

# School Readiness Project



## Strategy Description:

- To finalize a definition of school readiness for educators and caregivers and community.
- To review and select a common school readiness screener.
- To create a budget for purchasing and administrating the common screener.
- To develop best practices on how and when the screener will be administered; how the screener data will be shared with parents, teachers, and other stakeholders; and how the data will be used as an indicator of community health.

## Overview

**18**

School Districts

Bristol City, Carter County, Cocke County, Elizabethton City, Greene County, Greeneville City, Hamblen County, Hancock County, Hawkins County, Jefferson County, Johnson City, Johnson County, Kingsport City, Newport City, Rogersville City, Sullivan County, Unicoi County, and Washington County

**6232**

Kindergarten Students

School readiness begins at birth and is shaped by families, early care and education providers, and the community. A ready child is prepared physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually. This means that children begin school ready to participate in and benefit from early learning experiences that help them be successful and excited to learn.

**44%**

Economically Disadvantaged

Screening can serve as the first step in assessing a child's school readiness, providing a snapshot of a child's mastery of early developmental and academic skills. Screening also enables educators to readily identify children who may be developmentally delayed and children who may be developmentally advanced and, therefore, can support any intervention that might be needed.

Selected screener is the Brigance Early Childhood Screens III. It is used to accurately screen skills that are critical predictors of school success, including physical development, language, academic/cognitive, self-help, and social-emotional skills. The assessments are aligned to early learning standards and TN State Standards for children from birth to age 6. Results provide both norm and criterion referenced outcomes. Online data management allows for meeting reporting requirements with normed data and include parent observation forms and involvement resources for early learning.