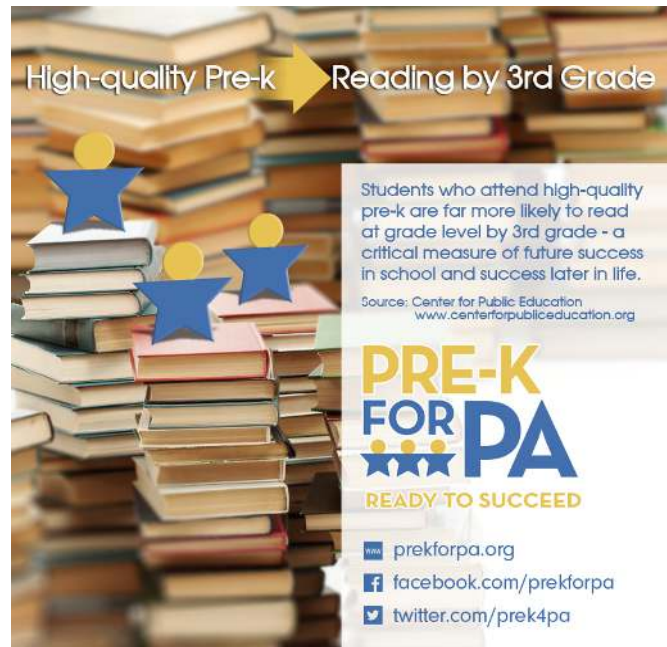


From Kindergarten to 12th Grade **Pre-k Strengthens Our Schools**

The Time is Now. Our kids have only one chance to be preschoolers and benefit from early learning opportunities. They don't get a do-over.

The Evidence is Clear. Research shows that high-quality pre-k:

- Significantly improves children's early literacy, language, math and social/emotional skills as they enter kindergarten.¹
- Reduces special education placements by nearly half through 2nd grade.²
- Reduces grade repetition by as much as a third through 8th grade.³
- Increases the likelihood of high school graduation and college enrollment, which in turn leads to stronger employment opportunities.⁴
- Bolsters lifetime earning potential.⁵
- Decreases the likelihood of at-risk children committing crime later in life.⁶



Everyone Benefits. Prepared young learners are apt to be more focused and engaged in the classroom, meaning fewer disruptions or delays that can sidetrack them or others.

Pre-k Works. Pre-k is a proven “success story” and something we should immediately expand that will have a direct impact on all of our schools.

Pre-k is a Smart Investment. A PA study found school districts investing in pre-k could recoup up to 78 percent of their pre-k spending in education savings.⁷ Providing targeted preschool programs could reduce special education expenditures in the state by at least 8 percent – or \$68 million – each year, freeing up those funds for other crucial educational investments.⁸

¹ Frede, Ellen, et. al. *The APPLES Blossom: Abbott Preschool Program Longitudinal Effects Study (APPLES) Preliminary Results through 2nd Grade Interim Report*. National Institute for Early Education Research, June 2009.

² Center for Child Development, *LA 4 Longitudinal Report*. Louisiana Department of Education, 2007.

³ Wat, Albert, *The Case for Pre-K in Education Reform: A Summary of Program Findings*. The Pew Center on the States, April 2010.

⁴ .Bartik, Timothy J., *Investing in Kids: Early Childhood Programs and Local Economic Development*. W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 2011.

⁵ Hanushek, Eric A., *The Economic Relevance of Early Childhood Development*. Prepare for Life! Raising Awareness for Early Literacy Education. 2013.

⁶ Wat, Albert., *Dollars and Sense: A Review of Economic Analyses of Pre-K*. Pre-K Now, May 2007.

⁷ Harvey, James. *Invest Now or Pay More Later: Early Childhood Education Promises Savings to Pennsylvania School Districts*, 2006.

⁸ Belfield, Clive R. *The Cost Savings to Special Education from Pre-Schooling in Pennsylvania*. Pennsylvania Build Initiative, 2005.