WEST VIRGINIA

Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

Research shows that during the earliest years of a child's life:

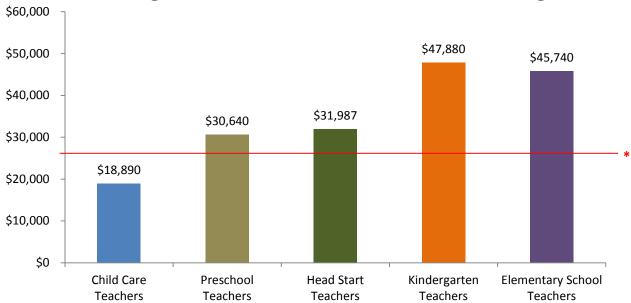
700 - 1,000 new neural connections form every second

Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities

Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3rd Grade Reading Achievement

High Quality Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce Low Wages Undermine Quality

West Virginia Median Annual Workforce Earnings



*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility for a family of three: \$26,124

Note: The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics did not report separate wage data for WV preschool special education teachers.

West Virginia Demographics

123,002 Children Under Age 6

67,776 Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty

57.1% Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working

68.3% Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

28.8% Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

West Virginia Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations



Parking Lot Attendants \$20,120



Manicurists & Pedicurists \$18,710



Word Processors/ Typists \$36,740



Nurses \$56,710





