

MARCH 2022

Ready. Set. Grow!

THE BIRTH TO 3RD GRADE PARTNERSHIP
NEWSLETTER



OUR MISSION:

The mission of the Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership is to **connect** the Cambridge early childhood ecosystem, **align** early childhood services and information, and **advocate** for and **advance** the needs of all young children, their families, and the early childhood workforce.

A letter from our Executive Director



Dear Cambridge Early Childhood Community,

I enter this month of March with a mix of emotions. On one hand, Spring is upon us. I so very much look forward to warmer days, new growth, and the promise of new beginnings. The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership is excited to advance the work of providing universal access to high quality preschool to all children and families in our city; working in partnership with our colleagues in the city, school department, and community partners to make it happen. This work is underway, and we will soon be sharing a variety of opportunities for all of you to be involved!

On the other hand, I can't help but be saddened by the crisis in Ukraine. My heart breaks for those who've been forced to flee their country, and for the families who've been separated as they navigate a path forward. As so many times before, children may have questions about what they see and hear on television and it may be difficult to know how to talk about these issues in developmentally appropriate ways. I'd like to re-share a selection of trusted resources to use and share with educators and families. These resources will help determine the right age, content, and language to use when talking with young children about trauma, stress, and violence.

[NAEYC](#)

[Child Care Aware](#)

[Sesame Street in Communities](#)

My biggest hope is that one day we won't have to share these resources...that children everywhere will get to enjoy a joyful childhood...free of trauma, free of violence, free of fear. Until then, B3 will be here to support our community's children, families, and educators. I wish everyone a peaceful month.



In partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Grant".

Dr. Lisa Grant
Executive Director
Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership

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The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership is a collaboration supported by the City of Cambridge and Cambridge Public Schools

Updates for the Field

COVID-19 Updates

View the latest resources and information from **EEC** regarding COVID-19 [here](#).

View the latest resources and information from the **City of Cambridge** regarding COVID-19 [here](#).

Department of Early Education & Care News

Executive Office of Education Announces Transition at the Department of Early Education and Care, Departure of Commissioner Aigner-Treworgy.

Missed the last EEC Board Meeting from February 8, 2022? Catch a recording of it [here](#)!

The Department of Early Care & Education's next board meeting will be held on:

March 8, 2022 from 1 - 4pm
You can watch the meeting live on the Department's YouTube Channel [here](#).

More Updates!

The Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership has moved!

**Our new offices are located at
1972 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02140**

All of our email and telephone contacts will remain the same.



Continuous Quality Improvement Program

Are you a center director or family child care educator looking for increased support, coaching, & funding to help increase the quality of your program? Or maybe you'd like to start a program of your own but don't know where to begin?

B3 is looking for programs and educators who are interested in joining us on a journey towards continuous quality improvement! To find out more about how to join this exciting initiative, contact us at b3info@cpsd.us

The Center for Families March Newsletter is now available!

Inside you'll find information about a wide variety of resources and programs...from Cambridge Dads to Mindfulness Mondays to free resource bags for families and more.

To read the March newsletter click: [HERE](#)

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

You are invited to the **Brazelton Touchpoints Center's** virtual *National Forum!* Join us for three days of knowledge sharing and learning as we explore how families and communities honor and nurture cultural, ethnic, and racial identities for child flourishing. Each day begins with a unique plenary presentation, followed by two 90-minute workshops with three concurrent choices. View the full agenda [here](#). Register to attend all three days or select the days that most interest you.

- Tuesday, March 29 – Listening to Our Ancestors and the Earth: Indigenous Connectedness for Child and Collective Wellbeing
- Wednesday, March 30 – Immigration from Abroad: Fostering Children's Cultural Fluency and Pride
- Thursday, March 31 – "I would tell them to stand up for their rights": How Parents Foster Racial Pride and Resistance in African American Children

The Hunt Institute

Collaboration Across the Continuum: The Role of Higher Education in Preparing the Early Childhood Education Workforce

March 29

REGISTER [HERE](#)

Join us for for a special session exploring the role of higher education in preparing the early childhood workforce. We'll be joined by Rhian Allvin and Mary Harrill of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Dr. Reginald Williams of South Carolina State University and Meghan McCann of the Education Commission of the States.

Creating Robust Mixed Delivery Pre-K Systems

April 5

REGISTER [HERE](#)

You can also now register early for these upcoming sessions:

April 26: (Race and Education) *Neurodiversity and Early Childhood Development: Supporting Children and Parents* – REGISTER [HERE](#)

May 3: *Early Intervention's Role in Young Children's Development* – REGISTER [HERE](#)

June 7: *Children Thrive in Equitable Communities: Eleven Simple Rules to Help us Get There* – REGISTER [HERE](#)

Foundation for All Future Development: *Celebrating Highlights in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health*

This last in a 3-part series will highlight innovations and successes from SAMHSA IECMH, Project LAUNCH, and Indigenous LAUNCH grantees. Grantees from across the nation will showcase examples from their communities and share lessons learned with the broader early childhood field.

Thursday 3/3 2-3:30PM
Register [HERE](#)

The Center of Excellence for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation
Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation: Equity from the Start
March 21 – 23, 2022

This FREE, virtual conference is specifically geared towards IECMHC consultants, supervisors, managers, consultees, parents, leadership, and funders, but all are invited to attend. Join us to access a range of presentations related to implementing infant & early childhood mental health consultation and promoting justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion for infants, children, families, and the workforce.

Join us for:

- Over 50 professional learning sessions
- Opportunities to connect with other individuals in the field of IECMHC
- On-Demand access through May 30, 2022

Register [HERE](#)

In addition to the offerings above, please check StrongStart's online PD calendar for more training opportunities: <https://eecstrongstart.org/training-schedule>

Intentional & Inclusive Spaces in Early Education

Please join B3 Director Mentor Nicole Johnson for a thoughtful series of virtual workshops on intentional practices in Anti-racist, Anti-bias, inclusive education. While acknowledging the current barriers and stress levels within our communities, we will help support program leaders and teachers in cultivating conversation around culturally relevant and sustaining pedagogical practices, reflective application, and safe learning spaces.

This series will take place virtually from 1:00-2:00 on:

February 23, 2022

March 23, 2022

April 20, 2022

May 18, 2022

We encourage attendance for all 4 sessions. If you are unable to attend, recordings will be available to those who register.

Registration is required:

<https://www.cb3p.org/sessions/80/>

Cambridge Week of the Young Child 2022

Save the Date!

Cambridge and the Birth to 3rd Grade Partnership will be celebrating the **Week of the Young Child** from Saturday, April 2nd through Friday, April 8th. B3 is planning an in-person kick off that Saturday, followed by virtual workshops and professional development for educators and others working with young children throughout the week. We can't wait to see you there! Stay tuned for more information.