



## San Jose's Early Education Quality Standards

City Council Discussion  
March 26, 2019

# EDL STRATEGY

## **Build on City Efforts in Education, Digital Literacy, and Inclusion**

- Schools/City Collaborative
- My Brother's Keeper
- Broadband and Digital Inclusion

## **Education as a Key Indicator of Community Success**

- Economic and Community Development
- Workforce Development and Employment
- Public Safety

## **Education and Digital Literacy Strategy**

- Adopted by City Council on May 7, 2018

# EDL VALUES

- **Equity**
- **Opportunity**
- **Quality**
- **Accountability**

# EDL APPROACH

- **Early Education**
- **Learning at Grade Level**
- **Graduating Ready for College & Career**
- **Digital Literacy**
- **Governance Recommendations**

# EARLY EDUCATION

ENTERING SCHOOL READY TO  
LEARN AND SUCCEED

80% OF A CHILD'S BRAIN DEVELOPS BY AGE 3  
AND 90% BY AGE 5.

## MEET THANH!



- 4 years old
- Recent Vietnamese immigrant
- English Language Learner
- Lives with mom, grandma, uncle and sister
- Learns English by watching cartoons
- Thanh and his grandma utilize Family Resource Centers, parks, community library branches, and public transit
- Accesses ESL/citizenship information, early education learning programs, Vietnamese language books, and health referrals through these centers.

# START SMART

## EARLY EDUCATION MATTERS



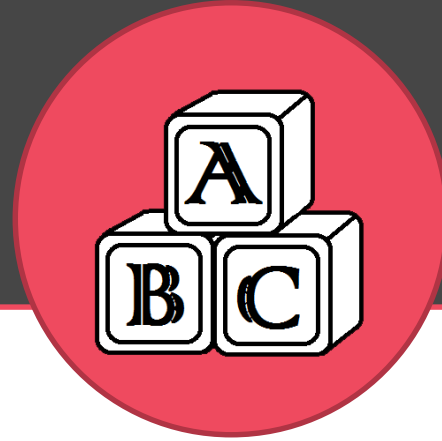
**76,000**

children under the  
age of 5 live in  
San José



**90%**

of a child's critical  
brain development  
happens by age 5



**75%**

of the unmet need  
for licensed  
preschools in the  
County is in SJ

# County-wide Preschool Access Gaps

## All Children



■ Served ■ Unserved

## Children in Poverty



■ Served ■ Unserved



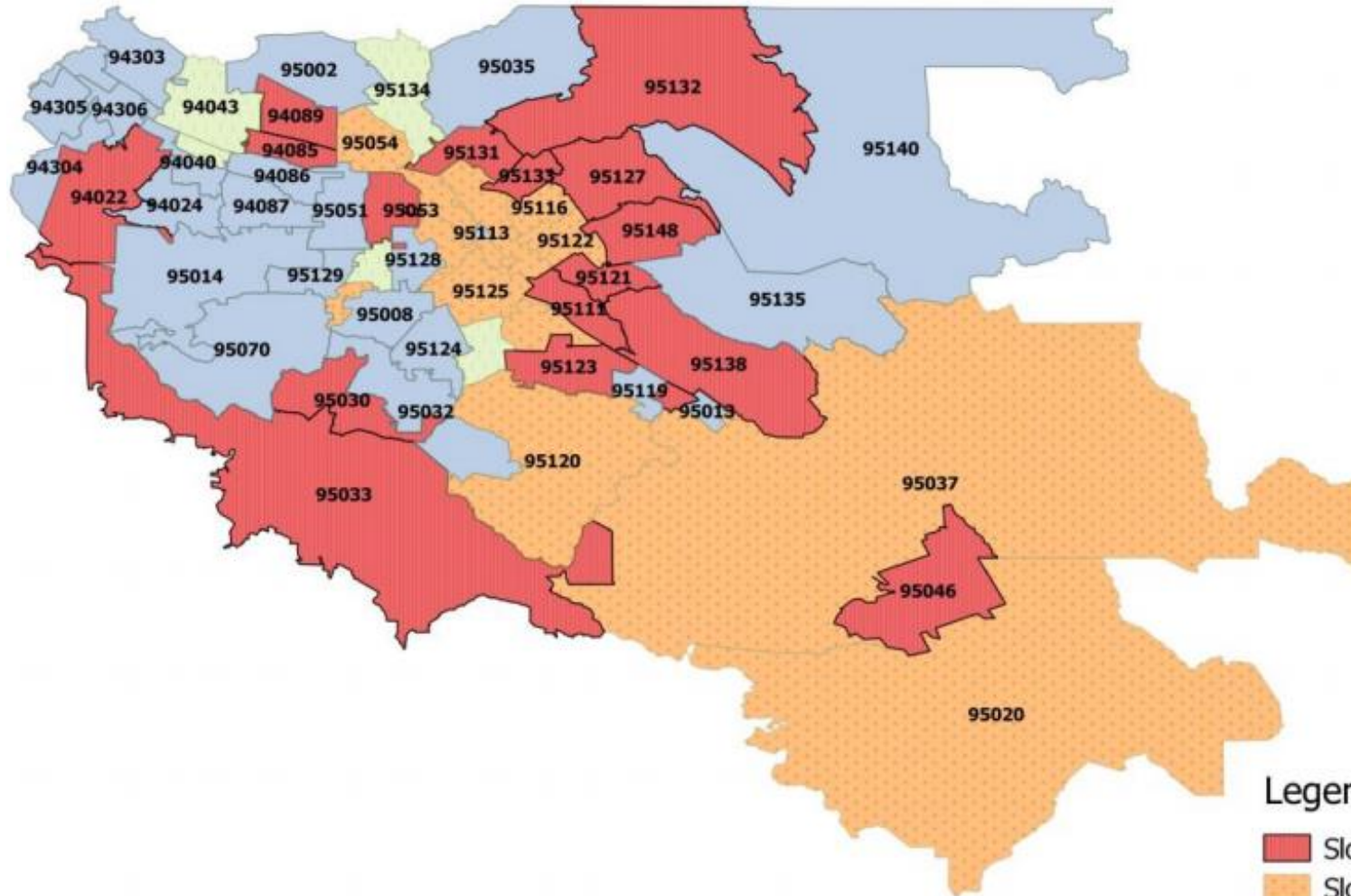
“Affordable” child care costs 7% of family income

Average cost of a licensed pre-school slot- \$11,991

Average cost of a licensed infant-toddler slot- \$16,375

A family must earn **\$171,300** to make fulltime licensed care for one preschooler affordable in Santa Clara County

# EARLY EDUCATION



## Legend

- Slots for <34% of Population
- Slots for 34-54% of Population
- Slots for 55-74% of Population
- Slots for 75%+ of Population

## EDL STRATEGY ACTIONS

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**Establish evidence-based quality standards** for all programs that are City-funded, sponsored, or endorsed;

- Work in collaboration with all partners to determine appropriate standards,
- Align program standards with existing program standards and assessments whenever possible

Staff will develop quality standards **for license-exempt early care & education programs** that reflect differences in program type and intent.

Staff will **assess and align programs with the quality standards**, collect data on performance, & report out annually to Commission, Committee, & City Council.



**EARLY EDUCATION QUALITY  
STANDARDS  
(EEQS)  
DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**

# PROJECT ADVISORY TEAM MEMBERSHIP



Go Kids, Inc.



Library &  
Early Education  
Commission

SAN JOSE  
PARKS, RECREATION &  
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



# STANDARD AREAS

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**Health and Safety**

**Child Learning and Development**

**Curriculum and Teaching Practices**

**Learning Environment**

**Staffing and Professional Development**

**Program Leadership and Management**

**Family Engagement and Partnerships**

**Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

# FOCUS AREAS

STANDARD FOCUS	FOCUS AREAS	
Health + Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Supervision</li> <li>• Staff Training + Certification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility Safety</li> </ul>
Child Learning + Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation with Children</li> <li>• Adult/Education/Child Interactions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developmentally Appropriate Practices</li> </ul>
Curriculum + Teaching Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence-based Curriculum</li> <li>• Adaptive Teaching Strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome-based Program Evaluations</li> </ul>
Learning Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical Environment</li> </ul>	
Staffing + Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualification and Expertise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training and Professional Development</li> </ul>
Program Leadership + Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethical Standards</li> <li>• Practices, Policies + Procedures</li> <li>• Vision, Mission, + Values</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Stakeholder Connections</li> <li>• Partnership Engagement</li> </ul>
Family Engagement + Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent/Caregiver Voice/Decision-Making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balanced Communication</li> <li>• Strengthening Families</li> </ul>
Equity, Diversity + Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive + Supportive Practices</li> <li>• Promoting Racial Equity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical, Behavioral, and Developmental Screenings + Referrals</li> </ul>

# QUALITY CONTINUUM

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**Basic Quality Not Met** necessitates immediate corrective action

**Basic Standard** required baseline level for all City programs

**Proficient Quality** target standard for all City programs

**Advanced Quality** goal for progressive continuous improvement



# RUBRIC

Program Quality Standard Area #1: Health and Safety				
Focus Areas	Basic Quality Not Met	Basic Standards	Proficient Quality	Advanced Quality
Facility Safety				
Staff Training and Certification				

**Quality Standards** (points to the top header)

**Quality Continuum** (points to the Proficient Quality column)

**Quality Indicators** (points to the Basic Standards, Proficient Quality, and Advanced Quality columns)

## EEQS STANDARDS

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**Provide detailed descriptions** outlining expectations for each type of early education program

**Incorporates evidence based** educational markers with health, safety, and early care standards

**Describes both aspirational and tangible** goals and targets that create a beneficial early care ecosystem

**Standards will be utilized** as context for program assessments to be done within the year

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**Immediate Approach** focus on specific high-impact programs and standard areas

Department	Program	Standard Areas
Library	Storytime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Curriculum &amp; Teaching Practices (Area 3)</li><li>•Family Engagement (Area 7)</li><li>•Equity, Diversity, &amp; Inclusion (Area 8)</li></ul>
PRNS	Recreation Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Child Development &amp; Learning (Area 2)</li><li>•Curriculum &amp; Teaching Practices (Area 3)</li><li>•Equity, Diversity, &amp; Inclusion (Area 8)</li></ul>

**Expand to All Programs** per detailed implementation timeline

**Provide Quality Standards and Tools** to other license-exempt programs

## EARLY EDUCATION

How might Thanh's experience change if we:

- Ensured that all programs implemented quality standards
- Worked to add more preschool enrollment opportunities?



- Enrolled in preschool in his neighborhood
- Made great strides learning English
- Was screened for learning disabilities in preschool
- Assessment showed he was ready to enter Kindergarten!

## RECOMMENDATION

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- **Adopt the proposed Early Education Quality Standards (EEQS)** - developed by City staff and the Project Advisory team & reviewed by the NSE Committee - for City programs serving children ages 0-5.

# *Reimagining the City as a Classroom*

