



KENTUCKY
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
EARLY CHILDHOOD

READY TO GROW, READY TO LEARN & READY TO SUCCEED

STRONG START
OCTOBER 2020

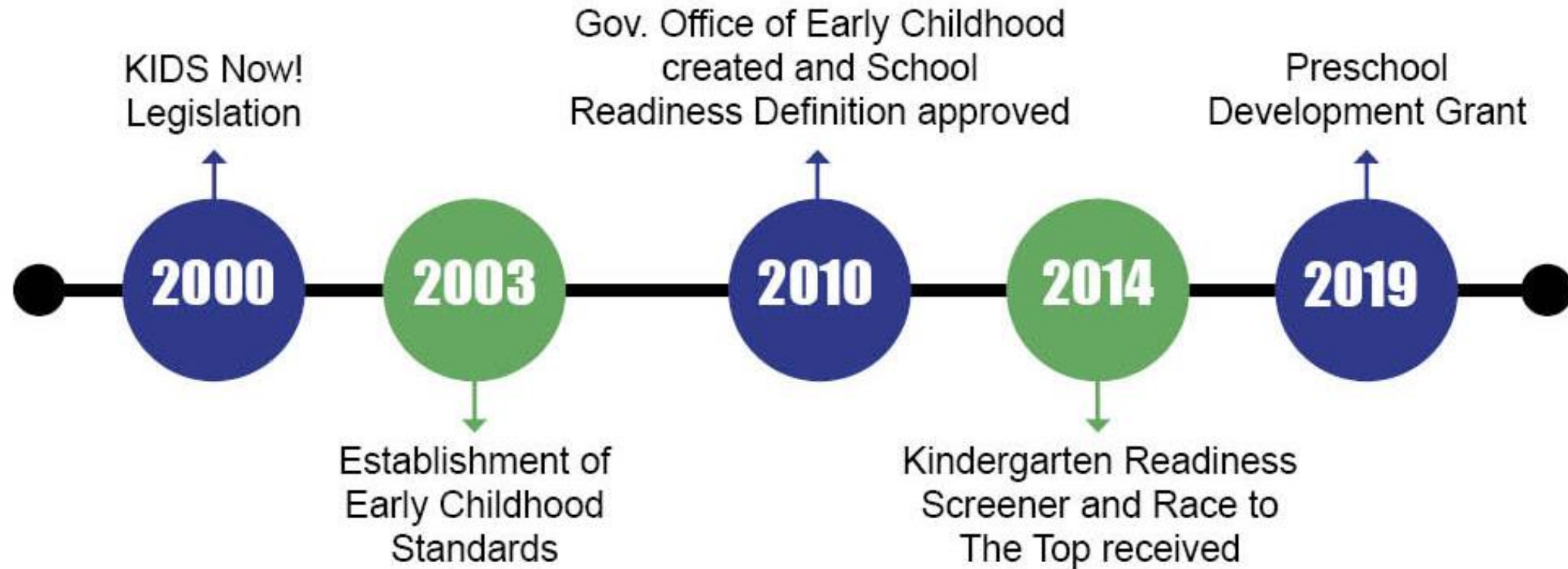
The Role of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood



- Provide leadership and direction for the Commonwealth by providing a comprehensive and sustainable prenatal to age five early childhood system that will ensure a strong foundation for all children.
 - Facilitating collective commitment across the state to tackle some of the most difficult problems to improve educational outcomes
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- Uniting the most effective organizations and influencers around the first critical years of a child's life



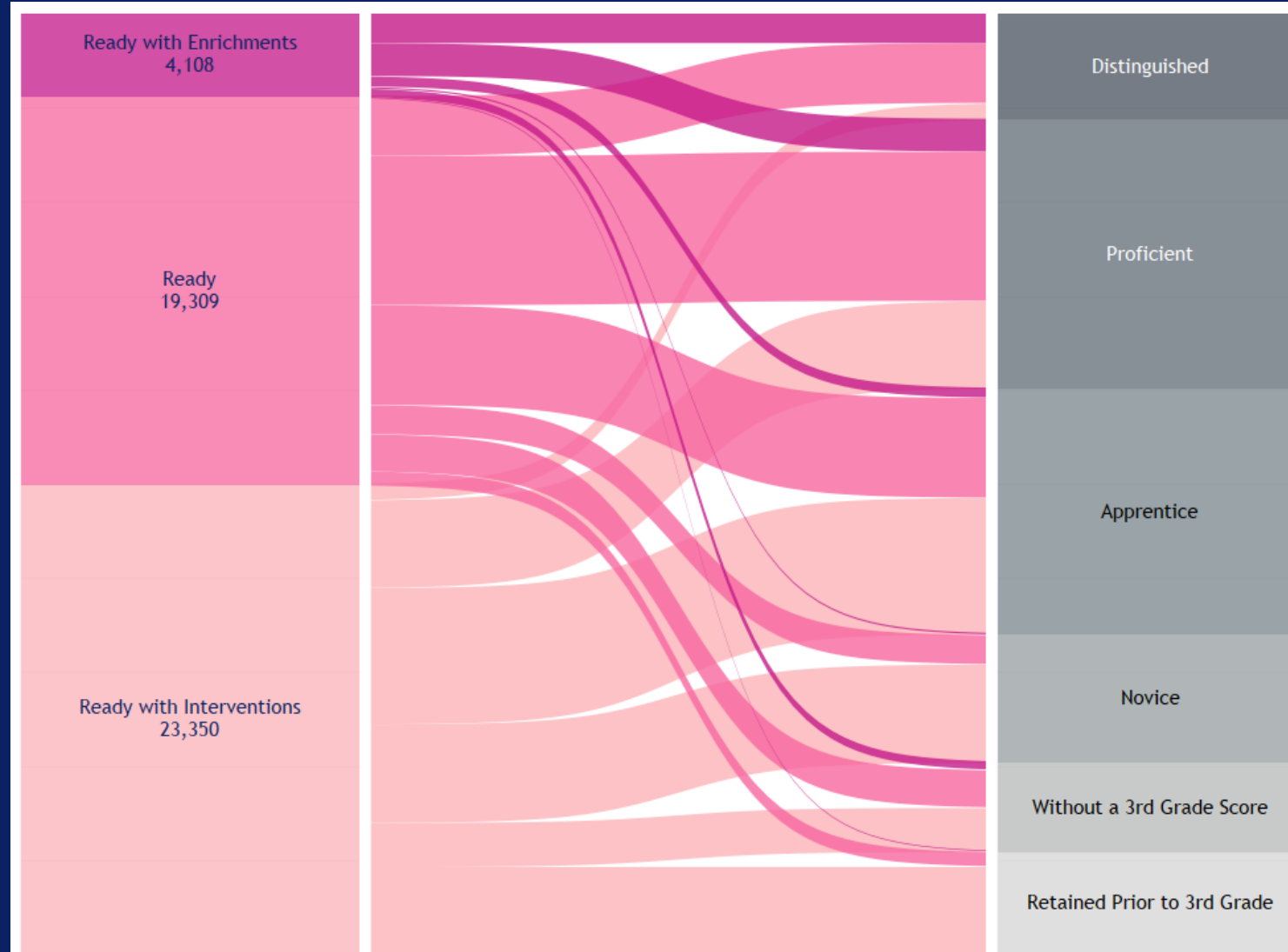
Kentucky Early Childhood System Timeline



Kindergarten Readiness Matters

K Readiness and 3rd Grade Tests are Highly Related

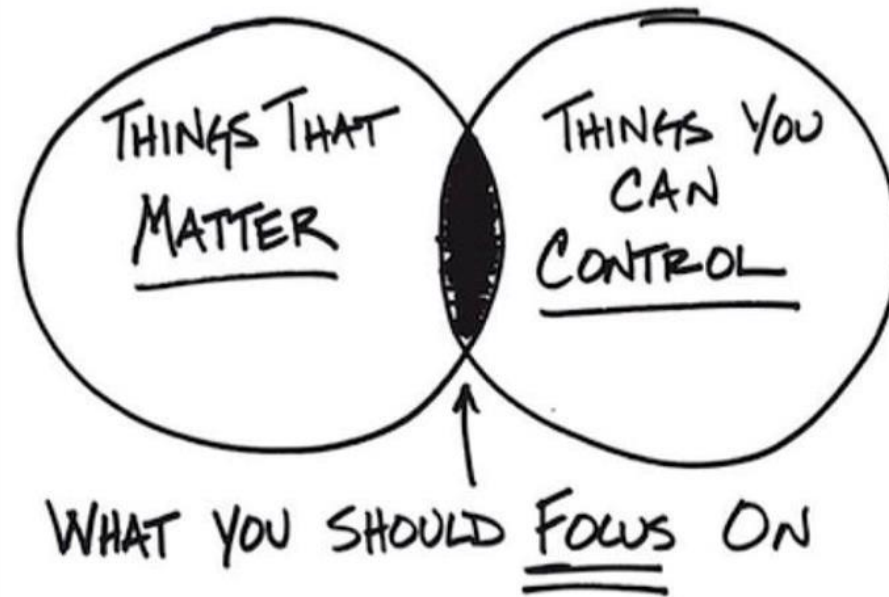
Kindergarten Readiness rates have hovered around 50% the last 5 years



3rd Grade Math and Reading Proficiency Rates are subsequently flat



Unifying the System to Create a Larger and Sustainable Impact



Accelerating Change

- In 2018, the Kentucky Governor's Office of Early Childhood was awarded \$10,620,000 through the Preschool Development Birth through Five Grant.
- The purpose of this one-year grant was to achieve Kentucky's goals of strengthening and unifying the comprehensive early childhood system, to support all young children and their caregivers, but especially highly vulnerable children and children in rural or limited accessibility areas of the state.
- A deliverable of the grant was the development 5-year statewide strategic plan which serves as our roadmap to accelerate change.

Kentucky's Grant Goals

ACTIVITY 1 & 2

- Build capacity among state leaders to envision a comprehensive, aligned, efficient and responsive system
- Needs Assessment
- Revised Logic Model and Evaluation Plan
- Capacity-Building for state and community partners

ACTIVITY 3

- Bolster and support local community efforts to connect with, educate, and link children and families to services
- Comprehensive outreach educational campaign
- Targeted communication tools related to quality indicators

ACTIVITY 4

- Convene collaborative work groups to link strategic plan goals to initiatives and content specific work plans
- Standards-based training and Technical Assistance
- Blended Models of funding
- Enhanced infant/toddler care
- Transitions

ACTIVITY 5

- Improve Quality through best practices, standards and professional and leadership development
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Workforce Development and Leadership Improvement

Kentucky Grant Highlights

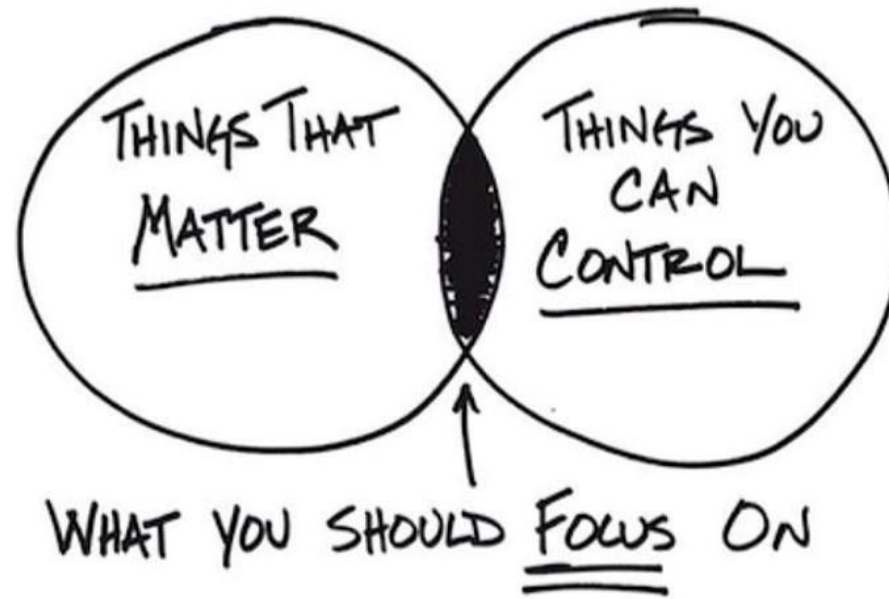
- 5-Year Strategic Plan
- Needs Assessment

- Transition Plan
- Refreshed Parent Guides/Website
- Family Learning Kits

- Early Childhood Institute
- Comprehensive review and revisions of Standards
- Comprehensive review of Early Childhood Framework
- Evidence-based tools training for regional technical assistance providers and trainers

- Comprehensive review of Career Lattice and Professional Development Framework
- Expanded Youth Apprenticeship Program
- Fiscal Mapping & Unique Child Identifier
- Family Engagement Report

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