

# 2020 Hocking Athens Perry Community Action Head Start Annual Report to the Public

Hocking Athens Perry Community Action Head start operates 6 Head Start centers in three counties and provides Early Head Start services from 5 sites in three counties.

In 2020 the Head Start program received funding from the following sources

- \$5,195,844 in federal funding from HHS
- \$321,644 in federal CARES funding
- \$63,492 in USDA funding
- \$1,344,877 in in-kind donations of goods or services

These funds are used to pay for salaries, fringe and indirect for staff, rent, utilities, maintenance and supplies for centers, support costs for staff, food and transportation costs for services to children, training costs for staff and support costs for families. Proposed federal funding for 2021 is estimated at \$5,258,425 with an additional \$1,314,607 estimated as in-kind match requirement. USDA funding for 2020 is estimated at \$75,000.

In January 2020, Community Action Head Start was funded to serve 260 Head Start children and 106 Early Head Start children and pregnant women. The program provided services to a total of 598 children or pregnant women during the school year 6/1/2019-5/31/2020. This number includes children who dropped from the program at any time during the year. Those served were broken out by the following age categories.

Actual

Enrollment by age

Pregnant Women	17
less than 1 year old	49
1 year old	62
2 years old	65
3 years old	200
4 years old	128
5 or older	1

TOTAL SERVED 522

	Early Head Start Actual enrollment at end of month as reported to Federal Monitors	Percentage of Funded Enrollment
January 2020	106	100.00%
February 2020	106	100.00%
March 2020	106	100.00%
April 2020	106	100.00%
May 2020	106	100.00%
June 2020	106	100.00%
July 2020	106	100.00%
August 2020	106	100.00%
September 2020	106	100.00%
October 2020	106	100.00%
November 2020	106	100.00%
December 2020	104	98.11%

#### Head Start

	Actual enrollment at end of month as reported to Federal Monitors	Percentage of funded Enrollment
January 2020	260	100.00%
February 2020	260	100.00%
March 2020	260	100.00%
April 2020	260	100.00%
May 2020*	102	100.00%
June 2020	145	100.00%
July 2020	12	100.00%
August 2020	242	93.08%
September 2020	243	93.46%
October 2020	254	97.69%
November 2020	254	97.69%
December 2020	248	95.38%

- The program was fully enrolled as required at the end of May, June and July. The numbers reported are end of month actual enrollment as funded which includes a full year HS home based caseload and alternative extended year services provided to a portion of our children—some due to COVID funding.

An important part of the service provided to our families is the medical and dental screening. All children follow the EPSDT guidelines for medical screenings. In addition all Head Start children receive an annual dental screening. In both cases referrals for conditions needing treatment are made and follow up is provided as necessary. COVID again played havoc with required health screenings, particularly for Early Head Start. 93% of Head Start children were up to date on their physicals and 94% of them were up to date on their dentals when the shut down due to COVID began. We had 10 children that needed a dental exam and 31 children who had a physical expire during the shutdown who were unable to get the exam prior to the end of the program year. Early Head Start fared much worse as there are many more required health events for these children. At the end of our program year we had 63 children who were not up to date on their health events. In some cases, screenings had been completed prior to the shutdown but we were unable to get the results from the physicians prior to the end of the program year. In other cases, the physical was completed but we were unable to get the required hearing or vision screenings completed.

The Early Head Start and Head Start program work to identify children who may be in need of specialized developmental services. We work closely with local Help Me Grow Programs and local School Districts to provide the best possible service to children in need of support. While challenged by the constraints of COVID safety protocols and delays due to school or other program closures we were able to meet the requirement that the program provide services to at least 37 children who have either an IFSP or IEP.

We started 2020 with excellent enrollment numbers continuing the progress we made in 2019. Unfortunately, the COVID crisis drastically reduced our ability to attract and retain some of our Head Start children. During the shutdown we were able to keep families engaged with the program using a variety of strategies. We took items and materials to homes, provided virtual services, phone calls and other family support strategies that allowed us to keep full enrollment through the end of the 2020 school year. During the summer we provided additional services for some children and even held a small in person summer camp experience that was well received.

We were fortunate that we had many 3 year olds that carried over to our 2020-21 school year and had better enrollment than many programs across the state. Early Head Start numbers remained stable even as we shifted to virtual or porch services.

The program served approximately 36% of eligible children aged four, 45% of eligible children aged three and 9% of eligible infants and toddlers. Details regarding enrollment for each month were highlighted above.

Child outcomes are measured using the COR Advantage, a child assessment system that is aligned to our curriculum (HighScope), Ohio Early Learning Standards and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Birth to Five. We assess children in the five Head Start essential domains. The domains align to our school readiness goals and are as follows:

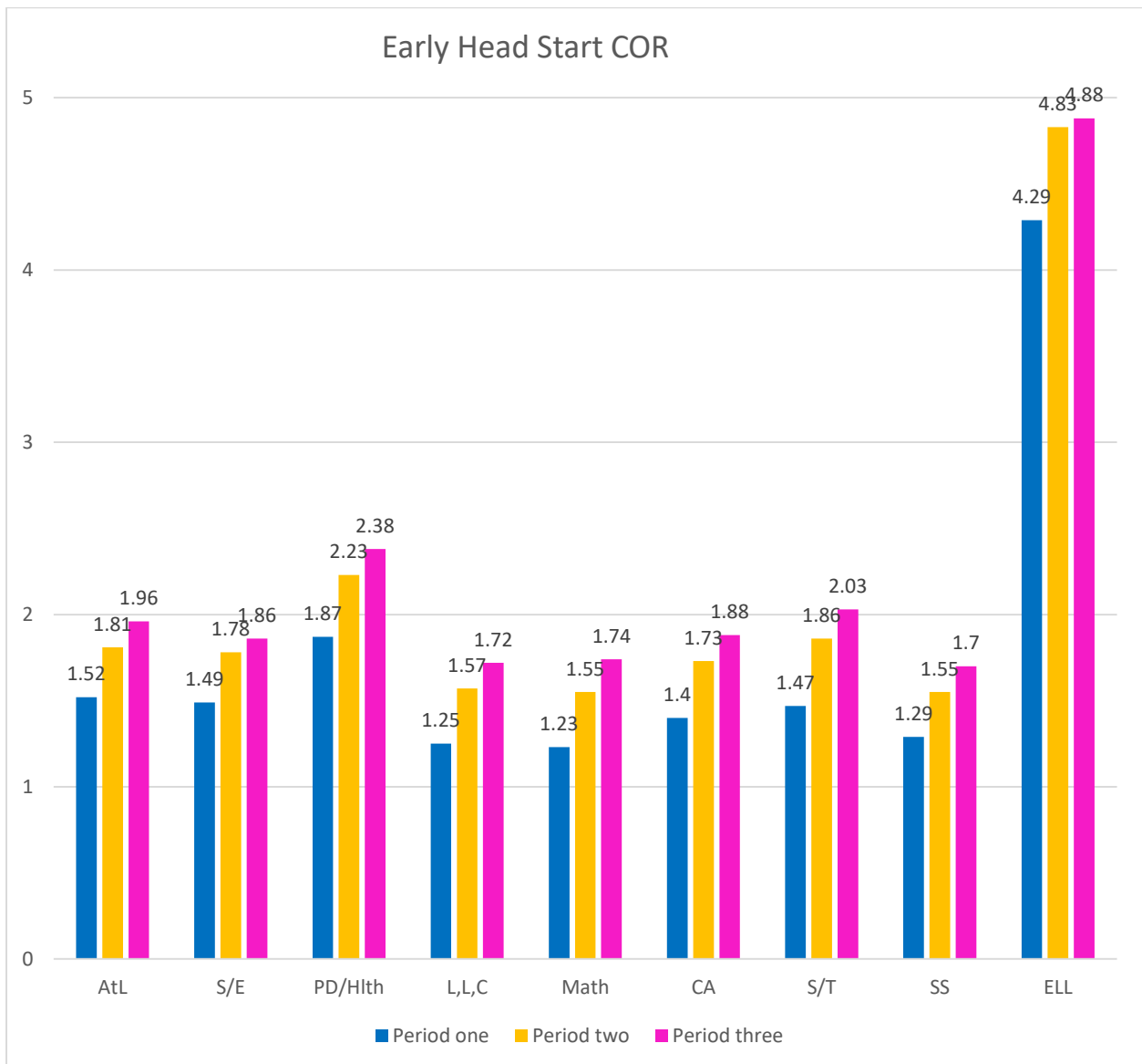
- Physical Development and Health
- Social Emotional Development
- Approaches to Learning
- Language and Literacy
- Cognition and General Knowledge (includes math, science and social studies)

The assessment is on a 1 to 7 scale and assesses children 6 weeks old through kindergarten. Our goals include that

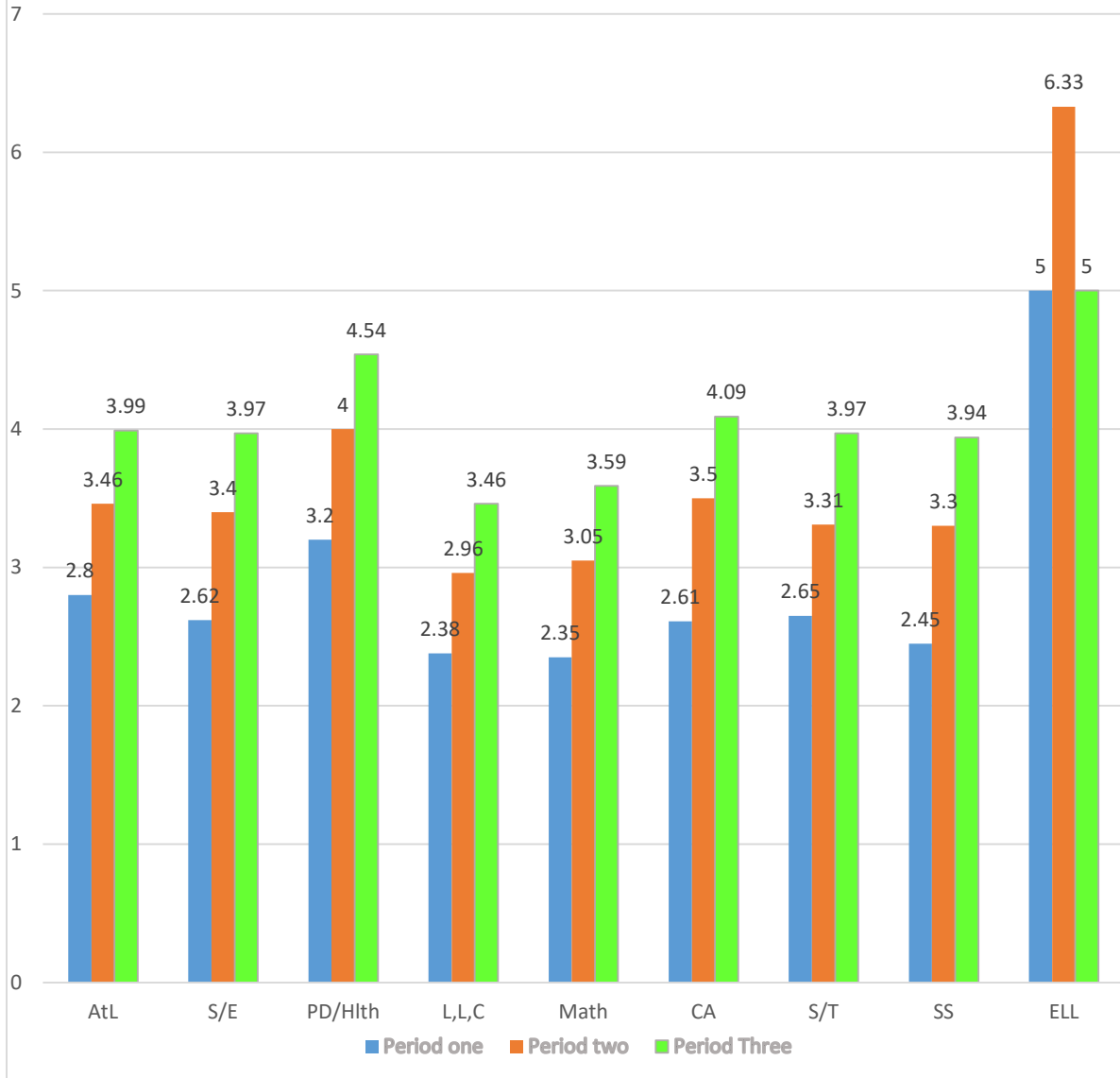
1. Early Head Start children make progress in the five essential domains (Early Head Start COR Periods 1-4).
2. Returning Head Start children achieve an average of level three (3) in the five essential domains (HS 3 – Returners - COR Periods 1-4).
3. Children entering kindergarten achieve an average of level four (4) in the five essential domains (HS Kindergarten Eligible, COR Periods 1-4)

COVID impacted our ability to achieve all goals for all children. Early Head Start children made progress in all areas with the largest gains in science and technology, math, and physical development and health. Returning center based children met our goals but returning home based children did not meet our goals for several areas. Similarly, center based children going to kindergarten met our goals but home based children going to kindergarten fell short.

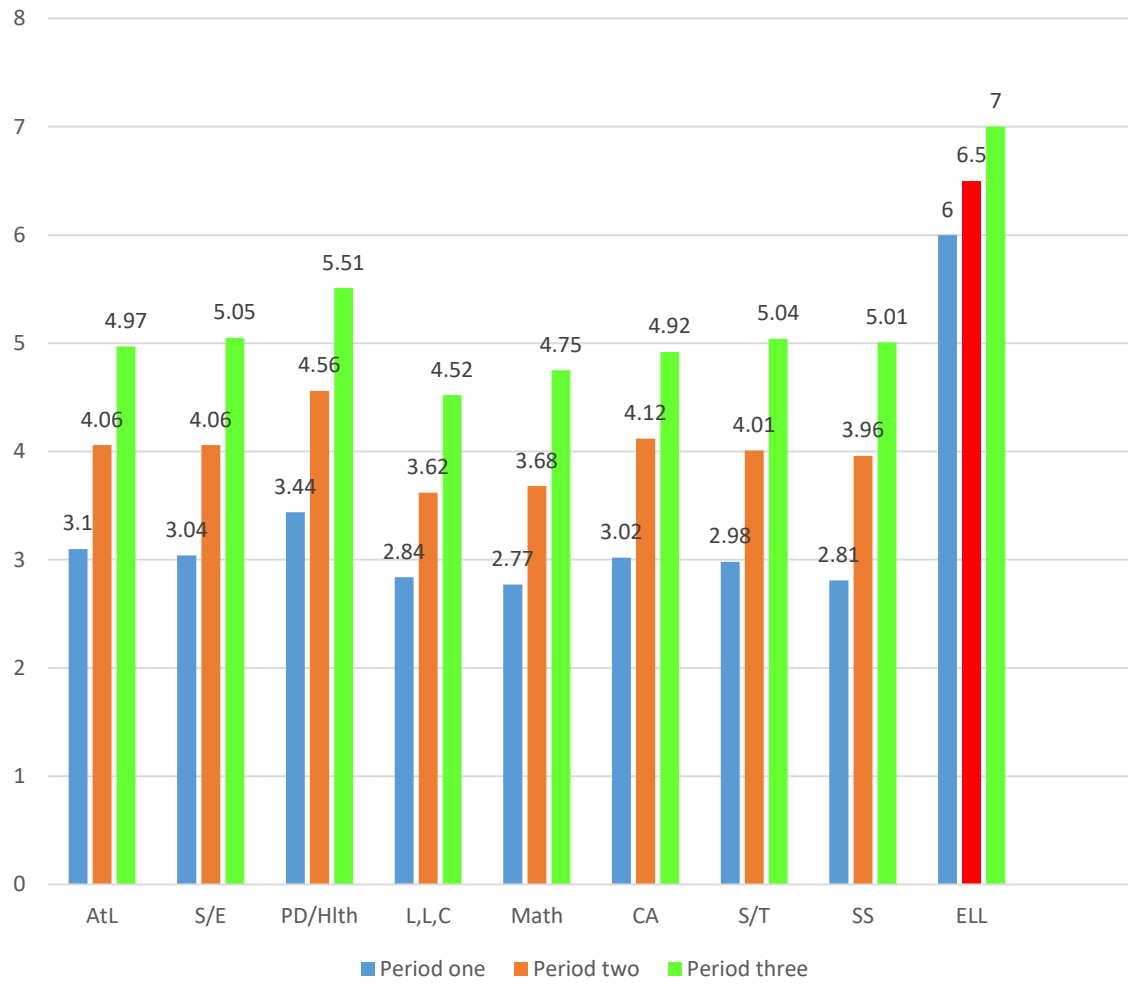
The following charts illustrate those obtained goals.



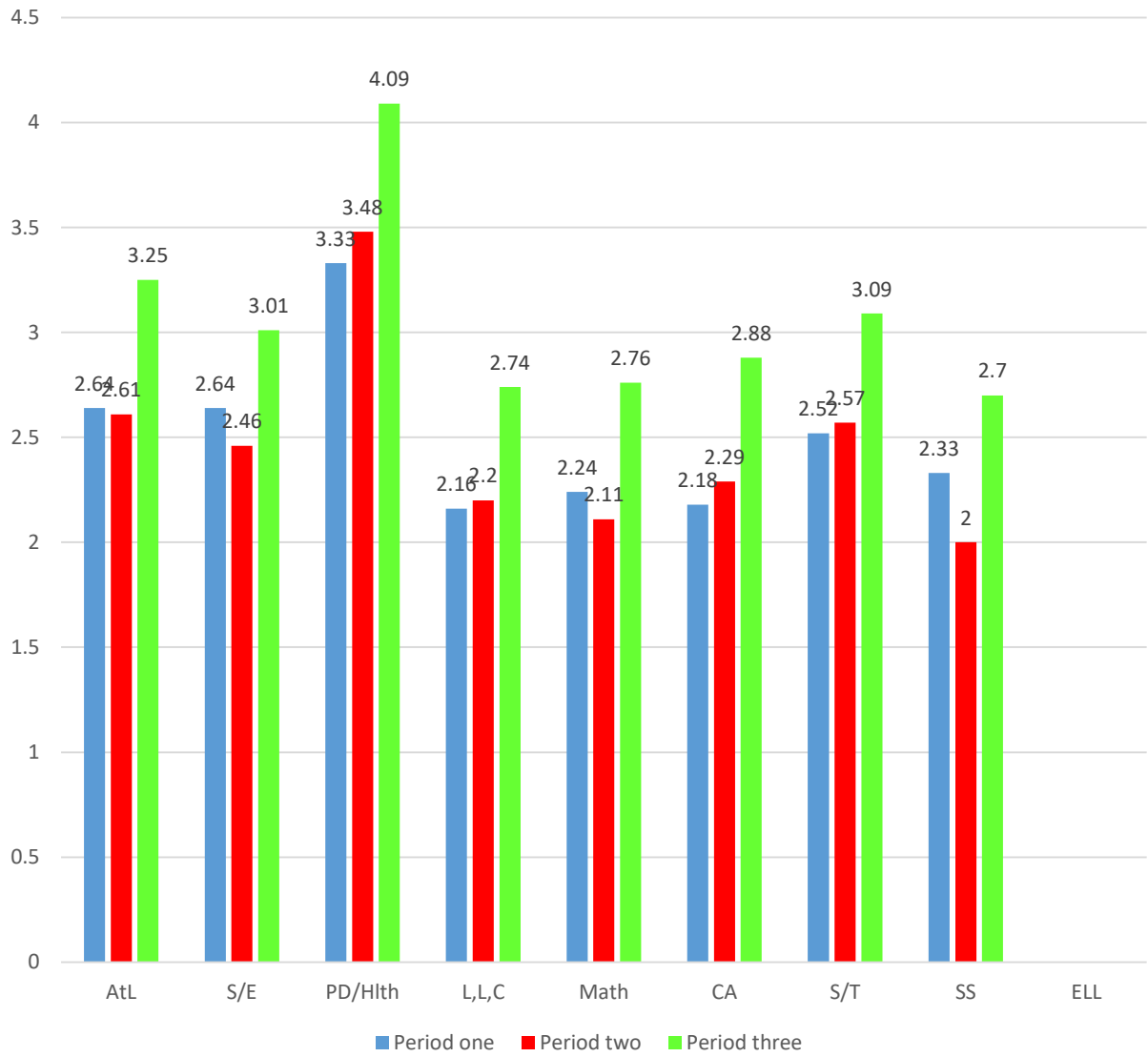
### Center Based COR 3/4 year olds (Returners)



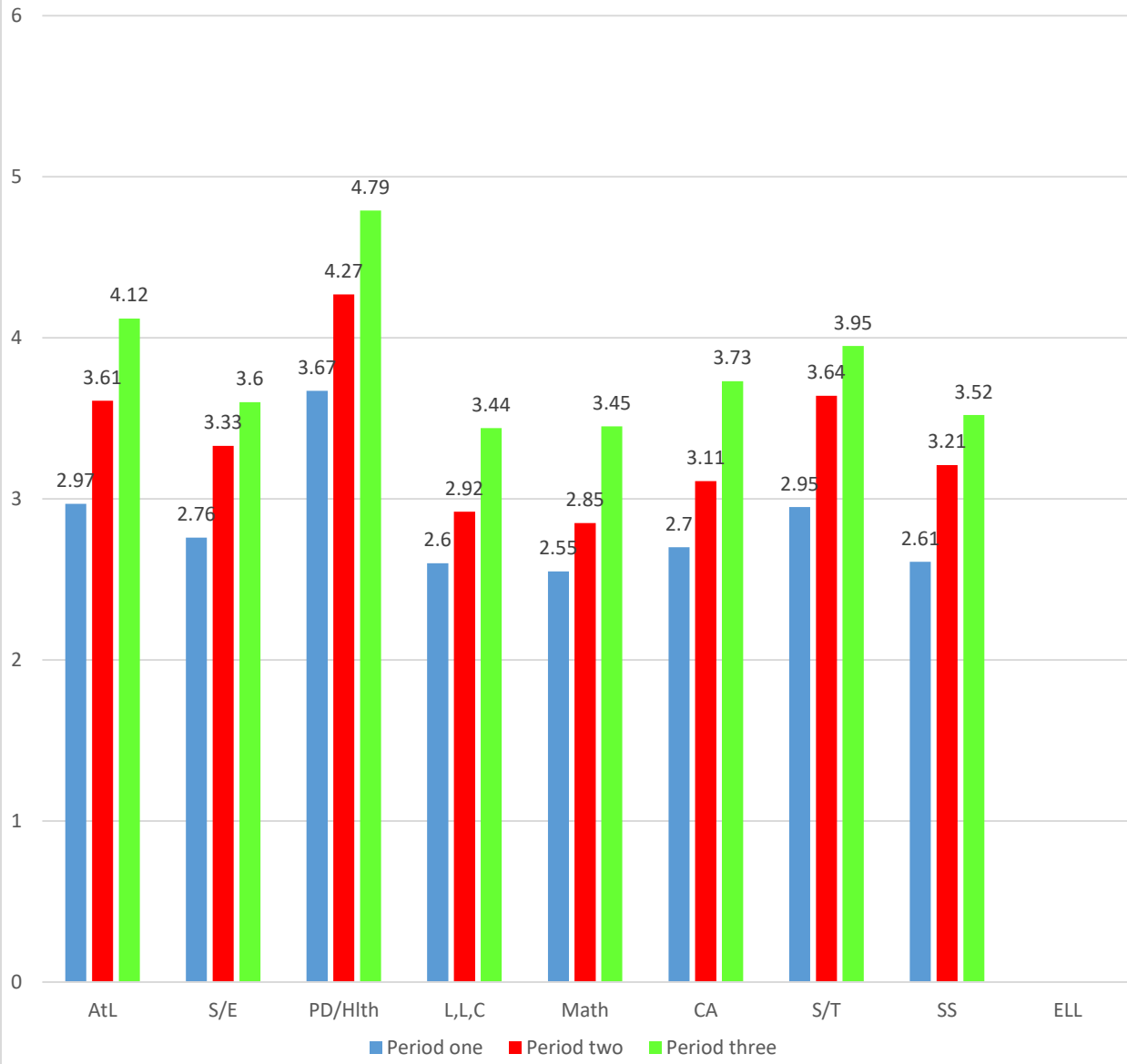
### Center Based COR 5 years and up (Kindergarten)



### Homebased COR 3/4 years (Returners)



# Home Based COR 5 years and up (Kindergarten)





Key:

**AtL** – Approaches to Learning

**S/E** – Social and Emotional Development

**PD/Hlth** – Physical Development and Health

**L,L,C** – Language, Literacy, and Communication

**Math** – Mathematics

**CA** – Creative Arts

**S/T** – Science and Technology

**SS** – Social Studies

**ELL** – English Language Learners

**Typical developmental ranges for children within the COR framework:**

Infants 0-2

Toddlers 0-3

Preschool – 2-5

Kindergarten – 4-7

We will work with home based staff on how to support parent and child learning in the home. We will further delve into individual caseloads and provide coaching and additional training to staff who struggle the most. Additional training in phonological awareness will also be provided to new staff and current staff that struggle in providing support to children in this area. This has historically been one of the lowest areas that children enter the program.

Parent involvement is a key component of the program. Parents of currently enrolled children comprise over 73% of the Parent Policy Council. The Parent Policy Council must review and approve the hiring of all program staff; they conduct an annual self-assessment of the program, participate in budget development and program goals. They approve all grant applications and provide oversight and guidance to the program. The opportunity to participate in program governance through Parent Policy Council provides experience that translates into the workplace and through volunteer efforts in other community organizations.

The program strives to involve all parents in the Head Start learning process. Activities at the centers are developmentally appropriate and individualized for optimal educational benefit. All enrolled families receive regular visits from staff to help establish family goals and keep families apprised of their child's progress. All Head Start Centers offer many opportunities for parent involvement including parent meetings and trainings and family fun events. Parents are always encouraged to volunteer in the centers and be a full partner in their child's education. The program uses a curriculum that is fully aligned with State preschool educational standards and works closely with local school districts to ensure a smooth transition to the public school setting.

The 2020 agency audit had no findings. A full copy of the latest financial audit and all program reports and further information are available at the agency main office in Glouster, Ohio. Please contact the Director of Child Development Programs at 740-767-4500 for further information.