RBA Report to the CT General Assembly Appropriations Committee

Early Childhood Investment Initiative:
Goal II

February 7, 2008

READY BY 5 & FINE BY 9
CONNECTICUT'S EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

Prepared by the Connecticut Early
Childhood Education Cabinet
and Co-published with the Connecticut
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"Ready by Five, Fine by Nine"

"*Ready by Five*

- **Goal 1: All children reach appropriate developmental milestones from birth to age 5 and enter kindergarten with the knowledge, skills and behaviors needed for success in school**

"*Fine by Nine*"

- **Goal 2: All children healthy and achieving school success by age 9**

"Fine by Nine": All CT children healthy and successful in School by Age 9

Core System & Service Principles

- A multi-agency effort to build a <u>system</u> of service
- Aimed at addressing the "total" child as he/she develops
- Focused by a powerful outcome: Grade 3 literacy attainment for all students
- Part of a new B-9 paradigm
- Framed by Results-based Accountability (RBA)

- The missing and antecedent component of NCLB

Goal of the K-3 System

"Competent, highly effective teaching staff… teaching healthy children... to be fluent readers… with family and community support … in a safe and welcoming school environment … guided by dynamic school leaders"

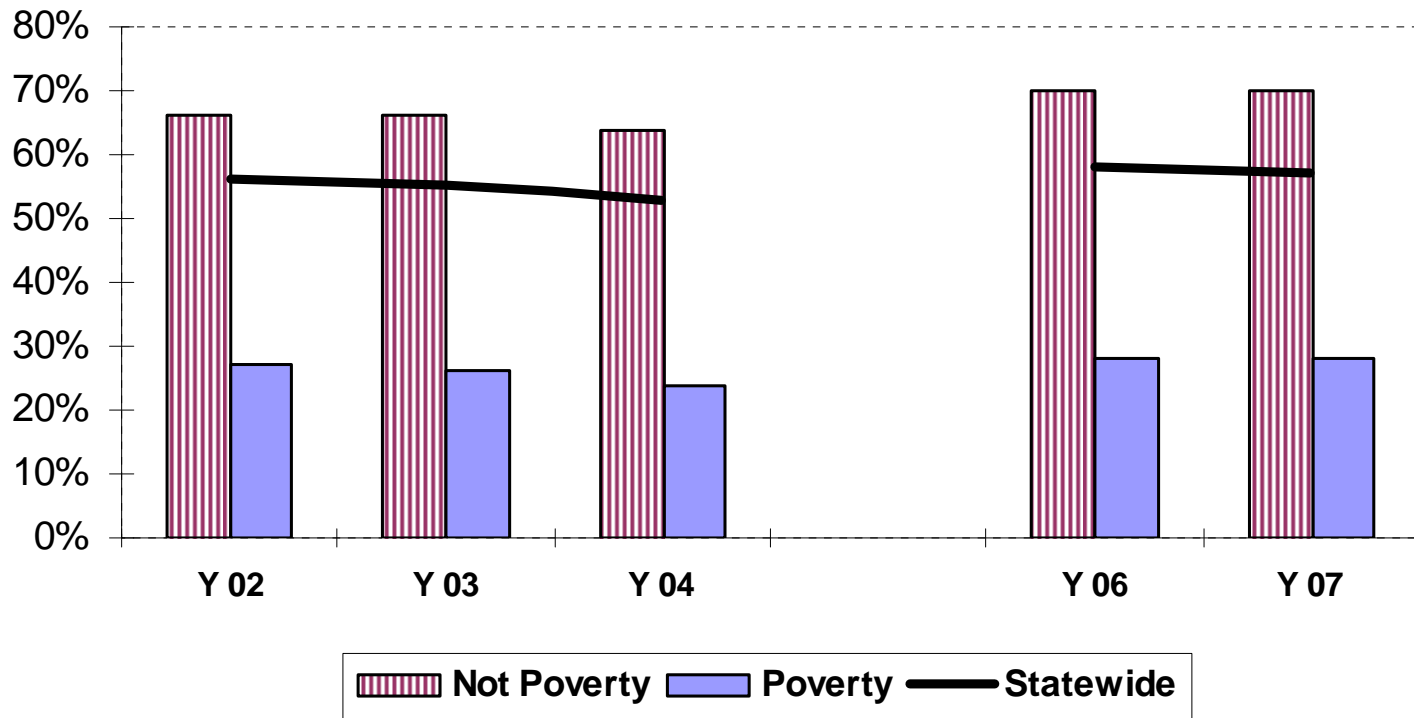# Population Goals and Indicators

Population Goals

- Literate mothers who can guide and develop a strong foundation of language and literacy for their preschool and elementary school children

- K-3 children who seldom miss school

- K-3 children who have access to and participate in a quality health care system

- All grade 3 children reading at grade level or above

Population Indicators

- Mothers with less than a high school diploma

- Number of absences of K-3 students annually

- Number of K-3 students who cannot access health care

- Grade 3 CMT scores at goal or higher

Population Indicator 4: CMT Performance

% 4rd Grade Students At or Above State Goal in Reading

What System Supports are Required?

System Goals

- Effective, formal PreK-K transitions

- Welcoming, strong school cultures

- Dynamic principals and school leaders

- Knowledgeable, effective teachers who understand the science of teaching children to read
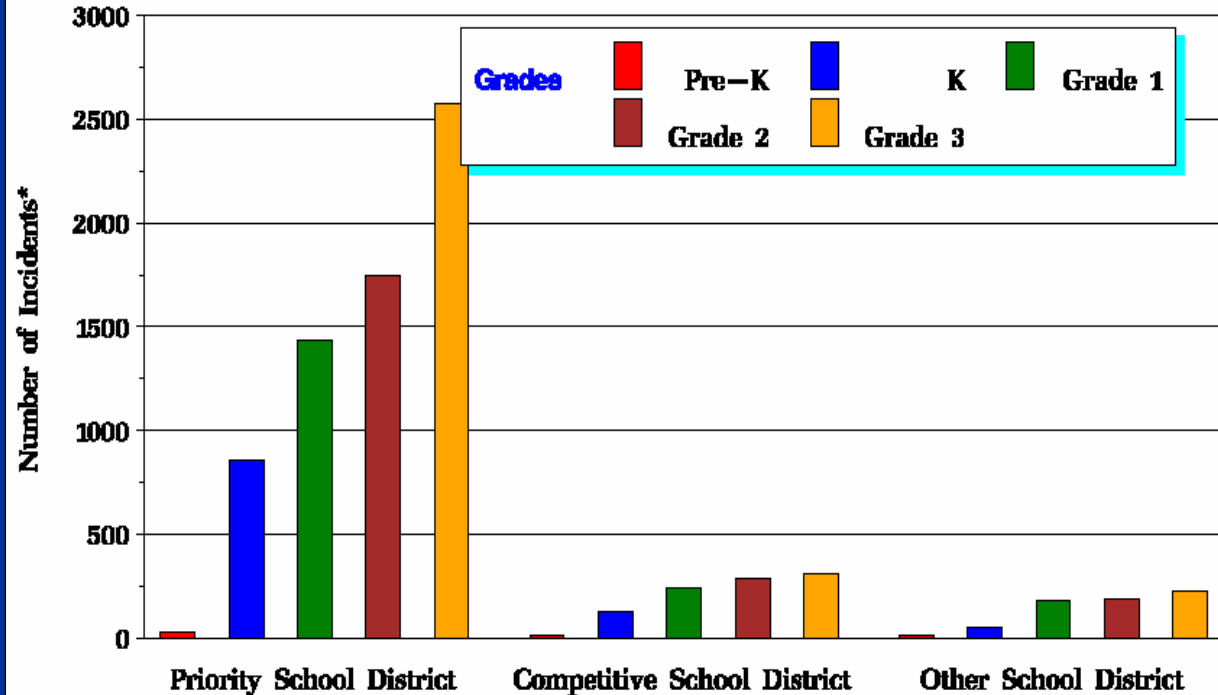
System Measures

- PreK-K transition activities and policies

- Total disciplinary offenses in grades K-3

- Average number of days K-3 teachers are absent from school

- Number of K-3 teachers holding certificates in CT

System Measure 2: School Climate

Figure 1. Comparison of the Number of Incidents by grade across type of District

Priority School Districts overwhelmingly account for disciplinary incidents

Short-term Population Proposals "Turn the Curve"

- Implement comprehensive health care services within schools in Priority and Competitive districts

- Develop mechanisms for collecting and reporting on local student health data

- Require all pre-service and out-of-state teachers to pass a reading test on the science of teaching reading

- Create education and resource centers to assist parents in becoming more effective in nurturing and guiding their children's development

Short-term System Proposals to "Turn the Curve"

- Create a statewide advisory council to guide the improvement of the climate and culture of Connecticut's elementary schools.

- Design and build a network of educators and service providers (SDE, DHE, RESCs, etc.) to provide oversight of, and support for, teacher preparation and professional development programs

- Ensure that evidence-based, "best" practices are fully integrated into teacher preparation and professional development programs

- Build a state-sponsored School Leadership Institute to enable, through new policies and regulations, more principals and superintendents to become certified in CT

- Require all new elementary school teachers K-6, as a condition of becoming certified, to pass a comprehensive test on teaching reading based on the "science" of reading instruction.

Priority & Competitive District Towns

- ## The 19 Priority School Districts

  Ansonia, Bloomfield, Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, East Hartford, Hartford, Meriden, Middletown, New Britain, New London, New Haven, Norwalk, Norwich, Putnam, Stamford, Waterbury, West Haven, Windham

- ## The 44 Competitive School Districts

  Andover, Ashford, Branford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Colchester, Coventry, Derby, East Haven , Eastford, Enfield, Greenwich, Griswold, Groton, Hamden, Hampton , Killingly, Ledyard, Lisbon, Manchester, Mansfield, Milford, Naugatuck, North Canaan, Plainfield, Plymouth, Preston, Shelton, Sprague, Stafford, Stratford, Scotland, Seymour , Winchester/Winsted, Windsor, Wolcott , Woodstock