



### Boost Enrollment in Family Child Care: Curriculum Helps

Presented by:  
Learning Beyond Paper, Inc.

October 21, 2021  
Thursday, 2:00 pm



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### Agenda

- Introduction
- Community Agreement
- What Defines Curriculum?
- Implementation & Usage
- Identifying Curriculum Gaps
- Maximizing Potential: Tools, Tips & Strategies
- Creating a Lasting Impact



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**Laura Delgado**

**VICE PRESIDENT OF CURRICULUM & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**



- Former Preschool Owner, Director and Teacher
- Laura has a bachelor's degree in Sociology and a minor in ECE from the University of South Florida, a master's degree in Leadership in Education, and over twenty-five years of early learning experience
- 6 Years with Florida's Office of Early Learning
- Experience with Preschool Centers, School District Preschool Programs, and Home-Based Childcare Centers
- Dedicated career to advancing opportunities for Early Learning Professionals through Training, Professional Development, Mentoring and Coaching



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### Curriculum Development Team

Learning Beyond was created with  and expertise cultivated over 150 years.



#### Team members include:

- Former Owners, Directors & Teachers
- NAEYC Professional Development Facilitator
- State Curriculum Review Board Members
- State Early Learning Training Facilitators
- Early Learning College Professors



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### Community Agreements

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### Learning Beyond was Created to:



**SUPPORT TEACHERS:**

- Online vs. Paper-based
- Intuitive design for real-time use
- Training built into Daily Activities
- FREE Professional Development




**SUPPORT PROVIDERS:**

- Affordable AND high-quality
- 100% online for today's teachers
- Training & PD included FREE
- Reduces turnover -> ensuring quality, continuity of care for children

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Learning Beyond was Created to:

**Solve the EQUITY GAP**

**SUPPORT CHILDREN:**

- Integrated ECE Standards
- STEAM and Literacy focus
- Learning Support
- Social-Emotional Development
- Happy Teachers/Happy Kids

**SUPPORT FAMILIES:**

- Includes communication tools
- Teacher Retention
- Promotes Curriculum efficacy & consistency

Environmentally-friendly solution

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**What defines Curriculum?**

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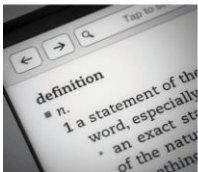


National Association for the Education of Young Children

EARLY LEARNING CURRICULUM

Standard 2: Curriculum

What to look for in a program:



- Ask about the program's curriculum and how it addresses all aspects of child development. The curriculum should not focus on just one area of development.
- Children are given opportunities to learn and develop through exploration and play, and teachers have opportunities to work with individual children and small groups on specific skills.
- Materials and equipment spark children's interest and encourage them to experiment and learn.
- Activities are designed to help children get better at reasoning, solving problems, getting along with others, using language, and developing other skills.
- Infants and toddlers play with toys and art materials that "do something" based on children's actions, such as jack-in-the-box, cups that fit inside one another, and playdough.

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### Let's think about Curricula.

Are you satisfied with the curriculum you currently use?

Do your families know what curriculum your program uses?

Are you or your teachers using the curriculum to it's fullest?

Are your families engaged with the curriculum and daily activities?

Do you or your teachers have scheduled planning time during their shift?

Do families have access?

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10

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### Let's think about how curriculum is being implemented in your program.

**Successes?** **Challenges?**

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### Maximizing Potential: Tools, Tips & Strategies to Promote Effective Curriculum use

<p><b>FOR DIRECTORS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify ways to streamline             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eliminate redundancies</li> <li>Time-wasting activities (i.e., photocopying, managing supplies)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Involve your team to brainstorm on ideas for improvements, share best practices</li> <li>Provide curriculum onboarding &amp; ongoing implementation training</li> <li>Seek out support from your current curriculum provider</li> </ul>	<p><b>FOR TEACHERS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide open-ended questions &amp; prompts             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write on sentence strips &amp; post around the classroom</li> </ul> </li> <li>Provide <u>free</u> access to training &amp; opportunities for in-service hours</li> <li>Allocate time for lesson planning &amp; prep</li> <li>Create time for teacher reflection</li> <li>Encourage sharing of ideas</li> </ul>	<p><b>FOR CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review/optimize communication approach</li> <li>Host a Curriculum night</li> <li>Walk families through your curriculum approach</li> <li>Explain the "why" behind lessons/activities</li> <li>Display children's work</li> <li>Share ways to extend the learning at home</li> <li>Encourage families to be ambassadors for your program</li> </ul>
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### Early Learning Perspectives

**Directors**      **Children**      **Teachers**

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### Directors

- Constantly pulled in a million directions
- Covers classes daily
- Hiring challenges doubled in last year
- Invested \$30,000 in Curriculum, Teachers are struggling to implement it
- Training and PD have taken a back seat
- Teacher candidates have:
  - No experience
  - Require a lot of training and time
  - Burnout/lack of motivation

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### Teachers

- Passion for kids but has limited to no prior experience
- Due to understaffing, on their 3<sup>rd</sup> day they are put into a classroom by themselves with 15 four-year old's
- Expected to deliver lesson plans effectively with little to no training
- There is constant shifting from classroom to classroom – lack of consistency

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**Owners/Educators**

- Responsible for the success of the entire program:
  - Quality
  - Curriculum
  - Budget
  - Enrollment
- Multi-age setting
- No staffing flexibility
- Training and PD have taken a back seat

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**Impact on Children**

- Continuity of care
- Impact on social-emotional development
  - Inability to form bonds
  - Behavior challenges on the rise
  - Classroom management challenges
- Lack of school-to-home connections
- Negative impact on development and academics

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**Reflecting on Experiences**

**For DIRECTORS:**

- Challenges as leaders
- Opportunities for Training?
- Effective, consistent implementation?
- Budget impact
- Resources and materials

**For FAMILIES:**

- What are they experiencing?
- Do they understand your curriculum?
- Are school-to-home lessons available?
- How have the gaps impacted your enrollment?

**For TEACHERS:**

- What are they experiencing?
- Do they have access to proper training and professional development?
- Appropriate time allotted for lesson planning and prepping?

**For CHILDREN:**

- What are they experiencing?
- In classrooms with multiple ages/stages?
- Is there consistency with the instruction approach?
- Are there behavior challenges?

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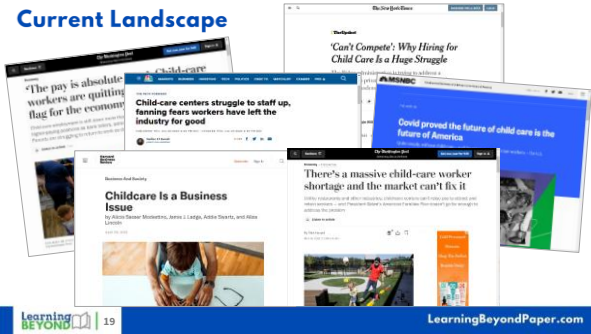
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### Current Landscape



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### Digital Natives



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**INNOVATION**  
is the **KEY**

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**INNOVATION**  
is not only about  
technology

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Curriculum should create stronger connections with families and...

Curriculum must support teachers and promote their success **NOW** and for the **FUTURE**.

provide high-quality, 21<sup>st</sup> century early learning experiences for **ALL** children.

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Curriculum is the **GLUE** that holds everything together.

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Thank you!

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