VQB5 IMPROVEMENT PARTNER WINTER WEBINAR

February 22, 2023

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Welcome PD Providers!

POLL #1 - Which of the following best describes your professional development role/s in Virginia's early childhood system? (select all that apply)

- Coordinator/Administrator
- □ Trainer/Workshop Presenter
- Mentor/Coach
- Facilitator
- Consultant
- □ Technical Assistance Provider/Specialist
- □ Higher Education Faculty/Professor
- □ Evaluator/Researcher
- □ Other PD Role (tell us more in the follow up survey!)

OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA

Objectives: As a result of this presentation, improvement partners will:

- 1. Increase understanding about VQB5 and how improvement partners can continue to work with Ready Regions to support program improvement in Practice Year 2.
- 2. Receive information to support the use of fall VQB5 data to guide improvement efforts this spring and beyond.

Agenda:

- Goals and Vision for the Unified VQB5 System
- VQB5 Measurement and Improvement Activities
- Practice Year 2 Information and Data
 - Quality Interactions: Supporting Use of Fall 2022 VQB5 CLASS Data
 - Quality Curriculum: Supporting Programs' Understanding of Curriculum Options in VQB5
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Next Steps and Reflection

OUR SHARED VISION

We envision a Virginia where *all* children have the opportunity to enter school ready.

- All families have affordable access to and support to choose the option that meets their unique needs.
- All early childhood programs that take public funds benefit from measurement and supports for improvement, ensuring quality choices are available for all families.
- Programs are rewarded for continual improvement and educators are adequately compensated.
- Overall Virginia's early childhood system is unified, data-driven and resource-effective so families can work, go to school or pursue employment and children have every opportunity to be successful.



Four out of ten Virginia children enter school without the key literacy, math, and social-emotional skills needed. (VKRP fall 2022)

Unified Measurement and Improvement

Virginia's early childhood system must ensure that <u>all</u> children have access to quality teaching and learning experiences that meet their unique needs.

Working together, through VQB5, we will:

UNIFY around shared and equitable expectations for quality.

MEASURE and strengthen teacher-child interactions and curriculum use in all publicly-funded birth-tofive programs.

improve supports for educators, prioritizing those who need it most.

VQB5: Unified Measurement and Improvement

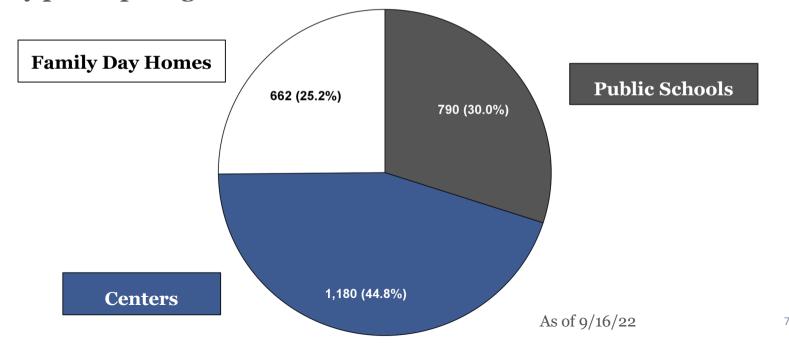
In response to state law, the Virginia Board of Education has established a unified measurement and improvement system, called **VQB5**, for all publicly-funded birth-to-five early childhood programs (~3,600 schools, child care, and family day home programs).

• The VDOE worked with many stakeholders and communities to develop VQB5 and prepare for full implementation through two Practice Years.

Next year, beginning in August of 2023, all publicly-funded birth to five programs, will be legislatively required to participate in VQB5, with the first quality ratings published in fall of 2024.

Types of Participating Sites: N=2,632

VQB5 Practice Year 2 participation is representative of Virginia's Birth to Five Early Childhood Landscape, with approx. 72% of all publicly-funded programs already participating!

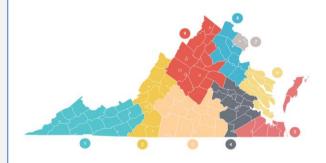


VQB5 COORDINATION

Ready Regions are responsible for the coordination, accountability, and family engagement for early childhood programs. This includes coordinating VQB5 measurement and improvement activities.

What does this mean for Improvement Partners?

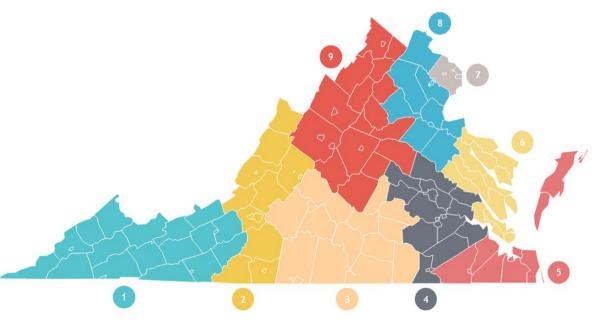
- Ready Regions lead agencies work with existing improvement partners to ensure there are PD options available to the VQB5 programs in their region.
- Improvement Supports are prioritized for publicly funded programs and in response to needs identified in VQB5 measurements.
- VDOE is working to ensure there is a more unified and aligned approach across all state and federally funded quality improvement efforts, including ensuring supports are available consistently across Ready Regions.



Ready Regions Website

POLL QUESTIONS

- 1) Where do you primarily provide improvement support?
- 2) Are you supporting sites who are already participating in VQB5 Practice Year 2?
- 1 Southwest
- 2 West
- 3 Southside
- 4 Central
- 5 Southeastern
- 6 Chesapeake Bay
- 7 Capital Area
- 8 North Central
- 9 Blue Ridge



VQB5 Measurement and Improvement Activities

MEASURING QUALITY

VQB5 measures the quality of infant, toddler, and preschool teaching and learning based on two nationally-recognized quality indicators.

| Interactions | Curriculum |
|---|--|
| Measure teacher-child interactions and instruction in a developmentally-appropriate way using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) | Measure the use of approved curricula* that are aligned with Virginia's Early Learning and Development Standards |

Research shows that stimulating and supportive interactions between teachers and children and effective use of quality curricula promote children's holistic learning and development, *resulting in improved school readiness*.

^{*}Use of an approved curriculum in VQB5 is optional. There is no VQB5 curriculum requirement.

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

PREPARE

Leaders and educators understand what is being measured and why

RECOGNIZE, REFLECT AND ADJUST

Leaders and educators use data to recognize growth, reflect on what works, and make adjustments to address challenges and gaps

SUPPORT

Leaders and educators receive professional development that addresses their unique classrooms

MEASURE AND IMPROVE

All infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms are observed and consistent information is collected to understand the experience of all children

GIVE FEEDBACK

Leaders provide educators with individualized feedback on their classroom's strengths and opportunities for growth

VQB5 ACTIVITIES TIMELINE (2022-2023)

VQB5 uses an annual measurement and improvement cycle, as summarized below:

| Summer 2022 | Fall 2022 | Winter 2023 | Spring 2023 |
|---|--|--|--|
| Program registration and preparation for fall CLASS observations | Local CLASS observations and curriculum use information for every classroom entered in LinkB5. | Programs use information from fall to engage in professional development based on program and classroom needs. | Local CLASS observations and curriculum use information updated (if needed) for every classroom entered in LinkB5. |
| Reflect and Prepare | Measurement | , Feedback and Support for I | Ů |

External CLASS observations are also used in some classrooms to gather information, support local observers, and provide additional feedback.

VQB5 PRACTICE YEAR RATINGS

Practice Year ratings are calculated at the end of the academic year using the following point system. Practice Year 2 ratings will be shared privately with siteadministrators in the fall of 2023 for information only.

| Interactions Points (700 total points) | Average of all local CLASS scores from the fall and the spring (all classrooms at a site) x 100 | |
|--|--|--|
| Curriculum Points (100 total points) | Programs using an approved curriculum in at least one classroom, by May 31st, will receive 100 points added to their score | |
| Total Points | Interactions Points + Curriculum Points = Total Points | |
| Practice Year 2 Ratings | Exceeds Practice Year Expectations = 700 - 800 points Meets Practice Year Expectations = 400 - 699 points Needs Support = 100 - 399 points | |

Please refer to the <u>VQB5 Practice Rating User Guide</u> for details and rating examples, as well as resources that can be used to guide improvement.

Quality Interactions: Supporting Use of Fall 2022 VQB5 CLASS Data

USING CLASS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT CHILDREN ARE EXPERIENCING

In VQB5, CLASS observations happen in the fall and then again in the spring for every classroom.

• This provides teachers with an opportunity to recognize growth and provides program leaders with a complete reflection of what children are experiencing throughout the year.

Low Range Scores Mid Range Scores (1-2) (3-5) High Range Scores (6-7)

Lower classroom scores indicate children are experiencing lower-quality experiencing higher-quality interactions.

Types of VQB5 CLASS Observations

| VQB5 | LOCAL OBSERVATIONS | EXTERNAL OBSERVATIONS |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Purpose | Used to gather classroom level information about the quality of teacher-child interactions and provide individualized feedback. | Used to gather information about the accuracy and consistency of local observations for the state, and to provide an additional source of feedback . |
| Definition | Coordinated and scheduled at the local level through Ready Regions , with results recorded in LinkB5 . | Coordinated, scheduled, and recorded statewide by Teachstone's external observation team. |
| Annual Cycle | All birth-to-five classrooms will get two local observations each year. One in the fall and one in the spring. | Only some birth-to-five classrooms will get an external observation. All sites will receive an external observation in at least one classroom. |
| Info & FAQs | <u>VDOE Local Observation Guidebook</u> - on the <u>VQB5 website</u> . | Teachstone External Observations in Virginia website. |

LOCAL AND EXTERNAL OBSERVATIONS IN VQB5 UPDATE: FALL PRACTICE YEAR 2

| *completed as of 12/31/22 | Local Observations | External Observations |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Number of Sites | 2,277 | 986 |
| Number of Classrooms: By Age-Level | | |
| Pre-K | 4,415 | 951 |
| Toddler | 2,081 | 417 |
| Infant | 977 | 259 |
| Number of Classrooms: By Site Type | | |
| Public School | 2,158 | 475 |
| Affiliated Center | 1,228 | 291 |
| Stand-Alone Center | 3,620 | 762 |
| Family Day Home | 467 | 99 |
| Total Number of Classrooms | 7,473 | 1,627 |

Over

9,000
observations
completed in
the fall and
feedback
shared!

Types of Feedback

Feedback from Local Observations

- Local Observer schedules a feedback session with teacher or team of teachers.
- Feedback meeting held in-person, virtually (e.g. Zoom), or over the phone based on teacher's availability.
- Local observer provides individualized written feedback to the teacher and program leaders.
- View VDOE Local Observation Feedback Templates (<u>Infant</u>, <u>Toddler</u>, <u>PreK</u>)

Feedback from External Observations

- Feedback shared via a written report which is emailed to the primary site administrator.
- The administrator is encouraged to share the report with the teacher, other program leaders, and others that support quality improvement.
- Report format has been standardized to ensure external observation feedback is provided consistently statewide.
- View Sample External Observation Reports (<u>Infant</u>, <u>Toddler</u>, <u>PreK</u>)

Both Local and External observation feedback will include strengths and areas for improvement. Programs should receive feedback within 10 business days of their observation.

LOCAL-EXTERNAL CLASS AVERAGES (FALL 2022)

Preliminary data analysis of fall observations shows that the average local observation score is higher than the average external score for every age group.

| CLASS Tool | Local Observation Average Scores Fall n= 7,473 | External Observation Average Scores Fall n=1,627 |
|---------------|--|--|
| Infant CLASS | 5.00 | 4.74 |
| Toddler CLASS | 4.77 | 4.51 |
| PreK CLASS | 5.08 | 4.74 |

VDOE will continue to evaluate the alignment between local and external observations to monitor the quality and credibility of VQB5 local observations and ratings. External observations will also be used to provide professional development to local observers as they continue to strengthen in their practice of the CLASS tool.

CLASS OBSERVATION RANGES (FALL 2022)

Fall local observations are happening in every classroom participating in VQB5 Practice Year 2. However, the ranges in scores show us that there is great variation across classrooms.

| CLASS Tool | CLASS Observation Range of Scores n= 7,473 |
|-------------------------|---|
| Infant CLASS (n=977) | 1.69-7.00 |
| Toddler CLASS (n=2,081) | 2.28-7.00 |
| Pre-K CLASS (n=4,415) | 1.73-7.00 |

More Individualized Feedback than Ever Before

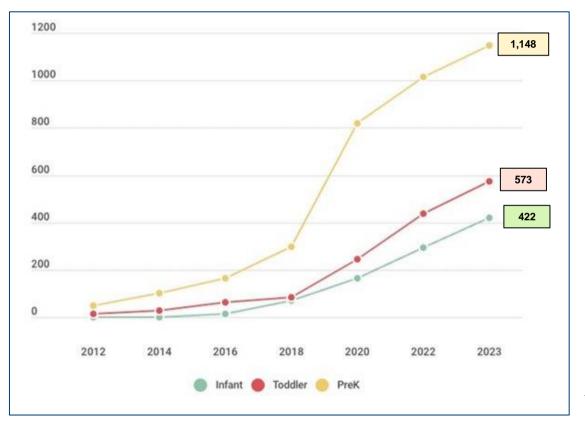
In VQB5, all site leaders and teachers benefit from receiving frequent and specific feedback provided through CLASS observations conducted at least twice a year at the local level in every classroom.

- Local Observers are well suited to provide a strengths based approach to the observation and feedback process, connecting CLASS to effective early childhood practices.
- Results can be used by program leaders to inform individualized professional development, within the context of infant, toddler, and preschool settings.



External CLASS observations in birth to five classrooms provide a quality assurance check and reinforce the information gained through local observations.

OVERALL CLASS OBSERVER GROWTH IN VIRGINIA



Understanding of high quality interactions is growing across the state and in all age levels.

Approximately 50% of all certified observers in Virginia are conducting local observations through Ready Regions.

All Certified Observers with a Virginia Address (As of 12/31/22)

Quality Curriculum

Supporting Programs' Understanding of Curriculum Options in VQB5

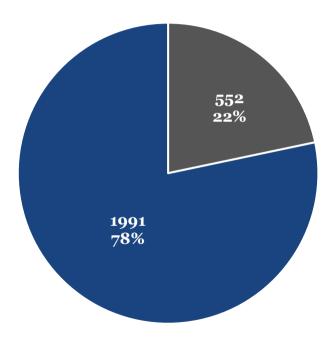
OPTION TO USE A QUALITY CURRICULUM

VQB5 measures the use of VDOE approved curriculum to support high-quality interactions. *Use of an approved curriculum in VQB5 is optional. There is no curriculum requirement.*

- The list of currently approved curriculum along with information about the birth to five curriculum review process are posted on the <u>VDOE Standards</u>, <u>Curriculum and Instruction</u> website.
- The approved list includes 50+ (and growing) options for infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms, including family day home options.
 - 15 options for Infant Curriculum
 - 21 options for Toddler Curriculum
 - 2 specific to Mixed Ages/Family Day Homes
- There are currently two free/low-cost options
 - VDOE is providing access to a free or low-cost approved curricula option through <u>STREAMin3</u> for all publicly funded programs in Virginia.
 - <u>Early Learning Matters</u> is a nationally available free/open-sourced approved curriculum.

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT THE USE OF CURRICULUM?

The **majority** of participating sites in VQB5 Practice Year 2 are using an approved curriculum in at least one classroom.

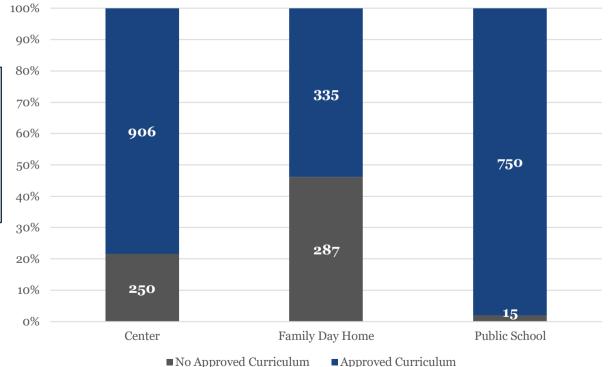


- No Approved Curriculum
- Approved Curriculum

**Use of an approved curriculum in VQB5 is optional. There is <u>no</u> curriculum requirement.

STATEWIDE CURRICULUM USE BY SITE TYPE

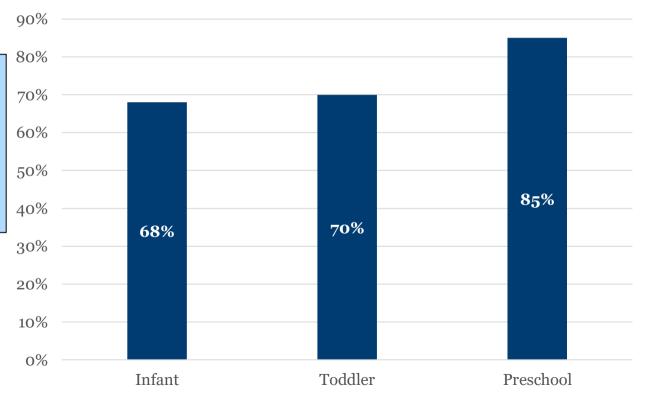
Family Day
Homes have the
lowest use of
approved
curriculum as of
Fall 2022.



**Use of an approved curriculum in VQB5 is optional.
There is no curriculum requirement.

STATEWIDE CURRICULUM USE BY AGE-LEVEL CLASSROOM

Infant/Toddler
classrooms
have the
lowest use of
approved
curriculum as
of Fall 2022.



**Use of an approved curriculum in VQB5 is optional. There is no curriculum requirement.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION FOR PROGRAM LEADERS

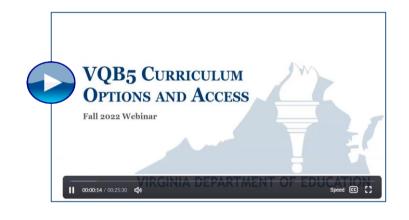
Fall Refresher: VQB5 Curriculum Options and Access

• Webinar Recording (25:30 mins)

Curriculum Vendor "Get to Know You" Lunch & Learn Series

• The series launched February 1st and will continue through the Spring (Wednesdays @ 12:30).

Register here.



Visit the VDOE <u>Standards</u>, <u>Curriculum and Instruction</u> webpage for more curriculum information.

CONNECTING CLASS AND CURRICULUM

VDOE has developed guidance on how CLASS domains connect to *any* quality curriculum. Below is a **sampling** from the **Pre-K document:**

| CLASS Domain | Links to Curriculum | Where to Look |
|---|---|--|
| Classroom Organization Behavior Management Productivity Instructional Learning Formats | Easy-to-follow, explicit instructions for preparing materials and conducting lessons. Strategies for a flexible daily schedule and routines designed to maximize learning time. Suggestions and guidance for facilitation of activities and lessons, with a balance of auditory, visual, and movement opportunities. Learning objectives that are clearly outlined in curriculum materials and communicated to children. | → Teacher Guides/Manuals → Daily/weekly/monthly lesson plans → Sample schedules → Learning objectives for the theme/unit → Suggested materials lists and/or environmental checklists → Access to online materials |

Frequently Asked Questions

How Can Improvement Partners Support the Unified VQB5 System?

Improvement partners can support the unified goals of Virginia's birth-to-five system in different ways.

- 1) Engage with Ready Regions on PD Collaboration and Alignment Activities
 - Help Connect Programs to Important Sources of Information or Resources
 - Provide Focused Support Around Specific Indicators to Help Ensure there are PD Options Available to VQB5 Programs
- 2) Use VQB5 Data to Guide Professional Development in Collaboration with Ready Regions
 - Support the Use of Program and Classroom Level Data
 - Use Statewide and/or Regional Data to Inform Supports

HOW CAN IMPROVEMENT PARTNERS HELP PROGRAMS USE THEIR FALL DATA TO GUIDE PD?

Accessing Data Reports

Site Administrators can

information, including

VQB5 CLASS scores and

access and share csv/excel

In LinkB5,

exports of select

Curriculum use information.

t (1

Understanding Data Reports

Site Administrators can view their CLASS scores and Curriculum information to understand the strengths and needs within their program.

Using Data from Reports to Guide PD

other improvement partners can use data to target supports and plan professional development that address educator needs.

Click here for a tutorial on how to access CLASS export reports.

During Practice Year 2, CLASS scores are shared privately. Sites are encouraged to share their results with Ready Regions and other partners who support program improvement.

How Can I Support Leaders In Learning More About the CLASS Tool?

VDOE strongly recommends that all program leaders complete an introduction to CLASS course, available via the following options

- <u>Primer for Leaders</u> (online self-paced course; takes approx. 2 hours to complete)
- Foundational CLASS training (in-person/virtual options available through <u>Ready</u> <u>Regions</u>; typically 2-4 hours)

Program leaders are also encouraged to complete a CLASS Observation Training for indepth training in how to code CLASS observations.

2 day in-person (or) virtual training

- Completion of 2 day training provides access to online reliability test
- Contact Ready Regions for training information

Program Leaders who complete Observation Training and pass the reliability test may conduct their own <u>Local CLASS observations for VQB5</u>, in coordination with Ready Regions.

Want to hear from other Program Leaders in Virginia about their experiences with CLASS? View the <u>CLASS Panel Webinar</u> (May 2022)

What Should leaders Do If they Have a Concern About their CLASS Observation Results?

For Practice Year 2:

- If a site has a concern about their local or external observation results during Practice Year 2, they may request a formal observation review by VDOE by emailing vqb5@doe.virginia.gov.
- During the practice years there are no stakes or consequences for CLASS scores from local or external observations.
- CLASS scores are used to provide teachers with direct feedback about their actual classroom practices, as well as to guide professional development at the local level for ongoing quality improvement support.

ARE ANY OF THE APPROVED CURRICULA AVAILABLE IN SPANISH OR OTHER LANGUAGES?

Yes. Any curricula that has a Spanish translation is noted in a column on the list of approved curricula (*see image of a sample below*). To find out if a curriculum has other translations available, please reach out to the publisher.

| Approved Curriculum | Infants | Toddlers | Preschool | Spanish Translatio Available |
|---|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| FunShine Express | · | ~ | V | V |
| Get Set for School (Learning Without Tears) | | ~ | V | |
| HighReach Learning | · | ~ | ✓ | |
| HighScope Preschool Curriculum | | | ✓ | |
| HighScope Infant-Toddler Curriculum | · | ~ | | |
| Kiddie Academy Life Essentials | · | 1 | ~ | |
| KinderCare | 0 | | ✓ | \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ |
| | | | 2 | |

Next Steps and Reflection

VQB5 QUALITY PROFILES

The **Practice Year 2 Guidelines**, approved by the Board of Education in June 2022, direct the VDOE to develop "**VQB5 Quality Profiles**".

VQB5 Quality Profiles will include information about performance on VQB5 measurements and other topics of interest to families, policymakers, and the general public.

- **Performance on measures**: Already determined in guidelines (classroom observation + curriculum use; overall quality rating)
- **Other topics**: To be determined (examples could be hours of operation, type of public funding received, teacher credentials, as well as information such as improvement over time.)

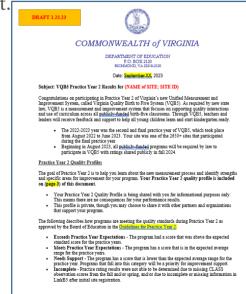
Starting this spring and into next year, VDOE will be working with Ready Regions and other state partners to lead an interactive process with families, practitioners, and stakeholders to develop the site quality profiles and a brand new Unified VQB5 Quality Profile website, **to launch in the fall of 2024.**

DRAFT PRACTICE YEAR 2 QUALITY PROFILE PROTOTYPE

The PY2 Quality Profile Prototype will include an information letter and a site-specific quality profile, which will be shared privately with site administrators in the fall of 2023 via LinkB5 as a

PDF document.

The letter would be same for all PY2 sites and would include information to help sites understand VQB5 expectations and PY2 results.



FDUCATION VOBS Practice Year 2 Quality Profile (SAMPLE 1 - CENTER) SITE PERFORMANCE 2022-2023 Site Name: ABC Childcare Site ID: 1234 Interactions Points: 465 point Curriculum Points: 100 points Total Points: 565 points Interactions Performance Informatio Observations using the CLASS® tool were completed in every classroom at this site, in the fall and spring, to measure the quality of teacher-child interactions Toddler Classrooms CLASS Scores Exceed Practice CLASS Scores Need Support Year Expectation: Year Expectations Curriculum Performance Information This site reported using a VDOE approved curriculum in at least one classroom Curricula Used Frog Street Toddler, Frog Street 3's, Frog Street 4's Site Address: 123 Sesame Street, Richmond VA 22222 Ready Region: Ready Region 4 - Central Site Phone: 111-111-1111 Site Email: director@abcchildcare.com Days of Operation: Year-Round: M/T/W/Th/F Other care options: Offers Drop-In: Offers Age Levels Served: Infants (0-15 months): Licensing Information: Licensed Child Day Center oddlers (16-35 months); 3 year olds; 4 year olds Site Website: abschildcare com Public Funding Information: Child Care Subsidy VECE Mixed Delivery View Practice Rating User Guide for more information about site performance results. *The site profile information and performance results are based on information entered in Link\$5 during the 2022-2023 year. Interestings setults are based on level CL 555 observations that were considered by your Reads Region. Use of an approved curriculum is not required for VQB5. Questions can be sent to vob5@doc.virgini

The quality profile page will include site specific performance results and other site-level information.

The prototype is designed to be a 'proof of concept' only. Feedback gathered will inform the development of the public quality profiles to be shared on a new VQB5 website in the fall of 2024.



REFLECTION

Thinking about the CLASS & Curriculum information and data shared today, what **new insights or understandings** have you gained to help inform your professional development work?

Add your reflections to the Padlet

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEXT STEPS FOR IMPROVEMENT PARTNERS

Next steps for partners supporting VQB5 sites participating in Practice Year 2:

- 1. Connect with Ready Regions to coordinate on supporting sites for improvement supports.
- 2. Use fall CLASS scores to guide professional development based on needs
- 3. Support completion of spring CLASS observations between **January 23rd-June 9th**
- 4. Support programs learning about curriculum options and accessing a curriculum. Programs will update current curriculum use information by May 31st, if needed.

To learn more about the Guidelines for VQB5 Year 1 (2023-2024), register for the upcoming <u>VQB5 Quality Matters webinar</u> on March 17 from 12:00-1:00

THANK YOU

- Please share your thoughts about today's webinar via our webinar <u>survey</u> (or) by emailing <u>VQB5@doe.virginia.gov</u>
- Our next quarterly Improvement Partner webinar will be held in May.
- Questions? Email <u>VQB5@doe.virginia.gov</u>

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VQB5

| Topic | Primary Website | Resources and Information |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| VQB5 Information | VDOE Quality Measurement and Improvement (VQB5) | VQB5 Implementation Guide (English/Spanish) VQB5 Overview information (English/Spanish) Guidelines and Participation FAQs Local CLASS Observation Guidebook |
| CLASS in VQB ₅ | AEII Tools for Understanding and Using CLASS | CLASS Summary Docs (English/Spanish) CLASS Data Averages for Virginia CLASS Data Worksheets Strengthening Quality Toolkit |
| Curriculum in VQB5 | VDOE Early Childhood Standards, Curriculum and Instruction | Early Learning & Development Standards (ELDS) Approved Curriculum List Information about the Curriculum Review Process |
| LinkB5 Data Portal for VQB5 | <u>LinkB5 Resources</u> | Step by Step User Guides Video Tutorials Instructions for Accessing CLASS Export Score Reports |

VQB5 READY REGIONS LEAD AGENCIES

| Blue Ridge | United Way of Greater Charlottesville |
|----------------|--|
| North Central | Foundation First (formerly Smart Beginnings Rappahannock Area) |
| Capital Area | Fairfax County Office for Children |
| Chesapeake Bay | Smart Beginnings Virginia Peninsula |
| Southeastern | Minus 9 to 5, Eastern Virginia Medical School |
| Central | Thrive Birth to Five |
| Southside | Center for Early Success |
| West | United Way of Roanoke Valley |
| Southwest | United Way of Southwest Virginia |

^{**}See Ready Regions Contact List for County/City Breakdown and contact information