Virginia Department of Education
Office of Early Childhood Development

August 7, 2009

Local School Division Survey
Project Child HANDS

The Virginia Office of Early Childhood Development is partnering with a research team at Virginia Tech to develop an interactive, Web-based data system for the Commonwealth focused on early childhood initiatives. We are asking your assistance in developing an inventory of information local school divisions currently collect regarding children enrolled or enrolling in your division's preschool or kindergarten programs.

Thank you very much!

Please answer to the best of your ability. Comments may be entered at the end of the survey.

School Division Name

Person Completing Survey:
    Name
    Job Title
    E-mail
    Phone

Kindergarten enrollment and Kindergarten assessments

Starting in school year 2007-2008, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) required all school divisions to collect information regarding the preschool experience of entering kindergarteners. The information may be collected as part of a general enrollment form or may be a separate document within the Kindergarten enrollment packet. We know that many school divisions collect more information than the VDOE currently requires. We are interested in learning about the specific information and forms used to collect preschool and other early childhood education experience data, and about how that information is stored.

Please send, or upload, an e-copy of your Kindergarten enrollment form or packet that includes the questions regarding prekindergarten, preschool, or child care experiences to Isabel Bradburn, Project Child HANDS, at isbrad@vt.edu or FAX it to 540-231-1863, Attn: Isabel Bradburn.

The form(s) can be uploaded online here.

Is the information provided by parents on the Kindergarten Enrollment form or packet regarding preschool and child care history entered into a computer?

○ Yes
○ No
○ No, but we plan to start doing so within the next 2 years.
○ Sometimes it is entered and sometimes it is not. The decision is up to the schools.
○ Don't know

IF YES: Please check the computer software program used

○ School Information System
○ Microsoft Excel
○ Microsoft Access
○ Microsoft Word
○ Other

Does your division conduct any screenings or other entry assessments when a child is enrolled in Kindergarten, *prior to* the start of school?

○ Yes, all elementary schools in the division do so.
○ Yes, one or some of the elementary schools in the division do so, but not all.
○ No
○ No, but we plan to start doing so within the next 2 years.
○ Don't know

Does your division conduct any screenings or other assessments in the *fall* of the Kindergarten year, other than the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS)?

○ Yes, all elementary schools in the division do so.
○ Yes, one or some of the elementary schools in the division do so, but not all.
○ No
○ No, but we plan to start doing so within the next 2 years.
○ Don't know

If YES, what assessment tool is used (other than PALS)? (If locally developed, please enter "Locally Developed Assessment." As you type, some suggestions may appear.)

Does your division conduct any screenings or other assessments in the *spring* of the Kindergarten year, other than the PALS (for example, mathematics achievement, social-personal development assessments, motor assessments, or summative comprehensive assessments)? In this section, include both spring follow-up on fall assessments to measure children's progress across the year, and/or one-time assessments usually given in the spring or end of an academic year.

○ Yes, all elementary schools in the division do so.
○ Yes, one or some of the elementary schools in the division do so, but not all.
○ No
○ No, but we plan to start doing so within the next 2 years.
○ Don't know

If YES, what assessment tool is used (other than PALS)? (If locally developed, please enter "Locally Developed Assessment." As you type, some suggestions may appear.)

This last question asks what you and your division would find most useful from an early childhood interactive data system (a system you could use to address locality-specific questions, using timely data). Please check all that apply. Please add others if your interest is not represented.

We would find it useful to have a way to address questions regarding:

- ☐ School readiness related to preschool history
- ☐ Achievement throughout elementary school related to preschool history
- ☐ Impact of the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI)
- ☐ Impact of Head Start
- ☐ Impact of Early Childhood Special Education services
- ☐ K-3 educational outcomes related to type of preschool/child care prior to Kindergarten
- ☐ K-3 educational outcomes by amount of money spent on each child individually
- ☐ Links between early health, speech, and/or mental health services and children's K-3 outcomes
- ☐ Other (please list in comment section)

Additional Comments