Early Childhood Education
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Education Committee Meeting
May 3, 2016
The Story of Malaysia
Early Head Start Program
From Birth to 3 years old

• Serves children of the teen parents at: Allderdice, Brashear, University Preparatory School at Milliones and Westinghouse
• Two classrooms at Crescent
• Home visiting
• Partnerships with child care agencies
• Total of 134 children served
• Funded by Head Start Federal funds
Once Malaysia is 3 years old she will go into one of our Early Childhood (EC) classrooms.

- **Head Start** up to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level
- **PreK Counts** up to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level
- **Tuition** over 300% of the federal Poverty Level

Serves 2,076 children - 3-5 year olds in 86 classrooms & 16 child care partnership programs
Braided Funding
The District’s programs follow the highest standards.

• **Federal** - Head Start Performance Standards

• **State** - Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)

• **Local** - School District, City, County
Federal Head Start Requirements

• Performance Standards:
  – Annual Report (on-line)
    • http://www.pps.k12.pa.us/Page/691
  – Community Assessment (every 3 years)
  – Program Information Report (annually)
  – Self Assessment (annually)
Keystone STARS

Keystone STARS - Improving the quality through:

• **Standards**
• **Training/Professional Development**
• **Assistance,**
• **Resources and**
• **Support**
If Malaysia needs Early Intervention (EI) services, she can get them in our classrooms.

- Early Intervention serves 1,600 children with special needs - 3-5 years old
- Served in EC classrooms, reverse inclusion classrooms, child care or home

Funded by: State EI funds, Federal IDEA and Medical Assistance
Pittsburgh Public Schools
Early Childhood Education Department
2015-16 Child Count*

- Head Start and Early Head Start (1,263 children served)
- Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program (302 children served)
- Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts (574 children served)
- Preschool Tuition (27 children served)

* Accountability Block Grant supports the cost to serve children
Malaysia is similar to many of the children in the EC Program.

- 86% of EC participants are enrolled for at least 13 months
- 69% African-American
- 25% Special Education
- 83% stay in PPS for Kindergarten
Malaysia is in a high quality program

• All teachers have at least a Bachelor’s Degree and PA certification in Early Childhood Education. Over 60% also have a Master’s Degree.

• Family Services Specialists and Early Head Start Home Visitors have a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree in social work, counseling, child development, or a related field.

• All Education Assistants have at least a CDA (Child Development Associate Credential) or Associate’s Degree.

• Currently going through the Keystone STARS-all classrooms that have finished the process are STAR 4!
All the students show great progress.

Work Sampling System
Early Childhood Program
2013-2015 Cohort
We have demonstrated positive impacts in our EC programs.

We compared students who enrolled in a PPS early childhood program to similar children* that did not attend.

We found PPS Early Childhood participants had:

- Higher Grade Point Averages (1st – 3rd Grade)
- Higher Attendance (1st Grade)
- Higher Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) Scores (3rd Grade)

* PPS EC students were compared to non-EC students who qualify for free or reduced lunch; analysis also controlled for race, gender, and special education status.
Parent Engagement is important to Malaysia’s family.
We Value Community Partnerships