



December 5, 2016

Dear Governor Wolf,

As members of the Pre-K for PA Leadership Council we thank you for your commitment to growing access to high-quality pre-k. Since you took office, more than 6,000 eligible children have gained access to high-quality programs like Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts and Head Start State Supplemental Assistance. Despite these historic gains, more than 120,000 eligible three- and four-year-olds lack access to publicly funded high-quality pre-k this year in the commonwealth.

Under the Pre-K for PA banner, Pennsylvania's mayors, county commissioners, pediatricians, law enforcement and military leaders, business leaders and chambers have joined tens of thousands of parents in urging greater state investment in high-quality pre-k.

Looking ahead to your 2017-18 state budget proposal, we again urge you to answer this call and position Pennsylvania to provide access to Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts and Head Start State Supplemental Assistance for all eligible children and begin to address middle-class pre-k affordability concerns by 2022.

Specifically, we ask you to expand state-funded pre-k opportunities to an additional 10,000 eligible children by including \$85 million in new pre-k funding in your 2017-18 state budget proposal. We firmly believe that continued investment in high-quality pre-k will set us on a path to reduce educational, public welfare and incarceration costs and have the most important added benefit of ensuring that all children are ready to learn.

Thank you very much for taking the time to consider this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Mark Schweiker, 44th Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Ed Rendell, 45th Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Craig Adams, President & CEO, PECO
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Ed Albert, Executive Director, PA Association of Rural and Small Schools
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Mike Batchelor, President, Erie Community Foundation
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Dennis Benchhoff, Lieutenant General (Ret.), United States Army
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Georgia Berner, President & CEO, Berner International
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Steven Bradley, Chairman, African-American Chamber of Commerce
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Jim Buckheit, Executive Director, PA Association of School Administrators
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Jackie Buhn, Principal & CEO, AthenianRazak, LLC
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Renée Cardwell Hughes, CEO, American Red Cross Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

David Cohen, Senior Executive Vice-President, Comcast Corporation
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Ron Cowell, President, Education Policy and Leadership Center
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Ron DiNicola, Partner, DiNicola Law Offices
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Bob Esch, Vice-President External Affairs, American Refining Group
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Robert Fyock, Sheriff, Indiana County Sheriff's Office
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Thomas Gluck, Executive Director, PA Association of Intermediate Units
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Franco Harris, Former NFL Player, Superbakery
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Paul Healey, Executive Director, PA Association of Elementary and Secondary School Principals
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Tara Hemmer, Area Vice-President, Waste Management of Greater Mid-Atlantic
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Bill Isler, President & CEO, Fred Rogers Company
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Bill Jackson, President & Chief Professional Officer, United Way of Erie
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Roger Janes, Insurance Broker, First National Insurance Agency, LLC
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

David John, Executive Director, PA State Alliance of YMCAs
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Garfield Jones, Vice President Sales, NeuroCall Teleneurology
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Allen Kukovich, Attorney At Law
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Charisse Lillie, VP, Community Investment & President, Comcast Corporation, Comcast Foundation
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Nathan Mains, Executive Director, PA School Boards Association
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

John Marsico, Department Manager, The Commonwealth Medical College
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Paula McWilliams, President & CEO, Heritage Community Initiatives
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

James Micsky, Jr., Executive Director, United Way of Mercer County
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Jerry Oleksiak, President, Pennsylvania State Education Association
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Phil Peterson, Former Partner, AON Hewitt
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Ajay Raju, Co-Chairman & CEO, Dilworth Paxson, LLP
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Pedro Ramos, President & CEO, The Philadelphia Foundation
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Kristen Rotz, President, United Way of Pennsylvania
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Brian Schreiber, Executive Director, Jewish Community Center
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Nick Scott, Jr., Vice-President, Scott Enterprises
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Judith von Seldeneck, Founder, Chairman & CEO, Diversified Search
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Heseung Song, President & CEO, Mighty Engine
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Sandra Strauss, Director of Public Advocacy, PA Council of Churches
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Kevin Thomas, Executive Director, PA District Kiwanis International
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Floyd Titus, President, J. Feltric Metals
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

John Touey, Principal, Salveson Stetson Group
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

James Waddington, Sr. Director, Strategy and Business Development, DRS Technologies, Inc.
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Tay Waltenbaugh, Executive Director, Westmoreland Community Action
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Donald Wargo, Assistant Professor of Economics, Temple University
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Tom Wilson, Rear Admiral (Ret.), United States Navy
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Jake Witherell, Chief Operating Officer, Schell Games
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Todd Wolynn, President & CEO, Kids Plus Pediatrics
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Rob Wonderling, President & CEO, Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council

Suzanne Yunghans, Executive Director, PA Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics
Pre-K for PA Leadership Council