

School Readiness: Closing Racial and Ethnic Gaps

A practical conference for those working with
kindergarten and pre-school students

Register online at:

[www.futureofchildren.princeton.edu/
schoolreadiness/home.asp](http://www.futureofchildren.princeton.edu/schoolreadiness/home.asp)

Registration ends March 2, 2005

Conference registration code is listed by your name on
the mailing label on the back of this brochure.

Space is limited, register early! Registration is required in order to attend.

or mail/fax this completed form to:
School Readiness Conference

289 Wallace Hall ♦ Princeton University ♦ Princeton, NJ 08544
Phone (609) 258-6976 ♦ Fax (609) 258-5804

Name _____

Title _____ School/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail address _____

Please rank the top two breakout sessions you are interested in attending
(you may change your selections at the conference):

- _____ 1. Implementing preschool programs that meet the promise:
Tools and methods to improve effectiveness
- _____ 2. Transition to kindergarten: Linking children, schools,
families, and communities
- _____ 3. Health in schools: Putting programs into practice
- _____ 4. The "How To" of positive behavior support: Coach the
teacher, support the family, teach the child
- _____ 5. The ABC's of starting a quality preschool program
- _____ 6. Promoting school readiness in the 0-5 child: The parent-
child relationship in the early years
- _____ 7. Early childhood education and family partnerships: Fostering
positive social and emotional growth in young children

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Racial and ethnic differences in school readiness is an issue confronting educators across the country. Although these gaps in educational achievement have narrowed over the past thirty years, test score disparities among American students remain significant. Further, these sizable gaps already exist by the time

children enter kindergarten. Research suggests that what happens to children early in life has a profound impact on their later achievement.

This conference is designed as a follow-up to the latest journal issue of *The Future of Children*, "School Readiness: Closing Racial and Ethnic Gaps." This issue, due to be released in February 2005, shines a spotlight on school readiness, focusing mainly on the social, emotional, and academic skills of children, and the factors that determine them.



The purpose of the conference is to link the latest research regarding school readiness to real life applications. The morning will consist of a panel of experts who will review current literature and provide their "best assessment" of the factors that lead to ethnic and racial gaps in school readiness. The afternoon will consist of breakout sessions highlighting model programs and practices that aim to reduce the gaps. Each breakout will run twice, allowing each participant to attend two sessions.



GETTING TO THE CONFERENCE...

DIRECTIONS TO PRINCETON, NJ BY CAR

From the New Jersey Turnpike heading South - Take Exit 9 (New Brunswick) and follow signs for Trenton (Route 18 North, then Route 1 South). Take the first right after toll booths, up the ramp and onto to 18 North. Immediately, shift to lane second from left and, less than half a mile from entry point, exit left (over Route 1 overpass). Stay in right lane—the exit to Route 1 South is on the right just beyond the overpass. Follow signs on Route 1 to Princeton, about 15 miles. Turn right onto Washington Road/Route 571 West and follow into Princeton. ******Turn right at the first traffic light onto Faculty Road. ******Follow less than one mile to the first left onto FitzRandolph Road. The parking lot will be immediately on the left, take the first OR second left to enter and park in the areas that are NOT designated for decal parking. The Blue Line shuttle departs approximately every 5 minutes from the covered bus stop area near the football field; the shuttle's second stop is directly in front of Robertson Hall.

From the New Jersey Turnpike heading North - Take Exit 8 (Hightstown), and follow signs to Route 133/Princeton. Take Route 133 to end and exit onto Route 571 West, following straight across Route 1 and into Princeton. Follow from ****** above for parking.

From Interstate 95 North or South - Exit at Route 1 North. Follow Route 1 North and exit at Alexander Road, making a left onto Alexander Road. Follow this road into Princeton. Turn right onto Faculty Road (traffic light; gas station) and follow the first exit off the circle to stay on Faculty Road. Stay in right lane to go through traffic light (Washington Road) and follow from ****** above.

Note: Detailed instructions for driving to Princeton are also available by telephone. For a recorded message, call 609-258-2222 using a touch-tone telephone.

Detailed instructions for traveling by train or bus can be found on the Princeton University website at www.princeton.edu/pr/admission/u/visit.html.

PARKING AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Parking will be available on-campus ONLY to attendees who have pre-registered. Once your registration is received, you will receive a confirmation by return mail or email. The confirmation will include your parking pass and a map of the Princeton University campus, indicating the available lot. Shuttle service will be available from the assigned lot to Robertson Hall; times and locations will be indicated on your confirmation.

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WHAT: How large are the racial and ethnic gaps in school readiness? What contributes to the gap? What do we know about what works, and what does not work, in closing the gap?

WHEN: Friday, March 11, 2005; 8:30am–4:15pm

WHERE: Robertson Hall, on the campus of Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

SPONSORS: The Education Research Section, The Future of Children, the Policy Research Institute for the Region, and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University

PANELISTS:

Maria Benejan, *Director, Center for Universal Pre-K, Division of Continuing Education, Bank Street College of Education*

Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, *Virginia and Leonard Marx Professor of Child Development and Education, Teachers College and the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University*

John B. Brunetti, M.D., *Director of Health and Nutrition, Manager Team II, Administration for Children's Services—Head Start*

Joseph Della Fave, *Executive Director, Ironbound Community Corporation*

Marian Detelj, M.S.Ed., *Director of Youth and Family Services, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, New York, NY*

Martha Edwards, Ph.D., *Director, Center for the Developing Child and Family, Ackerman Institute for the Family*

PANELISTS (continued):

Ellen Frede, Ph.D., *Assistant to the Commissioner, Office of Early Childhood Education, New Jersey Department of Education*

Amy Goerl, *Director of Early Education, Keansburg, NJ*

Melinda W. Green, *Vice President, Children's Futures, New Jersey*

Ellen Kramer-Lambert, Esq., *Executive Director, Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey*

Beverly Lynn, *Executive Director, Newark Preschool Council, Inc., Head Start Program, Newark, NJ*

Christina Paxson, *Director, Center for Health and Wellbeing, Professor of Economics and Public Affairs, Princeton University*

Kathleen Priestley, *Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, Orange School District, Orange, NJ*

Cynthia Rice, *Senior Policy Analyst, Association for Children of New Jersey*

Sara Rimm-Kaufman, *Assistant Professor, Curry School of Education, University of Virginia*

Eve Robinson, M.S.Ed., *Executive Director, Montclair Community Pre-K, Montclair, NJ*

Cecilia Rouse, *Director, Education Research Section, Professor of Economics and Public Affairs, Princeton University*

Susan K. Saravalli, Ph.D., *Supervisor, Newark Public Schools, Office of Early Childhood, Newark, NJ*

Jane Waldfogel, *Professor of Social Work and Public Affairs, Columbia University*



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c/o The Future of Children
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The Future
of Children
PRINCETON-BROOKINGS



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