



Keystone STARS Core Principles Adopted by Stakeholders July 2016

Over 2,345 early care and education stakeholders provided feedback on your new STARS Core Principles. OCDEL is thrilled to accept them as written and looks forward to the future revisioning work!

Keystone STARS is a responsive system to improve, support, and recognize the continuous quality improvement efforts of early learning programs in Pennsylvania. Our system is guided by 3 core principles:

- *A whole child approach to education is essential to meeting the holistic and individual needs of each and every child and family.*
- *Knowledgeable and responsive early care and education professionals are essential to the development of children and the support of families.*
- *Building and sustaining ongoing positive relationships among children, families, early care and education professionals and community stakeholders is essential for the growth and development of every child.*

We believe inclusion, diversity, equity and respect are foundational values embedded in these principles.

"We are committed to ensuring that our children can build a foundation for a bright future, and the Keystone STARS program is a key vehicle to create that reality."

- Secretary Theodore Dallas, DHS

"The success of the Keystone STARS program directly impacts the success of our early learning continuum and our ability to give our children the best opportunity for success when they enter kindergarten."

- Secretary Pedro Rivera, PDE



"Deep and simple is far more essential than shallow and complex."

- Fred Rogers

