



**FIRST 5 MARIN**

Learn. Grow. Thrive.

## Spotlight: Transitional Kindergarten

Transitional Kindergarten is coming to Marin. Working together, we can make it successful for all children.



Join us for a free forum on Friday, April 1st to learn about the new law, the changes that are coming to

your school and your community-- and to ask questions about how it will work.

**OPENING REMARKS** by **Mary Jane Burke**, Marin County Superintendent of Schools, and **Dr. Bruce Fuller** from the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Education.

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS** by region-- to discuss **workforce issues, funding, logistics, quality programs and equity concerns**.

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS** - *from a very special guest!* Stay tuned-- an announcement will be coming soon.

**REGISTRATION** - Please email [Michelle@First5Marin.org](mailto:Michelle@First5Marin.org) to RSVP for the free forum on Friday, April 1st at the **Embassy Suites Hotel** in San Rafael. *This is a free event, and lunch will be provided.* If you have any questions, call First 5 Marin at 415-257-8555.

**SMILE MARIN! It's National Children's Dental Health Month! Join us for a free online forum on dental care and oral health on Thursday, February 17th from 10 to 11:45 am. Email [Michelle@First5Marin.org](mailto:Michelle@First5Marin.org) for the link.**

## **FEBRUARY 16 COMMISSION MEETING**

First 5 Marin will be **meeting TODAY, Wednesday, Feb.16th at 5:15 pm**. Join us online to hear a presentation on the history of First 5 Marin, to see our annual report for FY2020-21, to get an update on our strategic planning, and to review the financials for Q1 and Q2 of the current fiscal year. Email [Michelle@First5Marin.org](mailto:Michelle@First5Marin.org) for the link.

## **DESKTOP: What We're Reading**

Take a look at some of the recent articles about important issues related to children and families:



### **AP News:**

#### **[In reversal, FDA puts brakes on COVID shots for kids under 5](#)**

COVID-19 vaccinations for children under 5 hit another monthslong delay Friday as U.S. regulators abruptly put the brakes on their efforts to speed review of the shots that Pfizer is testing for youngsters. The Food and Drug Administration, worried about the omicron variant's toll on kids, had taken the extraordinary step of urging Pfizer to apply for OK of the extra-low dose vaccine before it's clear if tots will need two shots or three.

### **The New York Times:**

#### **[What's Going on with Vaccines for Children Under Five?](#)**

### **The Washington Post:**

#### **[Developmental milestones just](#)**

## [changed for the first time in years](#)

For the first time in decades, the nation's top pediatricians have changed the checklist of developmental milestones for infants and young children to make it easier to identify delays that could be a sign of autism or other social-communication disabilities.

**NPR:**

## [A top researcher says it's time to rethink our entire approach to preschool](#)

Policymakers and experts have touted for decades now that if you give a 4-year-old who is growing up in poverty a good dose of story time and block play, they'll be more likely to grow up to become a high-earning, productive citizen... A new study indicates otherwise.

**Metro:**

## [Most children under 5 are exceeding screen time guidelines, research warns](#)

The majority of children aged five and younger are not meeting screen-time guidelines, new worldwide analysis suggests. According to this new study, only a quarter of children under two, and one in three aged two to five, are meeting international recommendations.

**Los Angeles Times:**

## [Op-Ed: America's approach to early childhood education is completely unsustainable](#)

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, alarming attrition and turnover in the early education workforce has gotten even worse. Prior to the pandemic, turnover in the field was already as high as 30% annually. During the pandemic, the workforce shrank by an additional 10%. The American Rescue Plan and other stimulus packages provided some support to stabilize the sector, including \$39 billion for states to keep child-care programs open and to serve children from families with low incomes. But those measures are insufficient when early educators are still paid poverty wages — a wholly unsustainable and unjust approach to staffing an early education system.

**The New York Times**

## [When the Parenting Never Stops](#)

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**Join us!**  
**First 5 Marin's**  
**Policy Breakfast**  
**Friday, May 6, 2022**  
**8:30 am**  
**Embassy Suites Hotel**

**Child Care Keeps Marin**  
**Working!**

**Keynote speaker will be announced soon!**