

# Pre-K Initiatives

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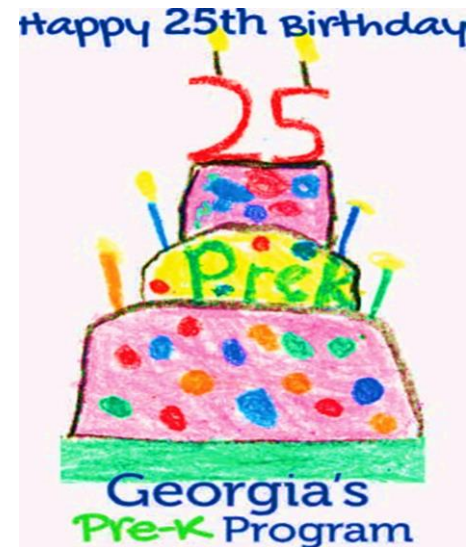


# Pre-K Landscape

- Georgia's Pre-K Program
  - Four-year-olds on or before September 1<sup>st</sup>
- Head Start
  - Three- and four-year-olds
- DECAL Summer Transition Program
  - Rising Kindergarten
  - Rising Pre-K

# Georgia's Pre-K Program

- Funded by Georgia Lottery for Education
- Established in 1992
  - Over 6.2 billion dollars of funding
  - Over 1.6 million children served
- 84,000 slots statewide
  - Approximately 60% of eligible four-year-olds
  - Available in all 159 counties

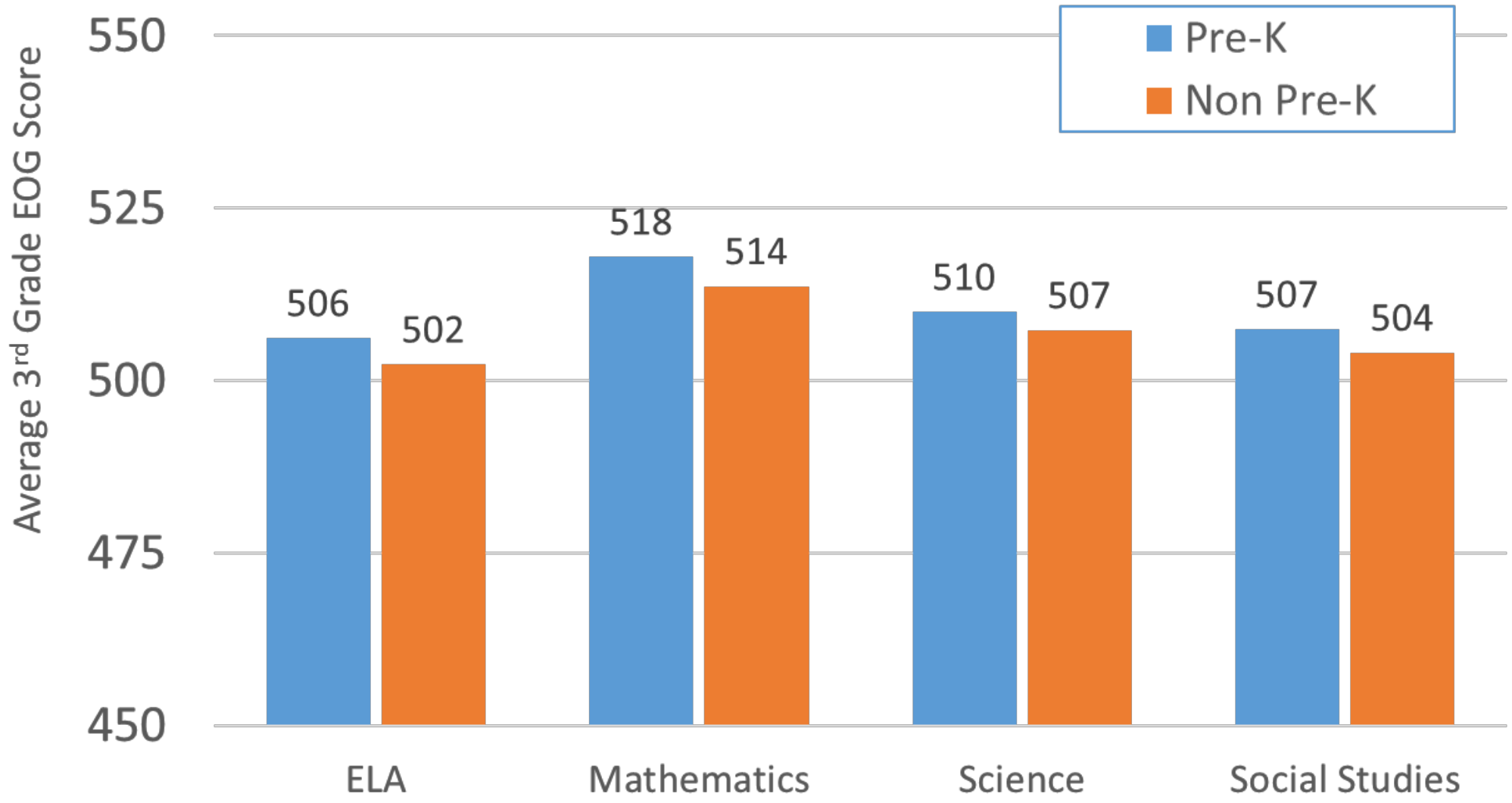


# Pre-K Longitudinal Study

- Children who attend Georgia's Pre-K Program:
  - Make significant **gains** across all learning domains
  - Progress at a **greater rate** than to be expected for typical development
  - **Sustained** through first grade (study results for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be available in Summer 2018)



Children who attended Georgia's Pre-K perform better on EOGs in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade than those who did not attend.



# GKIDS Readiness Check

- ✓ Administered during the first 6 weeks of kindergarten
- ✓ 20 tasks measuring in the five essential early learning domains
  - Direct and indirect activities assessed in a naturalistic setting
- ✓ Assesses the Pre-K Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS)
- ✓ Highlights knowledge and skills critical for student success in learning, **solely to guide instruction**



# Investments in the City- Georgia's Pre-K

## By the Numbers

- 103 sites
- 172 classes
- 3,784 slots

## By the Dollars

- \$87,928 avg. per class
- \$3,997 avg. per slot



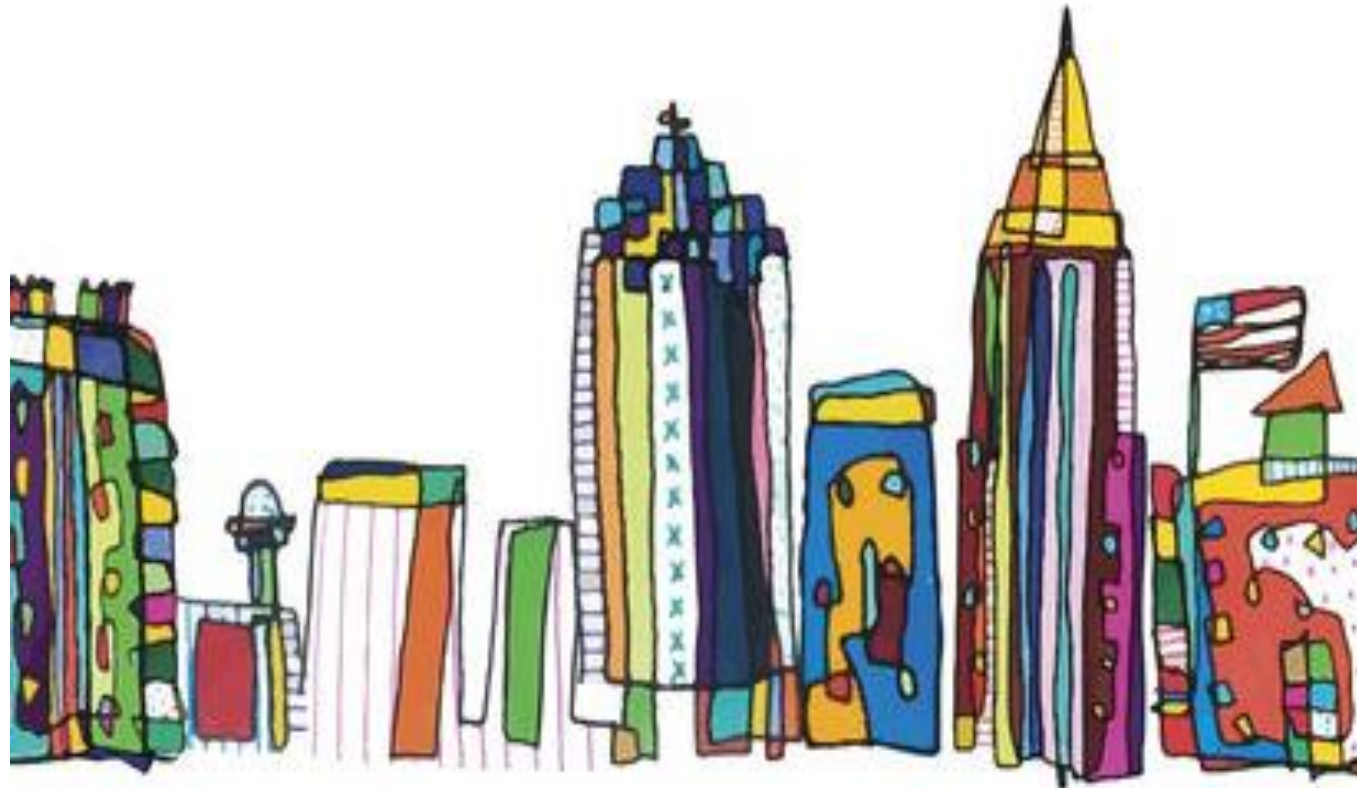
# Investments in the City- Summer Transition Program

## By the Numbers

- Rising K - 15 classes
- Rising PK - 5 classes

## By the Dollars

- \$24,300 per class





# Strong Leadership

- ✓ High Quality Pre-K Programs must have strong site leadership who understand child development and appropriate instruction at the Pre-K level.
- ✓ **Recommendation:**
  - Establish an Early Childhood Leader Institute. Provide a substantive professional learning program for cohorts of elementary school principals and child care center directors.



# Access

✓ Access to high quality Pre-K is more than providing a slot. Additional barriers to participation must be considered and overcome.

✓ **Recommendation:**

- Explore barriers to Pre-K attendance and develop strategies to address
  - Expand transportation services
  - Provide Pre-K Transition Coaches



# Targeted Services

- ✓ Young children at highest risk of educational failure – those with multiple risk factors – benefit the most from high-quality Pre-K.
- ✓ **Recommendation:**
  - Focus additional resources on children with multiple risk factors and low-performing school districts
    - Expand Summer Transition Program to serve Rising Pre-K and Rising K
    - Funds Pre-K Transition Coaches to support families



Questions?

