

Measuring the Impact of the Boston K1DS Initiative

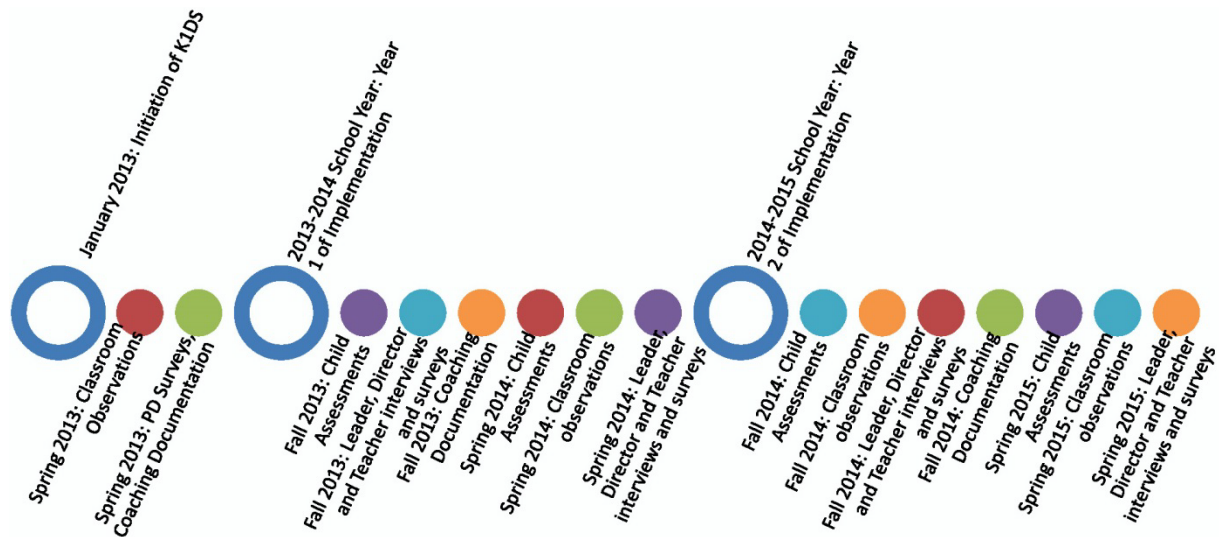
The Boston Public Schools prekindergarten program (K1) has a proven track record in preparing all children for success in kindergarten. Currently, BPS and its partner organizations are piloting the key elements of the K1 program – proven language, literacy, and mathematics curriculum paired with training for teachers and in-classroom coaching supports – in 13 classrooms in community-based (CBO) classrooms in Boston. BPS is also conducting an evaluation of this pilot effort. Key research questions for this pilot phase are:

- Does implementing the Boston model in CBO classrooms improve instructional quality?
- How does the mathematics, language, and literacy instruction in CBO classrooms change?
- What are the barriers to implementing the Boston model in CBO classrooms?
- Do children enrolled in CBO classrooms show the same gains as children enrolled in Boston public prekindergarten classrooms?

To answer these questions, BPS is gathering data from all key CBO participants and stakeholders. Data collected include:

- Measures of classroom climate, instructional practices, and classroom organization in the CBO classrooms, collected twice per year.
- Director and teacher surveys and interviews, coach surveys, interviews and meeting documentation.
- Direct assessments of children’s mathematics, language, literacy, and self-regulation skills, collected in the fall and spring of their preschool year by a trained research assistant.

The timeline below captures all K1DS evaluation activities beginning in January 2013 and continuing through June 2015.



All data collected and analysis conducted are intended to help BPS and its partner organizations chart the best course for ensuring that all children in Boston enter kindergarten prepared to succeed.

For More Information about Boston K1DS, visit

<http://bpsearlychildhood.weebly.com/boston-k1ds.html> or contact Michelle High-McKinnon, Program Director, at 617-635-9063 or mhighmckinnon@bostonpublicschools.org.