K</b>	37	741	5%
<b>Unknown</b>	1,611	28,426	6%
<b>All</b>	5,464	58,288	9%

# Inclusion in CERDEP and KRA Performance:

KRA Performance Level	Number of Students with a Disability in CERDEP 4K	% of Students with a Disability in CERDEP 4K	Number of Students with a Disability in First Steps 4K	% of Students with a Disability in First Steps 4K	Number of Students with a Disability in any CERDEP	% of Students with a Disability in any CERDEP	Number of Students with a Disability in any Non-CERDEP	% of Students with a Disability in any Non-CERDEP	Total Students with a Disability in KRA Performance Level	% Total Students with a Disability in KRA Performance Level
Emerging Readiness	546	40%	55	59%	601	41%	1,936	48%	2,537	46%
Approaching Readiness	468	34%	29	31%	497	34%	1,038	26%	1,535	28%
Demonstrating Readiness	281	21%	*	*	281	19%	657	16%	944	17%
Did Not Participate	74	5%	*	*	74	5%	371	9%	448	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,453</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>4,002</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5,464</b>	<b>100%</b>

# How Does SC Rank Nationally in 4K?

Policy Standard	Benchmark of Quality	Meets Benchmark
Early Learning & Development Standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Yes
Curriculum Supports	Approval process & supports	Yes
Teacher Degree	BA	Not Yet
Teacher Specialized Training	Specialized in PreK	Yes
Assistant Teacher Degree	CDA or equivalent	Not Yet
Staff Professional Development	For teachers and assistants: at least 15 hours/year; individual professional development plans; coaching	Yes
Maximum Class Size	20 or lower	Yes
Staff to Child Ratio	1:10 or better	Yes
Screening and Referral Benchmark	Vision, hearing and <u>health</u> screenings with referral	Not Yet
Continuous Quality Improvement System	Structured classroom <u>observations</u> ; data used for program improvement	Yes

# Recommendations from Findings:

- Fund additional CERDEP 4K programs
  - Incentivize CERDEP Participation for Private Child Care Providers
  - Use waitlists differently to increase enrollment efficiency
  - Continue to evaluate quality in meaningful ways
    - NIEER benchmarks of quality planning
  - Invest in supports to better understand access and attendance in CERDEP
-

# Proposed CERDEP Changes to the 2024-25 Fiscal Year

Data collected by the EOC from SCDE and SCFS will include average daily attendance data so that consistent enrollment may be determined. The SCDE shall also issue a unique student identifier for each child receiving services from public or private provider including CERDEP, Head Start, SC Child Care Scholarships, EIA, Title I, district-funded, and all other federal, state, and local public sources.

1A.73 (SCDE-EIA: Foundational Literacy Skill Training) Beginning with the current 2023-24 fiscal year, this proviso directs the Department of Education to provide training in foundational literacy skills to public school educators in Kindergarten through grade three. The amendment expands the training to educators in the state-funded full-day 4K programs and allows the SCDE to carry forward funds as needed to provide the training.

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**Questions or Suggestions?**

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# Accountability Update

**Dr. Matthew Lavery**



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# English Proficiency Exam (Alternate Exam) Update

## **ALT ACCESS: Alternative Assessment for Multi-Lingual Learners (MLs)**

- WIDA (University of Wisconsin-Madison) standard setting won't occur until July 2024
  - WIDA is providing concordance table to support the transition
  - 489 students took this assessment last school year
  - Will **not** have final scores to include in 2024 State School Report Cards (deadline October 15, 2024)
  - Will have final scores to meet federal accountability deadline of December 2024 (requiring no amendment to ESSA)
-