

tiny-k Early Intervention Services of Douglas County-consideration becoming part of USD 497

Board Report January 8, 2018

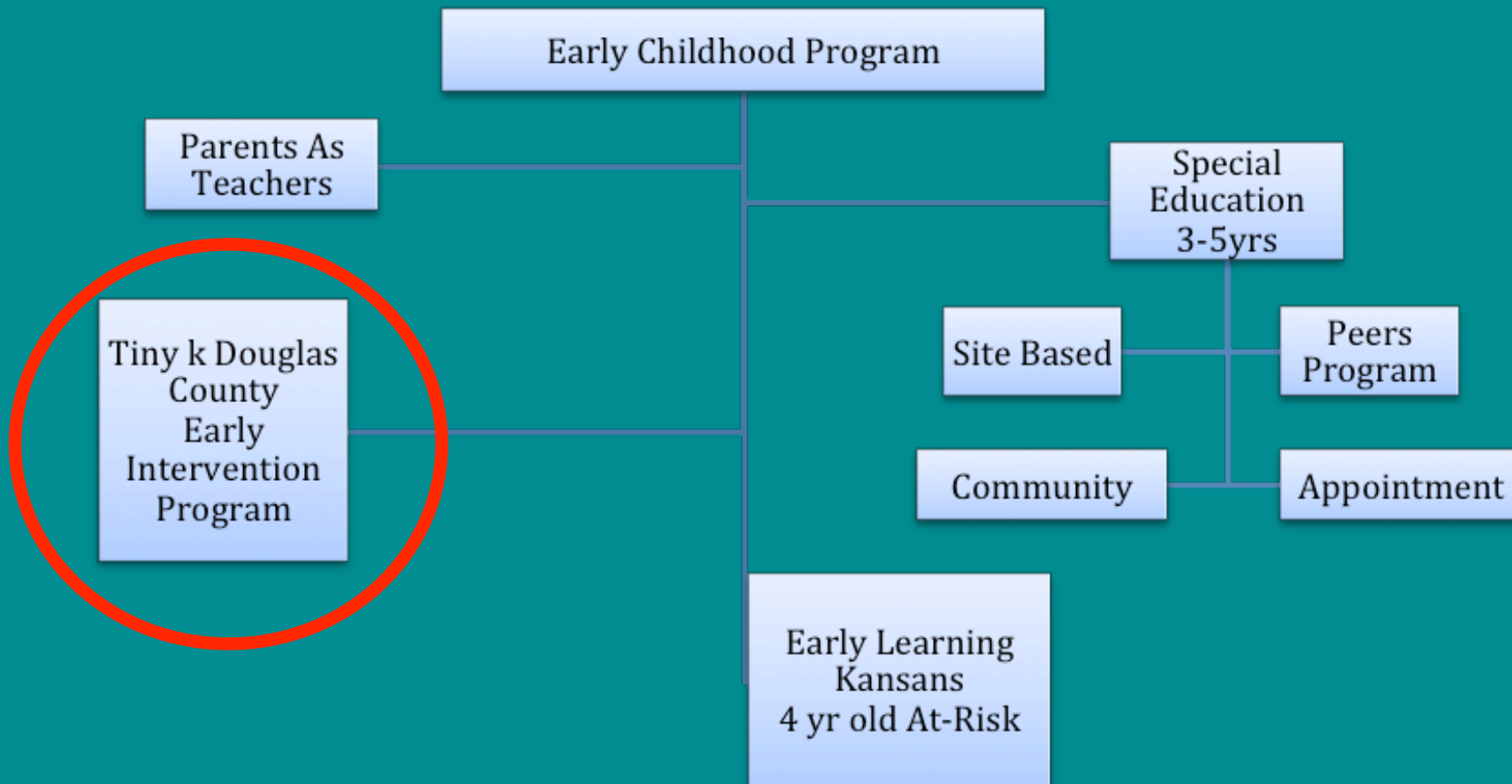
Laura Basham, Assistant Director Special Education/Early
Childhood

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Education

Including early learners with developmental disabilities and delays

- USD 497 Mission “Lawrence USD 497 is a learning community committed to ensuring educational equity and excellence so that students of all races and backgrounds achieve at high levels and graduate prepared for success in college, careers, and life in a diverse and rapidly changing world.”

Early Childhood



tiny-k Early Intervention Services of Douglas County is...

- also known as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Part C program and serves qualifying infants and toddlers 0-3 years olds throughout Douglas County.
- similar to special education as tiny-k provides vital developmental support and services to families at no cost to families
- similar to Parents As Teachers as tiny-k is family centered and assists in empowering families in supporting their child with developmental delays and/or disabilities

tiny-k Early Intervention Services provide...

- individualized and comprehensive services which may include:
 - Speech Therapy
 - Physical Therapy
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Nutrition Services
 - Special Instruction
 - Social Work
- services occur in a child's own environment -where they live, learn, and play, similar to Parents As Teachers
- an opportunity for a child with delays/disability to catch up and connect families with community resources

Community Perspective

- tiny-k: Erin Bird; tiny-k Board President
- Success By 6 Coalition of Douglas County; Rich Minder
- KSDE support: Colleen Riley; KSDE Director Early Childhood, Special Education, and Title Services -letter of support

Potential Positive Impacts

- Students and Families
 - Seamless services within USD 497 for families with children birth - 5 years
 - Quality continuum of services to meet child and families developing early childhood needs
 - Consistent messaging for families and support from staff
 - Opportunity for smooth transitions as children move through services
 - Increased opportunity to partner with families and build effective lasting relationships

Potential Positive Impacts

- District
 - Strengthening community partnerships as all District employees will be working with same families and EC community resources
 - State is moving toward blending funding streams in EC and this switch follows movement to bring programs out of isolation and working together
 - Opportunities to enhance collaboration and PD in EC
 - Opportunity for effective state reporting as students move through programs

Items to work through

- Current structure of support to early childhood would require changes (staffing and funding)
- Additional program requires adherence to program procedures and reporting requirements (similar to Special Ed)
- Working with other communities within Douglas County (i.e. Baldwin, Eudora) as some tiny-k children may transition to other districts at 3 years old
- Funding support including CAT Aide, Medicaid, Federal Part C, local support

Immediate Next Step

- Motion for approval for USD 497 to be Lead Local and Fiscal Agency January 22 BOE meeting

Next Steps

- Projected Timeline (highlights from extensive Lead Agency change process)
 - January - USD 497 approval to be local Lead/Fiscal Agency for tiny-k Early Intervention Services
 - February/March - KDHE and Local ICC hold public forum; ICC meets to agree/disagree with lead agency change; KDHE notify USD 497 of outcome; tiny-k Board meets to agree to dissolve by KDHE given date; transition plan developed with KDHE rep, tiny-k staff, USD 497 staff
 - April - 2018-19 tiny-k grant submission, position posting & hiring, continue transition plan
 - May/June -continue hiring process, continue transition plan
 - July - tiny-k services under USD 497 to begin (date determined by KDHE)

Questions?

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