



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



October 27, 2016

Ken Wagner
Commissioner
Rhode Island Department of Education
255 Westminster St.
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Dr. Wagner:

On August 30, 2016, a team from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) (the Department) conducted a desk monitoring of the Rhode Island Department of Education's (RIDE) implementation of its approved Preschool Development Grant (PDG). This monitoring aims to continue the collaborative relationship that began at the grant award and development of the scope of work. It provides the Department with a deeper understanding of each State's overall performance; the successes, challenges, and strategies for the implementation of its plans for its PDG Expansion grant; and the fiscal management of the grant funds. It also helps us tailor technical assistance to each State's specific needs.

Enclosed is a summary report based upon this review. The report includes highlights of Rhode Island's implementation of PDG and a snapshot of Rhode Island's progress under each PDG key area. This report will be posted on the PDG website. The report includes "next steps" to ensure that Rhode Island implements PDG consistent with its approved application, scope of work, and timelines identified in its project plans.

We want to thank you and your staff for your efforts in providing high quality preschool opportunities through the Preschool Development Grant. We hope you will continue to communicate any needs or concerns to your ED project officer(s).

We look forward to continuing our work with you and supporting Rhode Island's technical assistance needs to ensure successful implementation of PDG. Thank you for your commitment to Rhode Island's youngest children.

Sincerely,

/s/

Libby Doggett
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Early Learning
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education

Enclosure