

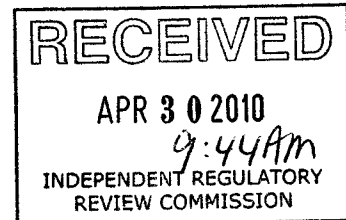
Pittsburgh Area Association for the  
Education of Young Children

2817

5604 Solway Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
Phone: 412.421.3889  
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April 29, 2010

Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
333 Market Street  
14th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
Fax number: (717) 783-2664  
[irrc@irrc.state.pa.us](mailto:irrc@irrc.state.pa.us)



RE: Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts final omitted regulations (#6-319)

Dear Commission members:

I am writing to express my support for the Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts final omitted regulations re-submitted to you on April 7, 2010 (#6-319).

The quality expectations of Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts, which are included in the regulations, are essential to gaining positive outcomes for our young children. Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts is giving our at-risk children, such as those living in low-income families, those with special needs, and English language learners the strong start that research shows can help them overcome these risk factors and enter school ready to learn.

An important piece of these guidelines is promoting inclusive classrooms.

The Pittsburgh Area Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC) is a membership organization of over 1,500 individuals, serving southwestern Pennsylvania. Locally, we have members who are serving children in Pre-K Counts classrooms, and share that they have been able to serve children with special needs in typical classrooms. They share that parents are thankful and happy that their children are in typical settings, and parents of typically developing children are delighted about the benefits for their children as well. Inclusion is important for *all* of the children in the classroom.

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts works for all of the children and families it serves, it is an integral part of the early care and education system, and it benefits the community at large.

On behalf of our members and the families and children they serve the PAEYC Board of Directors agrees with these regulations and asks that you please approve these regulations in full.

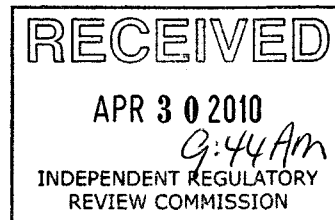
Sincerely,

*Michelle M. Fisher*

Michelle Figlar  
Executive Director  
Pittsburgh Area Association for the Education of Young Children

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**From:** Michelle Figlar [mfiglar@pghaeyc.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2010 6:54 AM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Subject:** Pre-K Counts  
**Attachments:** PAEYC\_IRRC\_Pre\_K\_Counts\_04\_2010.doc



Please accept this letter of support.

Michelle Figlar  
Executive Director  
PAEYC