

June 2018 Monthly Parent Call Notes

1. The main concern at present is the state budget which is due to be voted on June 30th and making sure the increase in funding for Pre-K Counts and HSSAP (Head Start Supplemental Funding) remains. I encouraged everyone to make phone call and/or send emails to their legislators as well as the Governor's office encouraging support of this funding. ***see below for update***
2. We briefly discussed ways to continue engaging legislators and I will be sending out an advocacy calendar with ideas on how to do so.
3. I asked for email addresses for those who are not receiving emails that I have sent out from the PreK for PA campaign. These emails have included how to find your legislator's contact information along with an email or phone call script to help you know what to say when making those phone calls or sending emails.
4. Our next call will be July 19, 2018 9:30AM. Even though most programs are off for the summer I will still continue to hold the calls. For the next call we can start to talk about back-to-school plans for your programs, i.e. parent orientation meetings.

UPDATE: The state government voted the budget in early this year. This is great considering in years past we have gone months at a time without a budget. This budget included a \$25M increase for pre-k classes - \$20M for Pre-K Counts and \$5M for HSSAP. If your program is a home visiting program, this budget also included a more than \$6.5M increase for home visiting funding. We are asking programs and parents to thank their legislators and the Governor for making prek and home visiting a priority by calling them or sending emails. In order to find your legislators' contact information go to <http://www.legis.state.pa.us>. On the left-hand side, you will be able to search different ways to find them. As always, if you do make any kind of legislative contact, please let me know so I can keep track of it, michelle@paheadstart.org.

Thank you!

Michelle Smith