

**UPPER DARBY SCHOOL DISTRICT
UPPER DARBY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
INSTRUCTION/CURRICULUM REPORT
FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

Whereas, the Upper Darby Board of School Directors is aware, respected research shows, children who have had access to high-quality Pre-K education perform well in school and further in life, and

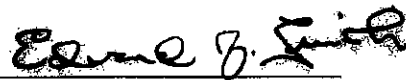
Whereas, more children are enrolling in kindergarten in need of extra assistance and preparation that is often difficult for school districts to provide and which may be avoided with greater access to high quality Pre-K education, and

Whereas, research conducted in Pennsylvania finds that increased access to Pre-K education can decrease the rate of special education placements by nearly fifty percent through the second grade, and

Whereas, an increasing number of our region's families are finding it difficult to meet the costs of high-quality Pre-K education, which can frequently exceed spending on rent or mortgage, or college tuition, and

Whereas, child care centers, nursery schools and Pre-K education centers do not uniformly have the capacity or resources to offer high quality Pre-K education programs, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we the Upper Darby Board of School Directors, support the adoption of state funded policies that ensure every three and four year old child in Pennsylvania can access high-quality Pre-K education and as a result will more likely be ready for kindergarten, as well as academic and lifelong success.



Edward J. Smith
Board Secretary

February 11, 2014