



# CLASS Observations

August 2018



Agenda for  
**CHILDREN**

*...a voice for Louisiana's children and families*

# Infant CLASS

## Infant CLASS is being phased into the Performance Profiles:

2018-  
2019

- infant classrooms must be documented in the CLASS® Online System
- lead agencies must begin adding capacity to observe
- Third Party will conduct infant observations in some programs (voluntary opt-in)

2019-  
2020

- all infant classrooms must be observed using the infant tool but results will not be included in a site's overall rating

2020-  
2021

- infant observation results will be included in the rating system

# Statewide Changes to CLASS Observer Protocol

- **Clarifications regarding the tool to be used in mixed-age classrooms**
- **When atypical practices are encountered during an observation, LDE may use 1's, re-observe, or take other steps to ensure typical experiences are observed**
- **The use of one semester of scores in the event of a natural disaster is now allowed.**

# Changes to Performance Profiles

## New Fifth Level: High Proficient

<b>CLASS® Score Range</b>	<b>Performance Rating</b>	<b>Star Rating</b>
6.00 - 7.00	Excellent	5 Stars
<b>5.25 - 5.99</b>	<b>High Proficient</b>	<b>4 Stars</b>
4.50 - 5.24	Proficient	3 Stars
3.75 - 4.49	Approaching Proficient	2 Stars
3.00 - 3.74	Approaching Proficient	1 Star
1.00 - 2.99	Unsatisfactory	0 Stars

# Implementing Accountability

- **Sites scoring below 3.75 on their Performance Profile** will be required to participate in improvement planning with LDE as a condition of receiving public funding and/or licensure.
- **13 sites** in New Orleans are in this category; all are Type III centers

# Fall 2018 Observations

- Currently collecting information regarding classrooms in each site & schedules
- **September:** CLASS observations begin



# Decision Point: Should programs be permitted to conduct their own observations?

## All observers must:

- meet minimum requirements regarding certification & calibration
- be double coded at least once a year (per LDE), twice a year (per NOEEN)

## Bulletin 140 defines a conflict of interest as having a relative of the teacher or a relative of a supervisor/coach/trainer perform the observation:

No observer shall conduct an observation in which the observer is an immediate family member of a teacher in the classroom being observed or an immediate family member of an individual who supervises or provides training or technical assistance to a teacher in the classroom being observed or has a direct financial interest in the site where the classroom is being observed.

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/early-childhood/conflict-of-interest.pdf?sfvrsn=4>

## Use of CLASS for COMPASS

A CLASS observation must be conducted by the principal in order for the observation to be used for COMPASS

# Decision Point: Should programs be permitted to conduct their own observations?

## Benefits

- Increase in CLASS knowledge among program leaders
- Practice consistent with other parishes
- Trust in tools, provider & process
- Reduced costs to network

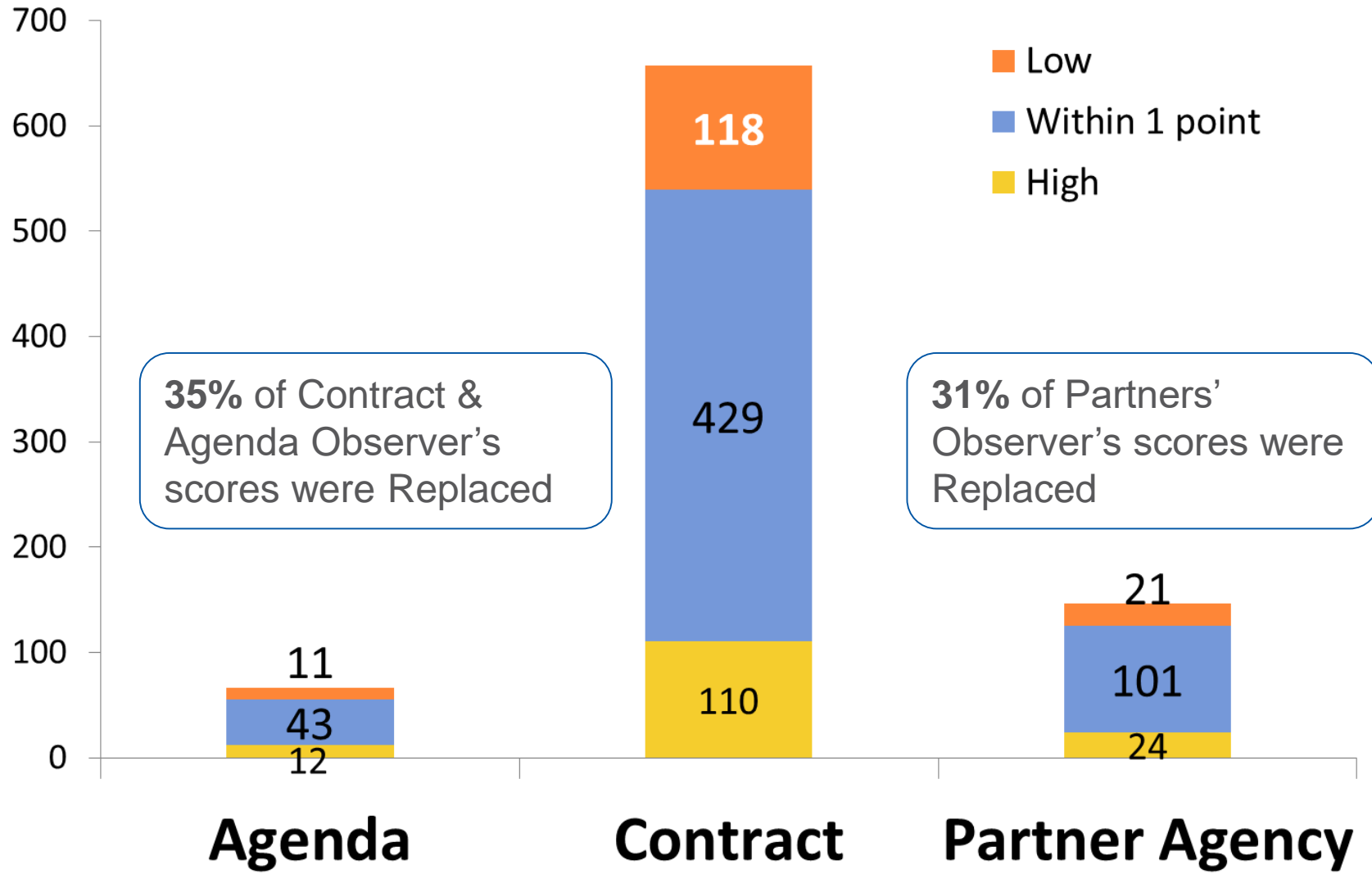
## Potential Challenges

- Increased logistics (double codes, quality oversight, etc.)
- Potential conflicts of interest



# CLASS Domain-Level Replacements by Observer Type 2017-2018

*Third-Party Scores are used whenever a Local score differs by more than one point*



# MMMCI

**When?** 1st Cohort: Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 2019

**How Many?** 100 in initial cohort, with another 80-100 in second cohort

**Who is leading the classes?** 21 instructors, including 11 program partner staff and 10 Agenda coaches

**Who?** Staff at Uns. & App. Proficient\* sites

\*based on either 16-17 or 17-18; priority given to sites qualifying for both years