

**SETTING AND ALIGNING STANDARDS FOR FLORIDA'S VOLUNTARY
PREKINDERGARTEN (VPK) EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Panel of Experts

Janet Fischel, Ph.D.,¹ Director, Pediatric Medical Education; Director, Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics; and Director, Stony Brook Reading and Language Laboratory, State University of New York at Stony Brook (2/18 via phone).

Ellen Frede, Ph.D.,² Assistant to Commissioner for Early Childhood Education, New Jersey Department of Education (on leave from the College of New Jersey).

Sharon Lynn Kagan, Ed.D.,² Virginia and Leonard Marx Professor of Early Childhood and Family Policy, co-director of the National Center for Children and Families, and Associate Dean for Policy at Teachers College, Columbia University, and Professor Adjunct at Yale University's Child Study Center. (2/17 via phone)

Susan Landry, Ph.D.,¹ Michael Matthew Knight Professor, Department of Pediatrics at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, and Chief, Division of Developmental Pediatrics and the Director of the Center for Improving the Readiness of Children for Learning and Education (CIRCLE), Department of Pediatrics. (Invited)

Dave Lawrence,² President, Early Childhood Initiative Foundation and University Scholar for Early Childhood Development and Readiness, University of Florida. (2/17)

Thomas Logan, Ph.D.,² Executive Director, Early Learning Coalition of Florida's Gateway.

Christopher J. Lonigan, Ph.D.,¹ Associate Director, Florida Center for Reading Research, and Professor of Psychology, Florida State University. (2/18)

Scott R. McConnell, Ph. D.,¹ Professor of Educational Psychology and Child Psychology, University of Minnesota.

Carmen Nicholas, Ph.D.,² Director, Head Start and Children's Services Division, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners. (Invited)

Barbara Saunders,² Executive Director, Lee County School Readiness Coalition.

Catherine Scott-Little, Ph.D.,² Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro. *(2/17 via phone)*

Amy M. Wetherby, Ph.D.,¹ L.L. Schendel Professor of Communication Disorders, Florida State University. *(Invited)*

Jerry West, Ph.D.,¹ Program Director, Early Childhood and Household Studies, National Center for Education Statistics. *(Invited)*

Katherine Wilson, Esquire,² Member, Ready Child Coalition (Duval County). *(Invited)*

Nicholas Zill, Ph.D.,¹ Vice President and Study Area Director, Westat, Inc. Rockville Maryland.

¹ Individuals who have expertise in the area of early childhood with a research emphasis on emergent literacy.

² Individuals who have expertise in the area of early childhood with other research emphases.