ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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Results from CLASS® Video Review Observation

To: Board Chairperson
Ms. Rachel Boudreau, Board Chairperson
Kids' Corps Inc
101 Davis St
Anchorage, AK 99508-2431

From: Responsible HHS Official

Date: 02/18/2025
Tala Hooban
Deputy Director, Office of Head Start

Thank you for your support during the recent Office of Head Start CLASS® Video review conducted from **11/25/2024** to **02/14/2025** of your Head Start program, Grant **#10CH012119**.

Observations were conducted in preschool center-based classrooms using the 2008 Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®). The CLASS® tool looks at three domains and ten dimensions of teacher-child interactions and measures those observed interactions on a seven-point scale. Please share these results with the appropriate governing board, policy council, management, staff, and stakeholders.

Your program scores are in the table below.

DIMENSION	SCORE
Emotional Support*	6.4167
Positive Climate	6.67
Negative Climate	1.00
Teacher Sensitivity	6.39
Regard for Student Perspectives	5.61
Classroom Organization	5.7778
Behavior Management	5.78
Productivity	6.22
Instructional Learning Formats	5.33
Instructional Support	3.5370
Concept Development	3.06
Quality of Feedback	3.67
Language Modeling	3.89

**To calculate the Emotional Support domain, subtract the Negative Climate score from 8, add the Positive Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, and Regard for Student Perspectives scores, then divide by 4.*

The Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) include thresholds for each CLASS® domain(s). These quality thresholds represent the expectations of the Office of Head Start (OHS) for the quality of the learning environment in every Head Start program. These thresholds do not relate to competition, but instead reflect a quality improvement focus on teacher-child interactions, with support from OHS. The competitive thresholds reflect the minimum score that programs must achieve in each CLASS® domain. For the upcoming FY24 monitoring year, scores from CLASS® observations will be used in the Designation Renewal System (DRS) determinations using the competitive thresholds.

DOMAIN	YOUR PROGRAM'S SCORE	Quality Threshold	Competitive Threshold
Emotional Support	6.4167	6	5
Classroom Organization	5.7778	6	5
Instructional Support	3.5370	3	2.3**

***The competitive threshold for Instructional Support is 2.3 for* CLASS® *reviews conducted through July 31, 2025, and then raises to 2.5 for* CLASS® *reviews conducted on and after August 1, 2025.*

If your program's scores from this CLASS® review fall below the competitive thresholds, the Office of Head Start will be in contact with you about next steps in the competitive process.

If your CLASS® scores fall below the quality or competitive benchmarks in any domain, the Office of Head Start provides training and technical resources here: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/teaching-practices/article/class-quality-improvement.

You can also coordinate with your Regional Office for additional assistance to enhance classroom environments and teacher-child interactions specific to your program's needs.

For more information on CLASS® domains and dimensions, please see the attached "About CLASS®" document and visit the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center, National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning at https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/teaching-practices/article/learn-more-about-class.

If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Office.

cc: Ms. Katrina Ahlfield, Head Start Director

Ms. Katrina Ahlfield, CEO/Executive Director

Ms. Jessica Teague Beech, Policy Council Chairperson

Laura Bocchetti, Program Specialist

Delroy Grant, Supervisory Program Specialist

About CLASS®

The Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 requires that the Office of Head Start (OHS) include in the monitoring reviews of Head Start agencies a valid and reliable research-based observational instrument that assesses classroom quality, including the assessment of multiple dimensions of teacher-child interactions that are linked to positive child outcomes and later achievement. OHS will continue to use the 2008 edition of the CLASS® Pre-K Teacher-Child Observation Instrument to meet this requirement.

CLASS® assesses interactions between children and teachers in three broad domains of classroom quality: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. The Office of Head Start believes that the domains of quality measured by CLASS® remain central to its approach to child development and education, and serve as important indicators of the future school readiness of all Head Start children.

For all dimensions,† the scoring principles are as follows:

Low Range Score

1-The low range description of the CLASS® dimension fits the classroom and/or teacher very well. All, or almost all, relevant indicators in the low range are present.
2-The low range description of the CLASS® dimension mostly fits the classroom and/or teacher, but there are one or two indicators that are in the middle range.

Middle Range Score

3-The middle range description of the CLASS® dimension mostly fits the classroom and/or teacher, but there are one or two indicators in the low range.
4-The middle range description of the CLASS® dimension fits the classroom and/or teacher very well. All, or almost all, relevant indicators in the middle range are present.
5-The middle range description of the CLASS® dimension mostly fits the classroom and/or teacher, but there are one or two indicators in the high range.

High Range Score

6-The high range description of the CLASS® dimension mostly fits the classroom and/or teacher, but there are one or two indicators in the middle range.
7-The high range description of the CLASS® dimension fits the classroom and/or teacher very well. All, or almost all, relevant indicators in the high range are present.

†Note: The Negative Climate dimension is inversely scored with a higher score indicating lower quality. For all other dimensions and domains, a higher score indicates higher quality.

The scores from each class observation are averaged across the grant to result in grant-level dimension scores. The grant-level dimension scores are then used to calculate the grant-level domain scores.

The scores from CLASS® observations can be used for a variety of purposes, including professional development, program improvement, policy, goal setting, and monitoring. The Office of Head Start began using CLASS® for monitoring purposes in FY2010 to collect information on the experiences of children at each grant recipient.

In FY2012, OHS refined the use of CLASS® in monitoring to include the use of a randomly selected sample of center-based preschool classes for observations and a clearly articulated methodology. For each preschool class selected in the sample, trained, and certified CLASS® reviewers conduct two 20-minute observations and score at the dimension level using a 7-point scale at the end of each observation cycle.