The 2017-18 Preschool Promise school year is off to a great start!

- We’re on pace to serve well over 1,000 young learners at more than 70 participating Preschool Promise programs.
- We’re blanketing the community about the importance of choosing a high quality Preschool.
- Preschool Promise teachers and staff are thrilled about the free training they’re receiving.

How we’re doing on the 3 pillars of the Preschool Promise

**EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY:**

- Our awareness campaign resulted in 4.5 million online impressions and 14,000+ clicks to the Preschool Promise website.
- We’ve begun weekly Facebook Live sessions, focusing on practical tips to promote children’s health and learning.
- Our Outreach Specialists are everywhere — including the Montgomery County Job Center, Women, Infants and Children Food and Nutrition sites, at our community health centers and elsewhere.
- We’ve sent Preschool Promise brochures to all Dayton and Kettering recipients of federal cash assistance, food stamps and childcare assistance.
- We’re continuing our outdoor advertising campaign with new billboards and new radio and commuter ads.

**EXPANDING QUALITY:**

- All students are being assessed, so we’ll have high quality data about their progress and the difference Preschool makes.
- 7 of 8 “unrated” Preschool Promise programs have earned a Star Rating under Ohio’s Step Up to Quality initiative.
- Teachers at 50 Preschools are receiving individualized coaching.
- Preschool staff are committed to improving their teaching — as evidenced by:
  - Staff at more than 75% of Preschool Promise sites are participating in a Professional Learning Community or another professional development opportunity. (PLC participants meet monthly for 2 hours and learn together over 9 months. They earn an $800 stipend.)
  - More than 100 teachers and administrators have been trained on “Conscious Discipline,” a highly effective classroom management strategy.

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ASSISTING FAMILIES:

• We kicked off the new Star Attendance Program to help parents understand the importance of attending Preschool every day, on time. Dayton families can receive $25 every month their child has a 90% attendance rate. Good attendance habits start in Preschool!

• ALL Preschool Promise children are receiving a birthday card with a free pass to the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery and a dessert from Twist Cupcakery or Cheryl’s Cookies.

• Families are receiving a monthly postcard with suggestions about how to keep children learning at home.

• Our Parent Advisory board continues to provide critical input that helps us understand our families’ needs.

WHAT WE’RE LEARNING:

• We have significantly increased the number of families receiving tuition assistance this year. The word is getting out about the benefits of Preschool Promise, but public education takes time.

• Our community’s Preschool teachers are eager and immensely grateful to participate in training that helps them improve their teaching. There is no such thing as too much education for our educators.

• We are developing more ways to support parents in helping their children at home — through our Welcome Packet, Monthly Tips, and Facebook Live conversations. We know parents are our children’s first and most important teachers.

• Parents listen to other parents. Our best ambassadors are current Preschool Promise families who are recruiting other families and next year’s class of Preschoolers.

• We must continue educating Preschool teachers about Preschool Promise. They have to be able to answer families’ detailed questions on-the-spot.

Thank you for your generous support of the Preschool Promise!