



2017 Policy Agenda Outcomes

Affordable, high-quality, flexible and culturally appropriate early childhood care and education that supports families and prepares children to transition to school.

- ✦ Fully support Parent Aware to continue expansion of high quality learning throughout Minnesota and to provide for rated providers. Parent Aware should put a priority on stronger recognition and incorporation of cultural competency.
Outcome: Policy change to extend scholarship eligibility of 1 and 2-star rated providers on the path to 4-star rating in greater Minnesota until 2022
- ✦ Ongoing focus on ensuring that all families most in need can access high quality learning and care programs that meet the needs of the entire family. This includes expansion of early learning scholarships for children birth to five and raising reimbursement rates for the Child Care Assistance Program.
Outcome: \$20 million in the coming biennium in additional funding for early learning scholarships prioritizing high need children from birth to 5 years old including: children of teen mothers, children experiencing homelessness, foster children and children in child protection. \$50 million in additional funding for school readiness programs targeted to low-income 4 year olds. \$19 million in funding for CCAP to ensure that children can remain in child care programs for up to a year regardless of parental employment and other federal conformity. SAF investment: \$20,000 (MinneMinds)
- ✦ Expand access to high quality targeted home visiting to support healthy parent-child development, starting prenatally.
Outcome: \$12M in new funding in the coming biennium for high quality, targeted home visiting. This new investment grows to \$33M in the following biennium. SAF investment: \$15,000 Targeted Home Visiting Coalition (Lifetrack)
- ✦ Provide early childhood workforce development supports.
Outcome: \$500,000 provider incentives to improve quality (DEED)

High quality, developmentally and culturally appropriate out-of-school-time and mentoring programs for Minnesota children

- ✦ Support Ignite Afterschool's campaign to create a new funding stream of \$25 million/year that will provide afterschool and summer learning programs for an additional 25,000 young people eligible for free and reduced lunch by funding competitive grants to afterschool and summer learning programs.
Outcome: No additional funding. SAF investment: \$10,000 (Ignite Afterschool)