

Step Ahead Early Learning Center

Sustainability Study Meeting#2

January 25, 2020

Beginnings

- 1 of 4 Early Childhood Development sites in the province in a 2008 pilot project
- Aimed at creating a system where families could access early childhood services at a central location
- Ease the transition into the public school system
- Funded by the Provincial Government and the Margaret and Wallace McCain Family Foundation

Programming

- Full and part-time 2-5 year old daycare
- Afterschool care program
- 3 and 4 year old preschool
- Outside partners such as Public Health, Talk With Me Early Languages Services, the Healthy Baby and Me program, Valley Family Resource, Mental Health, Family and Early Childhood West and Social Development
- Programming related to healthy eating, food mentoring, parenting, children's mental health

Challenges

Went from being licensed for 60 children to now 41 children because of lack of space

Shared bathrooms with middle schoolers

Financial hardship

Lack of space for additional programming

Everyone at their best

“We are committed to a rising tide of excellence in New Brunswick’s **early learning and education system...**”

“...education is not only a priority for our **early learning and education system**, but also for the entire population.”

“This is a very exciting time in **early learning and education...**”

What key areas will we focus on to achieve our objective and targets?

- Support parents to maximize their children's optimal development by proposing a single-point of access to early childhood and public school services. This will facilitate the promotion of and access to programs, services and resources for families.

Objective 2:

Ensure all pre-school children develop the competencies they need to be successful in school and in life

10-year education plan
**Everyone
at their best**

Succeeding at Home: ***A green paper on education in New Brunswick***



This green paper offers ideas on how to make **our education system, from birth to high school graduation**, the best in the world.

Succeeding at Home: A green paper on education in New Brunswick



"Early childhood education is recognized as being as, if not more, important than other periods in a child's development. In addition to the impact on the child, high quality and affordable early childhood education allows parents to return to work: a benefit to the child and to the economy."

ACTION: Government will expand and improve the current early childhood education system