VERMILION PARISH

EARLY CHILDHOOD
network

BLUEPRINT 2025-2026

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MISSION

The Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Network will create accessible opportunities for quality care and educational experiences for all of our children to become successful.

VISION

Through collaborative efforts, the Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Network envisions building a solid foundation of care and education provided by numerous sources for all of our children birth to five that will prepare them for life.

INTRODUCTION

The Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Network consists of twenty –six sites including: 10 childcare centers with 56 classrooms, 1 family childcare site, 10 elementary schools with 26 classrooms, 4 head start centers with 12 classrooms and one early head start classroom and one early head start center with 4 classrooms and 35 home-based family participants. The network sites provide care and educational services to approximately 981 students from birth to 4 years old. Data from 2019 to 2024 fall enrollment reports are shown in the table below.

School Year	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Difference from previous year
Infants	20	21	54	45	48	22	-26
Ones	32	42	78	97	74	75	+1
Twos	49	56	103	117	116	120	+4
Threes	207	124	181	202	207	205	-3
Fours	599	505	493	559	501	524	+23

Enrollment in the program is ongoing and current numbers are reflected in the table above. The network was awarded the CCAP B3 grant in 2023, which continued into the 2024-2025 school year. With the support of this funding, enrollment capacity has increased for most age levels. As of November 2020 Census data, the population of children under 4 years old is 3,871 in Vermilion Parish. Despite our growth in enrollment, Census data reveals that our network is still underserving children birth to four years old in our quality programs.

The network's CLASS Performance scores have fluctuated over the past 4 years due to inconsistencies in the workforce and a nationwide teacher shortage. Performance data from 2019-2024 are in the table below.

Results By Domain		2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change
Pre-K Level	Emotional Support	6.16	6.18	6.15	6.37	6.13	-0.24
	Classroom Organization	6.15	6.23	6.09	6.07	6.17	+0.10
	Instructional Support	4.77	4.60	4.67	4.59	4.72	+0.13
Toddler Level	Emotional Behavior Support	5.59	6.07	5.71	6.09	5.92	-0.17
	Engaged Support for Learning	4.28	4.68	5.00	4.93	5.00	+0.07
Infant Level	Responsive Caregiving	5.70	5.75	6.03	5.90	6.19	+.29

The 2023-2024 Performance Profile Data indicates that 22 sites are excellent or high proficient, 4 sites are proficient, 1 site approaching proficient, and there are no sites labeled as unsatisfactory. Despite these successes, there are still areas needing attention due to a decline in scores for Emotional Support in the PreK tool, and Emotional Behavior Support for Learning in the Toddler tool.

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

Network strengths include:

- The overall CLASS Performance Profile results revealed a steady gain in overall performance since 2016 with a .07 growth over the previous year.

- According to the 2023-2024 Performance Profile results, the network has 8 sites that have been recognized as Sites of Excellence.

- According to the 2023-2024 Performance Profile results, the network has 10 sites that have been recognized as High Proficient.

- Infants to three year old enrollment capacity was maintained due to the continuation of the CCAP B3 program for the 2023-2024 school year.

Network challenges are:

- Continued efforts are needed to increase the number of children being served by the network from birth to 3 years while continuing measures to expand four-year-old programs.

- More consistent, intentional, and specific coaching, training, and modeling at the site classroom level for effective CLASS execution by lead teachers.

- Stabilization of funding streams to ensure the network efforts continue in the expansion of staffing, enrollment and resources access for families, and quality programs

- Significant efforts are needed to expand community stakeholder participation with collaboration of ideas and resources for expansion of all early childhood programs in Vermilion Parish.

STRATEGIC PLAN

GOAL #1

The Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Network will increase the number of birth to 3-year-old children served by 10% above the previous year's growth and increase preschool enrollment by 3% by the end of May 2025.

- Strategy 1: Create recruitment and onboarding materials for Type I and Type II sites to convert to Type III centers and support the addition of Family Childcare to create more seat availability.
- Strategy 2: The lead agency will work with all of our local childcare partners to maximize enrollment through their expansion efforts to increase licensing capacity for all age level seats available.
- Strategy 3: Use local fundraising efforts to increase capacity of locally funded seats.
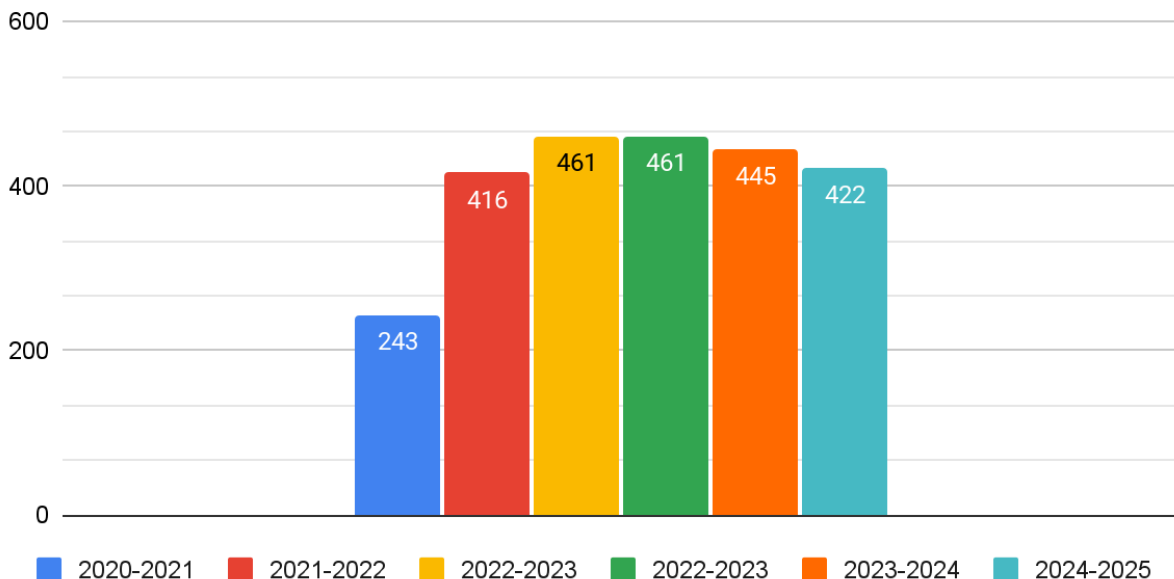
Existing Resources

- Enrollment data of publicly funded children in the district
- Marketing materials to promote awareness of program availability
- Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Council (VPECC)-Fundraising Team

Needed Resources

- Capacity data from existing partners
- Needs assessment from existing partners to increase capacity

Performance Metric: The outcome will be measured by comparing the student enrollment totals from the fall of 2024 to previous year reports as indicated in the October 1 Enrollment Report.

Vermilion Parish Birth to 3 Children Served

Legend: 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025

Values: 243, 416, 461, 461, 445, 422

GOAL #2

The Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Network will increase CLASS network performance score by 10% for the Instructional Support domain at the preschool level by May 2025.

- Strategy 1: The lead agency will utilize "LENA Grow" professional development for childcare teachers to improve teacher/child interactions.
- Strategy 2: The lead agency will support site leaders to build monthly professional communities of practice with focused discussions on planning for instruction and addressing social/emotional/behavioral needs of their children.
- Strategy 3: Offer Teachstone professional learning concentrated on teaching strategies for diverse learners.
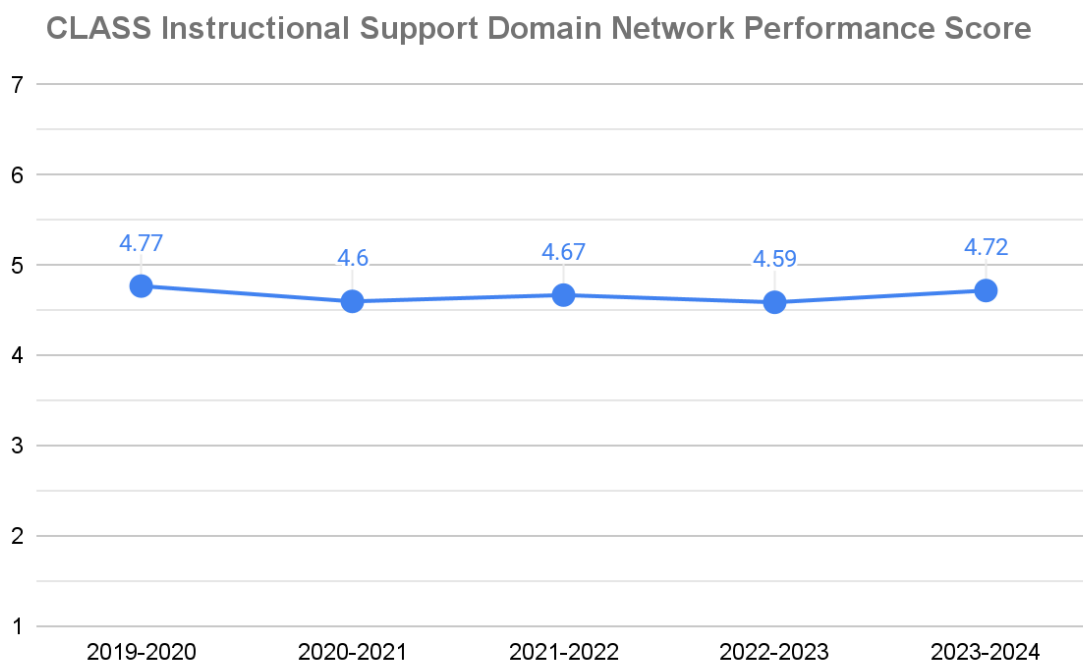
Existing Resources

- Volunteers of America Partnership
- Local partners who are committed to investing in their sites and overall network
- Potential funding through the Vermilion Parish School System competitive funding application
- Teaching Strategies Professional Development Videos
- "LENA" Literacy coaching and Instructional coaching through Volunteers of America

Needed Resources

- Grant funding for professional development programs and teacher/director substitutes

Performance Metric: The outcome will be measured by comparing the CLASS network dimension scores from the 2024-2025 school year to the scores from the 2023-2024 year to determine accomplishment at the infant, toddler, and preschool levels.

CLASS Instructional Support Domain Network Performance Score

Year	Score
2019-2020	4.77
2020-2021	4.6
2021-2022	4.67
2022-2023	4.59
2023-2024	4.72

GOAL #3

The Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Network will promote awareness of early care and education for children birth to 5 by increasing the active number of coalition members by 5% per year for three years.

- Strategy # 1: Establish a contact list of community members and early childhood stakeholders to send network updates and information on early care and education opportunities for children aged birth to 5.
- Strategy # 2 Each partner in the network will maintain a minimum of 3 coalition members to support early childhood efforts in our community.
- Strategy #3 The lead agency will increase the number of social media ads to inform the public about early childhood events and initiatives.
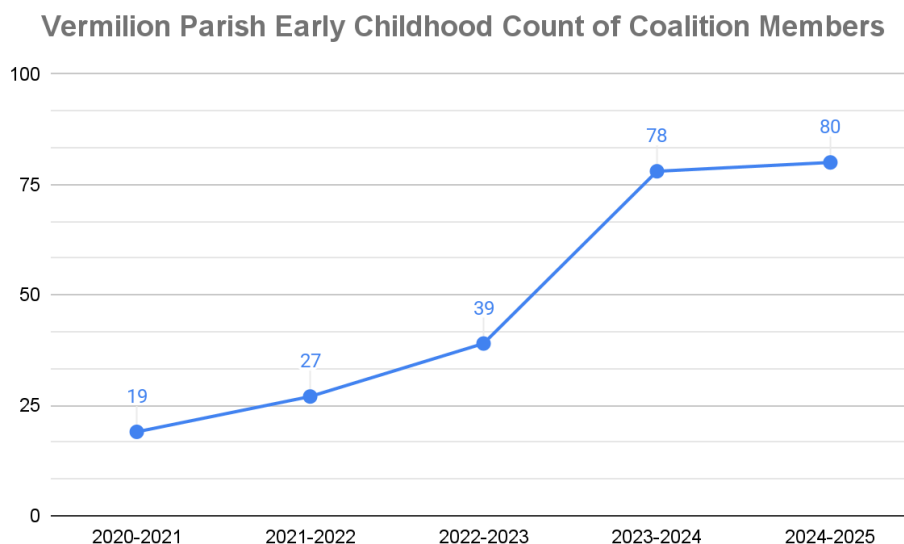
Existing Resources

- Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Council
- Established network coalition group
- Early Childhood Staff Members
- Partnership with Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Grant-Lafayette/Vermilion Department of Health

Needed Resources

- Coalition members/volunteers to support event execution
- Informational campaign and new marketing strategies to increase awareness of early childhood initiatives

Performance Metric: The outcome will be measured by the total count of coalition members added to the network.

Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Count of Coalition Members

GOAL #4

The Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Network will create and begin implementation of a family engagement plan by May 2025.

- Strategy # 1: Establish a minimum of two educational family engagement activities per site between August 2024 to May 2025 as evidenced by parent sign-in sheets.
- Strategy #2: Provide families with information on developmental milestones and strategies to promote literacy and successfully transition students into Kindergarten programs.
- Strategy # 3: Distribute home-based learning kits to promote literacy and improve Kindergarten readiness outcomes.

Existing Resources

- Vermilion Parish Early Childhood Council
- Established network coalition group
- Early Childhood Staff Members
- Partnership with Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Grant-Lafayette/Vermilion Department of Health

Needed Resources

- Funding for home-based learning kits
- New strategies for marketing families
- Local community support and partnerships

Performance Metric: The outcome will be measured by collecting sign-in agendas from all training and meetings during the 2024-2025 school year.

Family Engagement Events by Site

■ 2023-2024   ■ 2024-2025