

Karin A. Garver

EDUCATION

M.A. in Public Policy; Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

B.A. in Sociology/Anthropology with Honors, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & YEARS IN POLICY RESEARCH

2018-Present Early Childhood Education Policy Specialist, National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University. Focus on New Jersey-specific and national policies related to the implementation of state preschool.

- Conduct research for annual State of Preschool Yearbook, including survey development, data mining, research and reporting.
- Conduct research to enhance implementation of NIEER's Cost of Preschool Quality and Revenue tool.
- Provide on-going research and technical assistance to the State of New Jersey on the implementation of state-funded preschool programs.
- Develop research, resources, presentations and papers in response to internal needs and external requests.

2016-2018 Chief of Staff and Assistant Commissioner for Executive Services, New Jersey Department of Education. Focus on overall administration of Department activities under Commissioner Harrington.

- Served as point of contact to Governor's Office for policy, legal, and personnel decisions.
- Represented Commissioner at statewide meetings to discuss education policies and initiatives.
- Oversaw day-to-day operations of Department, including human resources, administration, and public information/press.
- Developed budget protocols for distribution of approximately \$19 million in additional preschool funding.

2016-2016 Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Division of Teaching and Learning, New Jersey Department of Education. Focus on oversight of academic offices of Department and implementation of state policies.

- Managed day-to-day operations of Division, including personnel, budget and communications.
- Oversaw expenditures for major federal grants and state funding.

- 2015-2016 Director of Academic Initiatives and Fiscal Accountability, Division of Teaching and Learning, New Jersey Department of Education. Focus on implementation of all data and finance issues related to Division, including state-funded preschool programs.
- Liaison between Division and Department's budget and accounting office.
 - Developed protocols for Division procurement, travel, and purchasing.
 - Oversaw expenditures across four state agencies for NJ's \$44 million Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant.
 - Oversaw expenditures for NJ's \$70 million Preschool Expansion Grant.
 - Led initiative to integrate early childhood data across multiple state agencies.
 - Oversaw early childhood budget and enrollment-related data collections.
 - Represented Division within the Department's Data Governance structure.
- 2013-2015 Data and Finance Manager, Division of Early Childhood Education, New Jersey Department of Education. Focus on implementation of all data and finance related to state preschool programs, including federal Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant and federal Preschool Development Grant.
- Oversaw expenditures across four state agencies for NJ's \$44 million Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant.
 - Oversaw expenditures for NJ's \$70 million Preschool Expansion Grant.
 - Reviewed and approved district-level budgets/enrollment for NJ's \$650 million state preschool program.
 - Led initiative to integrate early childhood data across multiple state agencies.
 - Researched and developed budget guidance for state-funded preschool programs.
 - Oversaw all budget and enrollment-related data for the Division of Early Childhood Education.
- 2003-2013 Education Program Development Specialist, Division of Early Childhood Education, New Jersey Department of Education. Focus on providing technical assistance to school districts with state-funded preschool, especially related to budget guidance and development.
- Reviewed and oversaw district-level budgets/enrollment for NJ's \$650 million state preschool program.
 - Researched and developed budget guidance for preschool program.
 - Coordinated budget and enrollment data for NJ's preschool program.
 - Served as liaison between Division and steering committee for Department's longitudinal student data system (NJ SMART).

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Weisenfeld, G. G., Garver, K. A., & Hodges, K. S. (2020). Federal and State Efforts in the Implementation of Kindergarten Entry Assessments (2011-2018). In D. J. Ackerman & R. Lambert (Eds.), *Special Issue: Kindergarten Entry Assessments: Policies, Practices, Potential Pitfalls, and Psychometrics*. Early Education and Development. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10409289.2020.1720481>

Policy Briefs

Garver, K. A. (2021, March 5). *Exploring the cost of high-quality infant and toddler care in New Jersey*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. <https://nieer.org/policy-issue/exploring-the-cost-of-high-quality-infant-and-toddler-care-in-new-jersey>

Garver, K. A. (2020, October 27). *How Well Are State Pre-K Programs Designed To Support Dual Language Learners?* New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. <http://nieer.org/research-report/nieer-pre-k-data-snapshot-how-well-are-state-pre-k-programs-designed-to-support-dual-language-learners>

Garver, K. A. (2020, August 18). *The “why” behind kindergarten entry assessments*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. <http://nieer.org/policy-issue/the-why-behind-kindergarten-entry-assessments>

Garver, K. A. (2020, June 19). *How Will The COVID-19 Pandemic Impact Pre-K? Lessons from the Great Recession*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. <https://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/How-Will-The-COVID-19-Pandemic-Impact-Pre-K.pdf>

Garver, K. A. (2020, January 30). *NIEER Pre-K Data Snapshot: State Pre-K Policies: Salary Parity Varies with Teacher Qualifications and Setting*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. <http://nieer.org/policy-issue/nieer-pre-k-data-snapshot-state-pre-k-policies-salary-parity-varies-with-teacher-qualifications-and-setting>

Books and Book Chapters

Nores, M. & Garver, K. A. (forthcoming). Funding early childhood education. In L. Cohen-Vogel, J. Scott, & P. Youngs (Eds.), *Handbook of education policy research – 2nd Volume*. American Educational Research Association.

Garver, K. A. (forthcoming). Early childhood education finance. In S. V. Coffin (Ed.), *Overcoming the educational resource equity gap*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Friedman-Krauss, A. H., Barnett, W. S., Garver, K. A., Hodges, K. S., Weisenfeld, G. G. & Gardiner, B. A. (2021). *The state of preschool 2020: State preschool yearbook*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. https://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/YB2020_Full_Report.pdf

Friedman-Krauss, A. H., Barnett, W. S., Garver, K. A., Hodges, K. S., Weisenfeld, G. G. & Gardiner, B. A. (2020). *The state of preschool 2019: State preschool yearbook*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/YB2019_Full_Report.pdf

Friedman-Krauss, A. H., Barnett, W. S., Garver, K. A., Hodges, K. S., Weisenfeld, G. G., & DiCrecchio, N. (2019). *The state of preschool 2018: State preschool yearbook*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/YB2018_Full-ReportR3wAppendices.pdf

Other

Barnett, W. S., Whitman, C., Jung, K. & Garver, K. (2021). *Developing a National System of State-Level Workforce Surveys*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research.

Barnett, W. S. & Garver, K. (2021). *Fact sheet: Funding high-quality pre-k for all*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. https://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Funding_High_Quality_PreK_for_All_.pdf

Garver, K. A. (2021). *Are we willing to pay more than lip service to high quality early learning? [Blog]*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. <https://nieer.org/2021/04/29/are-we-willing-to-pay-more-than-lip-service-to-high-quality-early-learning>

Garver, K. A. (2021). *City funding strategies to support public preschool programs [Technical report]*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research.

Garver, K. A. (2020). *The financial impact of COVID licensing standards on NJ child care providers*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research. <https://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/REPORT-The-Financial-Impact-of-COVID-Licensing-Standards-on-NJ-Child-Care-Providers-2.pdf>

Friedman-Krauss, A., Garver, K. A., Li, Z., Nores, M., & Whitman, C. (2020). *Connecticut preschool special education needs assessment*. National Institute for Early Education Research.

Garver, K. A. (2020). *Years after funding cuts, preschool yet to recover [Blog]*. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research.
<http://nieer.org/2020/05/14/years-after-funding-cuts-preschool-yet-to-recover>

Rickus, G., Barnett, W.S., Nores, M., Weisenfeld, G. & Friedman-Krauss, A., Garver, K. (2019). *Cost of preschool quality and revenue (CPQ&R) 5.0*. New Brunswick, NJ: Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes.

Conference and Other Professional Presentations

Barnett, W. S. & Garver, K. A. (2021, September 23). Using research to influence policy [Formal presentation]. Florida Business & Leadership Institute for Early Learning, virtual session.
https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/f81RXMJf6z6ao_lu6TgkCL4uvGBB071m7huUjMOucd1Ni4sBM4C9QuC7MLGNGz-0.M7UyJ0P89cKBKKVs

Garver, K. A. (2021, July 26). New Jersey FY22 preschool education aid budget presentation [Formal presentation and technical assistance]. Presentation on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Education to school districts applying for state preschool funding.
<https://youtu.be/pgHHkjPx6Uk>

Garver, K. A. (2021, June 22). Status of Early Learning Workforce and Comparisons to K-12 [Formal presentation]. Early Learning Workforce Bootcamp, National Conference of State Legislators, virtual presentation.

Garver, K. A. (2020, November 10). New Jersey FY21 preschool education aid budget presentation [Formal presentation and technical assistance]. Presentation on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Education to school districts applying for state preschool funding. <https://youtu.be/6stFULs26G8>

Friedman-Krauss, A., Garver, K. A., & Weisenfeld G. (2020, June 19). 2019 State of preschool; Highlights and key findings [Conference presentation]. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center Early Learning Consortium Monthly Meeting, virtual presentation.

- Friedman-Krauss, A., Garver, K. A., Li, Z., Nores, M., & Whitman, C. (2020, April 27). Connecticut preschool special education needs assessment [Formal presentation]. Connecticut State Department of Education, virtual presentation.
- Barnett, W. S. & Garver, K. A. (2019, November 20). Next steps to fulfill the promise of early childhood education in Delaware [Conference session]. Delaware Universal Pre-K Fall Forum, Wilmington, Delaware, United States.
- Frede, E. & Garver, K. A. (2019, September 23). Why did the court order pre-k and why is it expanding [Conference session]. New Jersey School Development Council Research & Leadership Institute, Long Branch, New Jersey, United States.
- Garver, K. A. (2019, July 11). New Jersey FY20 preschool education aid budget presentation [Formal presentation and technical assistance]. Presentation on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Education to school districts applying for state preschool funding. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmfmTEjV4ss>
- Barnett, W. S. & Garver, K. A. (2019, June 7). Fulfilling the promise of early childhood education in Florida [Conference session]. Florida Early Learning Consortium, Daytona Beach, Florida, United States.
- Barnett, W. S. & Garver, K. A. (January, 2019). Next steps to fulfill the promise of early childhood education in Delaware. Presentation for Delaware Pre-K Initiative Meeting. Wilmington, Delaware.
- Barnett, W. S. & Garver, K. A. (December, 2018). Fulfilling the promise of early childhood education in Delaware. Presentation for Expanding Pre-K in Delaware Stakeholder Meeting. Wilmington, Delaware.
- Barnett, W. S. & Garver, K. A. (November, 2018). Study your state: Early childhood education. presentation for Pew Charitable Trusts and W. K. Kellogg Foundation. Washington, D.C.