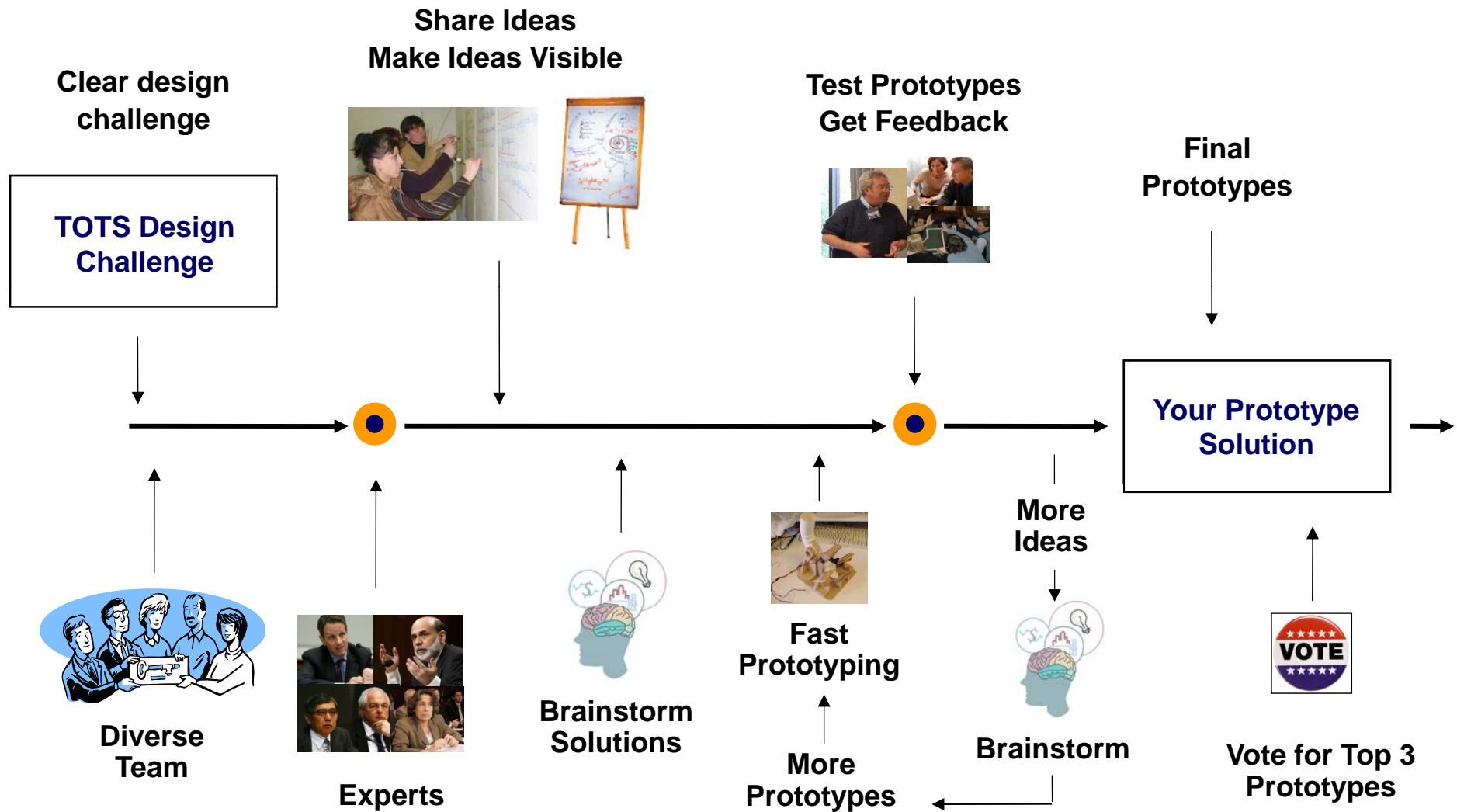


# Texas Early Childhood Data Systems Summit

**DeepDive™ Outputs**

**July 28, 2011**

# DeepDive™ Process



## **Design Challenge: Write this July 25, 2015 *USA TODAY* feature article about TOTS**

### **TOTS Program Delivers for Texas Tots – and for Every Texan Program Makes Texas #1 in School Readiness**

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How did they do it? With information! They combined health, safety and education data about children to create the most effective early childhood programs in the nation. One of the secrets was the creation of a groundswell of parents, educators, healthcare professionals, business people and community leaders.

Another key was figuring out what information decision-makers needed – not just about children but also about teachers, administrators, and early childhood programs.

And finally, they took great care to make sure that TOTS improved the important outcomes for every stakeholder. They asked, “What information about children’s health, safety and education do you need to help you in your agency, your school, your healthcare center, your program?” And they made sure that TOTS delivered that information in an easy-to-use way.

(continued on p.3)

# How to “write” the *USA Today* article

1 Write lead sentences for each paragraph that give the key ideas behind what was accomplished. (Use sentence in a bullet format)

Also list the “secrets of success.” Everyone wants to know how it was done!

2 Provide quotes from parents, teachers, administrators, elected officials, researchers, etc.

6 Provide photos with captions that tell important parts of the story

5 Create a “brief history” outlining the steps on how success was accomplished

4 Create “sidebars” – short examples that illustrate how something worked

3 Create graphs for key metrics

**College football 2009 preview**  
Teams' best eras, conference tidbits, plus schedules and TV info, 1-BD

**Wednesday, August 26, 2009**

**Boston Funeral Plan**  
If you're driving through Kentucky and spot a keepers, don't panic—you're seeing a Kennedy. Kennedy's funeral will be held in the portfolio of The First Church of Christ, which owns 1,558 stores. Throughout the week, the Kennedy family and their firm—brands like Little Champs and Sprint Stores—will be multiplying too. Finally, the region's largest independent chain, in buying up small operators, adding 260 new stores since the beginning of 2006. It's latest break is the 66-outlet Price Express chain. Parity's strategy is simple: Sell gas and groceries at a loss, then make up the difference on other items.

**Ted Kennedy dies**  
Senator, 77, succumbs to brain cancer  
By Kirby Grey  
USA TODAY

Sen. Edward Kennedy, who began his public life as the protégé of a political dynasty and ended as its most powerful, died last Tuesday.

**A BRIEF HISTORY**  
HOW AN INDUSTRY WENT FROM ZERO TO \$2 TRILLION IN JUST 30 YEARS, AND DEALMAKERS ONCE DISMISSED AS "BOOTSTRAPPERS" BOUGHT A LOT OF COMPANIES, RACKED UP SOME HUGE HITS, AND REBOUNDED FROM A FEW COLOSSAL FLOPS.

**HOPE IN ADVERSITY**  
Although floor demand remains low, Corning's stock price has crept up a bit since 2003.

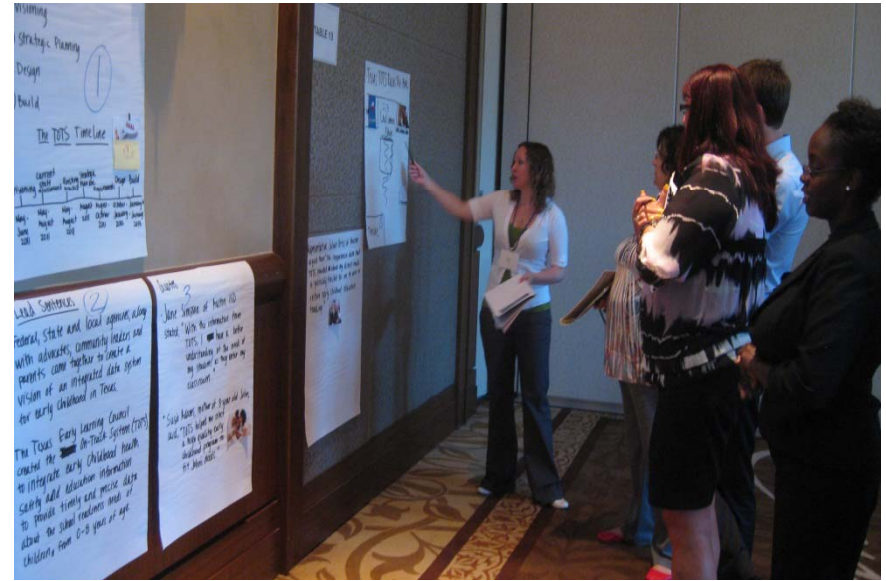
**Sen. John McCain**  
“Senator Kennedy worked tirelessly to become a leader in the Senate. It took him two decades, but he succeeded.”  
-- Sen. John McCain

**REVC**  
Drugstore chain Revco goes under when it can't meet its debt payments. It's still the biggest LBO (\$1.6 billion by

**Lost patriarch: Sen. Edward Kennedy led a political family that has been idolized and demonized.**



# TOTS DeepDive™ in action



# TOTS DeepDive™

## Group Outputs

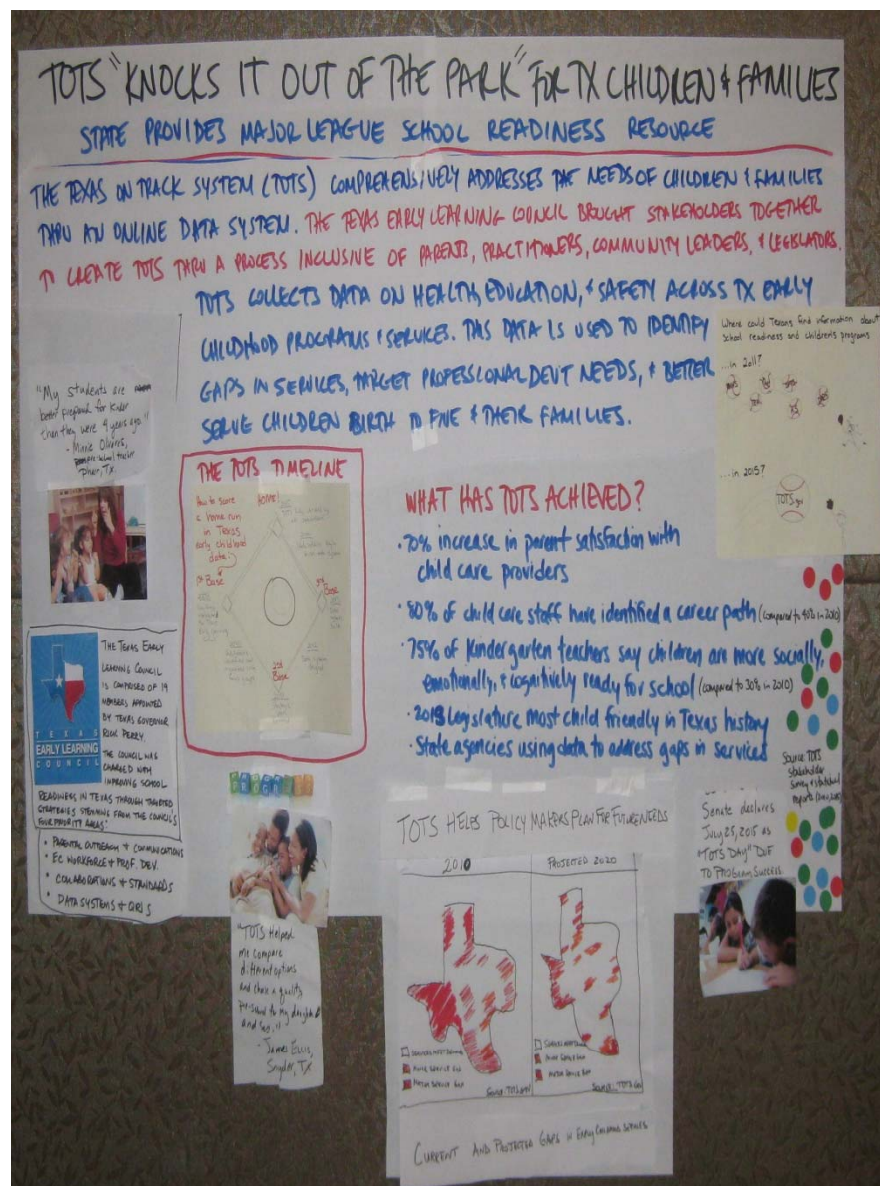


**= One of top five outputs by number of votes**

- Participants voted by placing one sticker on their top three choices



# Group 1 (23 votes)



## Highlights:

### State provides major league school readiness resource

- Comprehensively addresses the needs of children and families
- Council brought stakeholders together
- Data is used to identify gaps in services, target professional development needs, and better serve children and their families
- Teacher: "My students are better prepared for kinder than they were 4 years ago."
- Parent: "TOTS helped me compare different options and choose a quality pre-school for my daughter and son."

## Takeaway:

Data integration reveals gaps and areas of need in early childhood programs, ultimately leading to better outcomes for children and their families.

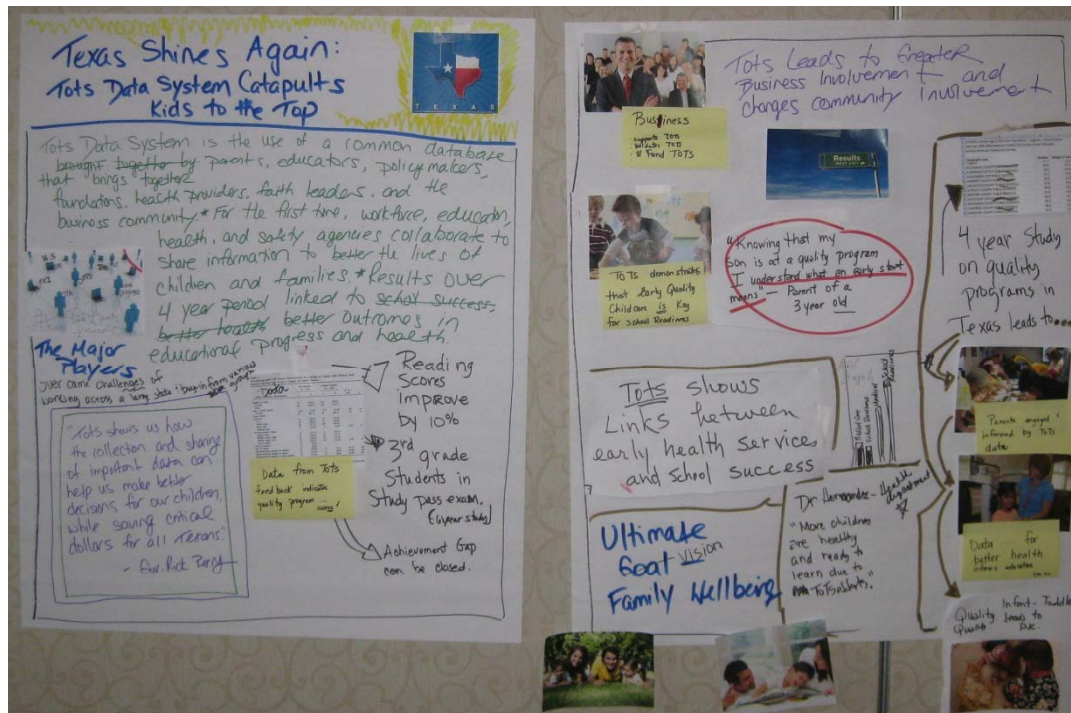


## Group 2 (0 votes)

### Highlights:

#### TOTS catapults kids to the top

- TOTS is a common database that brings together parents, educators, policymakers...and the business community.
- For the first time multiple stakeholders collaborate to better the lives of children and families.
- Better outcomes in educational progress and health as a result.
- TOTS leads to greater business involvement in early childhood education programs.



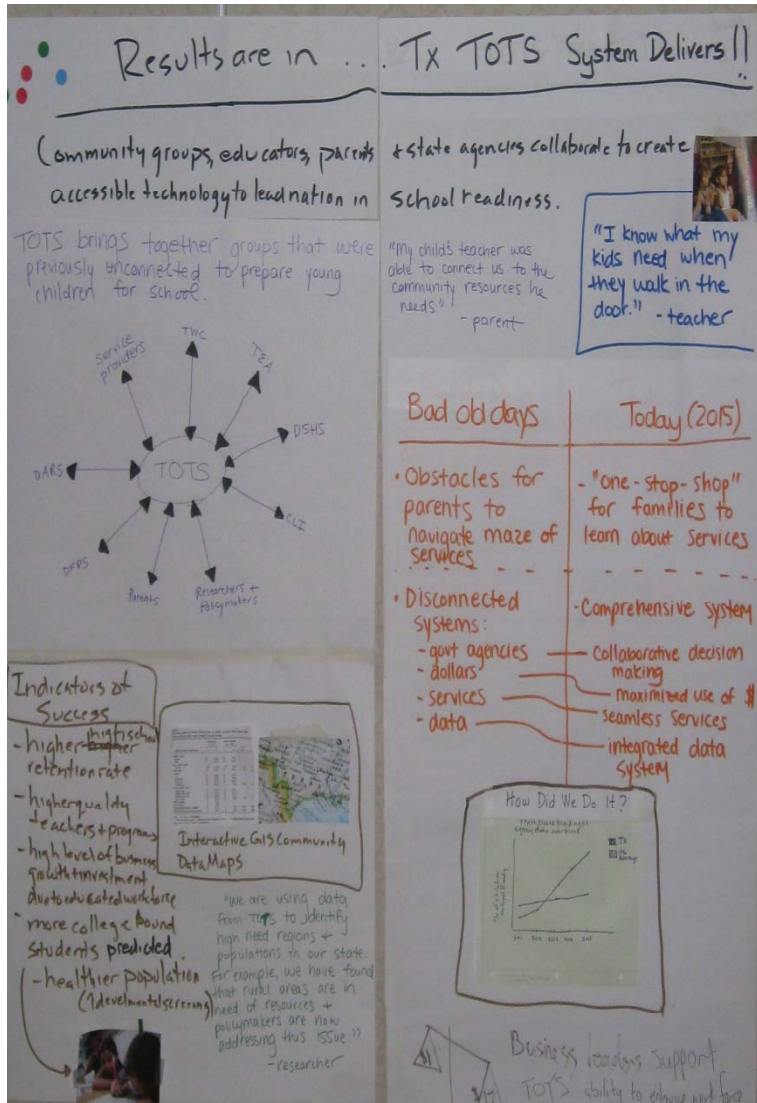
- Governor: "TOTS shows us that the collection and sharing of important data can help us make better decisions for our children, while saving critical dollars for all Texans."

### Takeaway:

As a result of data integration and stakeholder collaboration, stakeholders are making better decisions regarding ECE and thus improving the lives of children and families and reducing future societal costs.



## Group 3 (4 votes)



### Highlights:

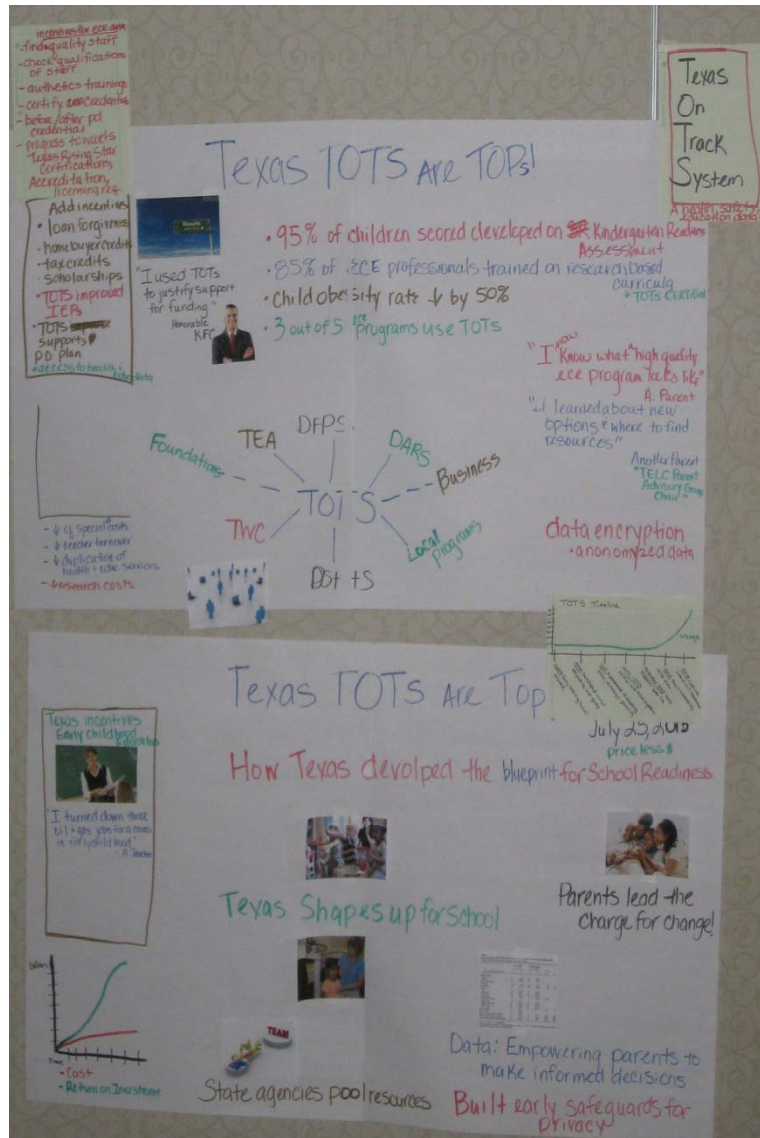
**TOTS delivers! Community groups, educators, parents, and state agencies collaborate to create accessible technology to lead nation in school readiness.**

- TOTS brings together people that were previously unconnected to prepare young children for school
- Researcher: "We are using data from TOTS to identify high need regions and populations in our state."
- Parent: "My child's teacher was able to connect us to the community resources he needs."
- Teacher: "I know what my kids need when they walk in the door."

### Takeaway:

Through stakeholder collaboration, TOTS is an accessible platform that helps teachers, parents, and others to address children's needs and prepare them for school.

## Group 4 (0 votes)



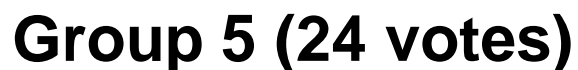
### Highlights:

### Texas developed the blueprint for school readiness

- TOTS enables multiple stakeholders to share ECE data
- TOTS built early safeguards for privacy
- Data empowers parents to make informed decisions
- State agencies pool resources
- High return on investment
- Parent: "I learned about new options and where to find resources."

### Takeaway:

The data that stakeholders share through TOTS safeguards privacy and empowers parents to make informed decisions about the early education of their kids.



## ECE data management system informs allocation of critical state resources

- [illegible]

- ## Takeaway:

TOTS integrates ECE data from many sources, enabling Texas to identify child needs and programs quickly and accurately and inform decisions related to ECE.





## Group 6 (19 votes)



### Highlights:

### Texas becomes No. 1 in every school readiness indicator

- TOTS brings together multiple data from multiple sources and provides a profile of how our children are doing at the local, community, and state level
- Primary purpose is to improve outcomes for children
- TOTS is designed to serve multiple constituencies
- How did we do it? We developed agreement of the outcomes we wanted to measure; we determined all data that is currently being collected and by who; we identified areas where data is not being collected; we developed a plan to address and implement how to collect this information and any policies that need to change

### Takeaway:

TOTS enabled Texas to improve outcomes for children by integrating data from multiple sources and creating standard measures of ECE performance at the local and state levels.



## Group 7 (3 votes)

**USA TODAY**

**Texas TOTS are TOPS!**  
 Harvard Recognizes Child Gains in Texas due to Innovative Data System

- Compared to previous Kindergarten classes, the current cohort of 5 year-olds shows a 50% gain in Key School Readiness indicators.
- The largest improvement has been realized by children in poverty, especially English Language Learners.

**TOTS Highlights**

- Improved school readiness outcomes
- Early identification of Children At-Risk
- Ease of Access Balanced with Privacy Concerns
- Teachers work Smarter not Harder
- More Kids On-Track to Graduate

"My child is more excited about school and learning."  
 - Texas Parent

"Through TOTS, I can be more responsive to child needs in a quicker span of time."  
 - Texas Teacher

"We have seen major reductions in child obesity."  
 - Pediatric Provider

**TOTS Milestones (2009-2015)**

2009: Vision, Strategy, Stakeholder, Feedback, System, Intentional  
 2010: Vision, Strategy, Stakeholder, Feedback, System, Intentional  
 2011: Vision, Strategy, Stakeholder, Feedback, System, Intentional  
 2012: Vision, Strategy, Stakeholder, Feedback, System, Intentional  
 2013: Vision, Strategy, Stakeholder, Feedback, System, Intentional  
 2014: Vision, Strategy, Stakeholder, Feedback, System, Intentional  
 2015: Vision, Strategy, Stakeholder, Feedback, System, Intentional

**Maps Reflect Greatest Gains in Areas with Highest Need**

1455  
 1410  
 High income areas & high gains in early childhood measures

Highest gains within among areas with low income families & English Language Learners

**WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP**  
 Go To: [WWW.TOTS.ORG](http://WWW.TOTS.ORG)  
 GET INVOLVED!

### Highlights:

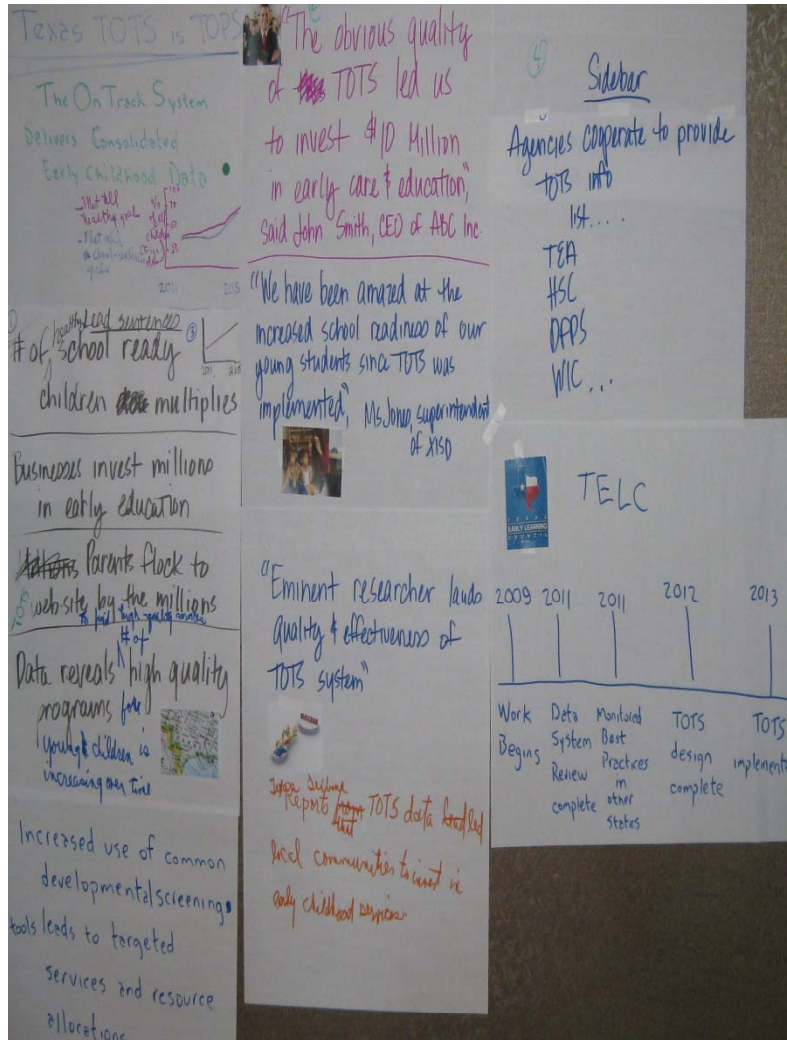
### Child gains in Texas due to innovative data system

- Improved school readiness outcomes
- Early identification of children at-risk
- Ease of access balanced with privacy concerns
- Teachers work smarter, not harder
- More kids on-track to graduate
- Teacher: "Through TOTS I can be more responsive to child needs in a quicker span of time."
- TECEC: "Former warring factions now have a common playbook."

### Takeaway:

Easy access to TOTS enables teachers to make smart decisions and impact the future of children by improving school readiness.

## Group 8 (1 vote)



### Highlights:

#### TOTS delivers consolidated ECE data

- Number of healthy, school ready children multiplies
- Businesses invest millions in early education
- Parents flock to TOTS website by the millions
- Data reveals number of high quality programs for young children is increasing over time
- Increased use of common developmental screening tools leads to targeted services and resource allocations
- Agencies cooperate to provide data

### Takeaway:

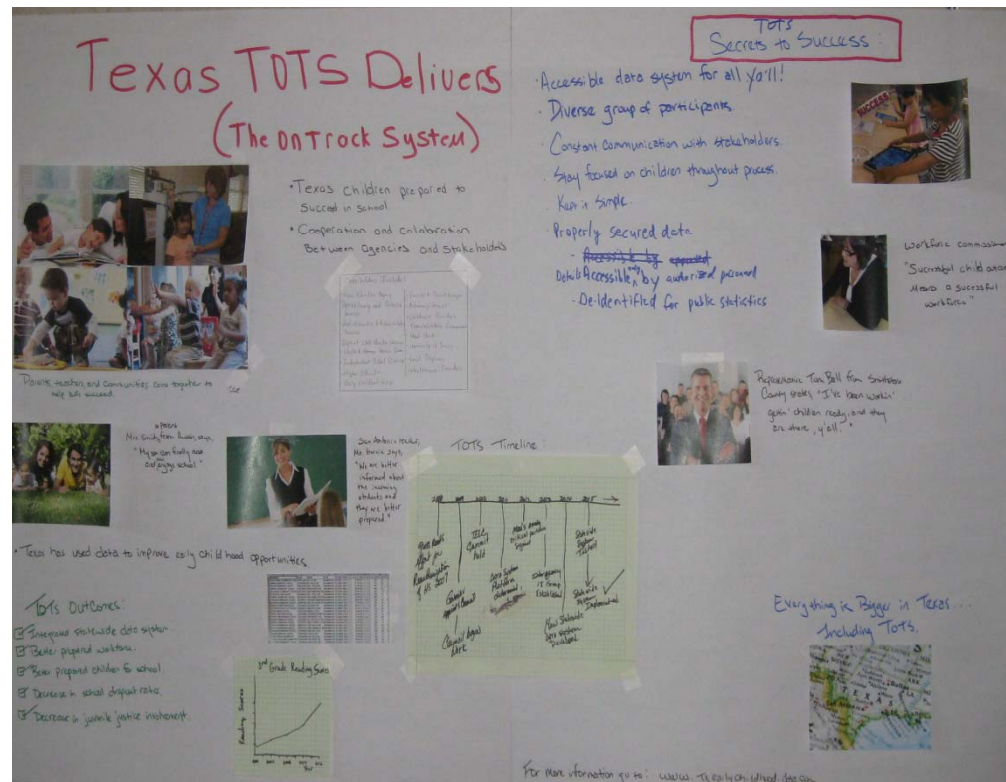
As a result of agency collaboration, school readiness improves, business invests in early childhood education, and the number of ECE programs increase.

# Group 9 (0 votes)

## Highlights:

### Texas children are prepared to succeed in school

- Accessible data
- Diverse group of participants
- Constant communication with stakeholders
- Focused on children throughout system's development process



- Keep it simple
- Properly secure data

**Takeaway:** TOTS is accessible, safe, and inclusive of a diverse group of stakeholders focused on improving the school readiness of children.

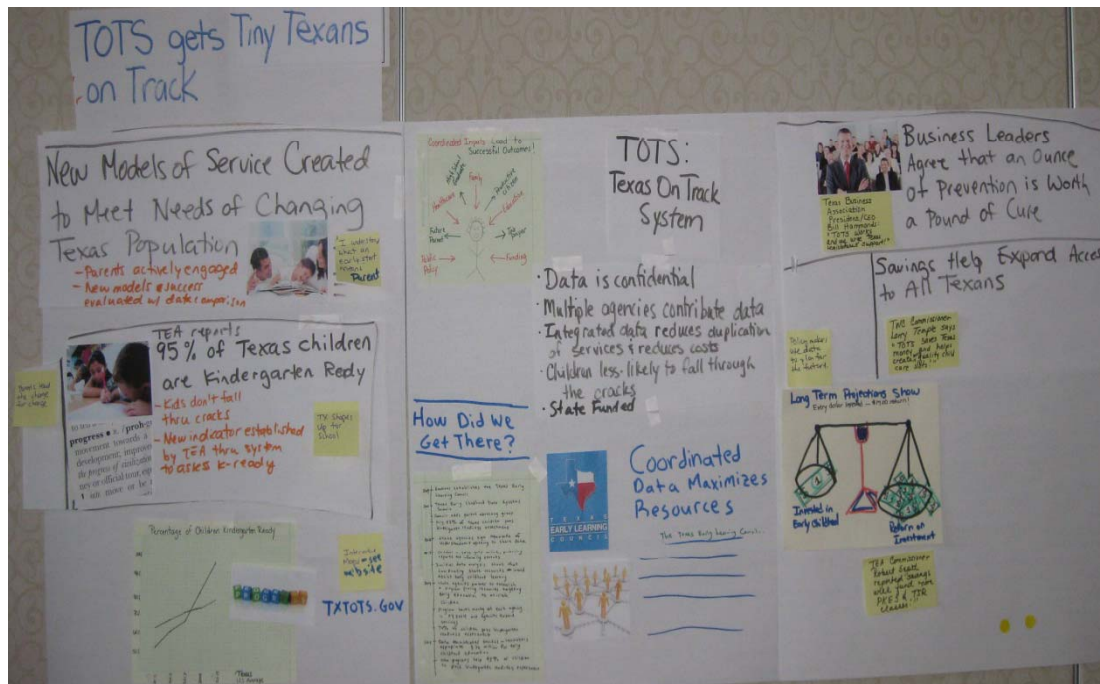


# Group 10 (2 votes)

## Highlights:

### New models of service created to meet needs of changing Texas population

- Kids don't fall thru the cracks
- Coordinated impacts lead to successful outcomes!
- Coordinated data maximizes resources
- High return on investment; business leaders agree that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure
- Data is confidential



- Integrated data reduces duplication of services and reduces cost

**Takeaway:** Data integration reduces duplication and cost and maximizes resources for young children to succeed.





## Group 11 (11 votes)

### Highlights:

### Community groups and state leaders create powerful ECE data system

- Collaboration among multiple stakeholders is key
- TOTS pays for itself [given positive outcomes]
- Parent: "TOTS gave me the tools I needed to select high quality care for my child."
- Teacher: "My K students are now coming to school ready."

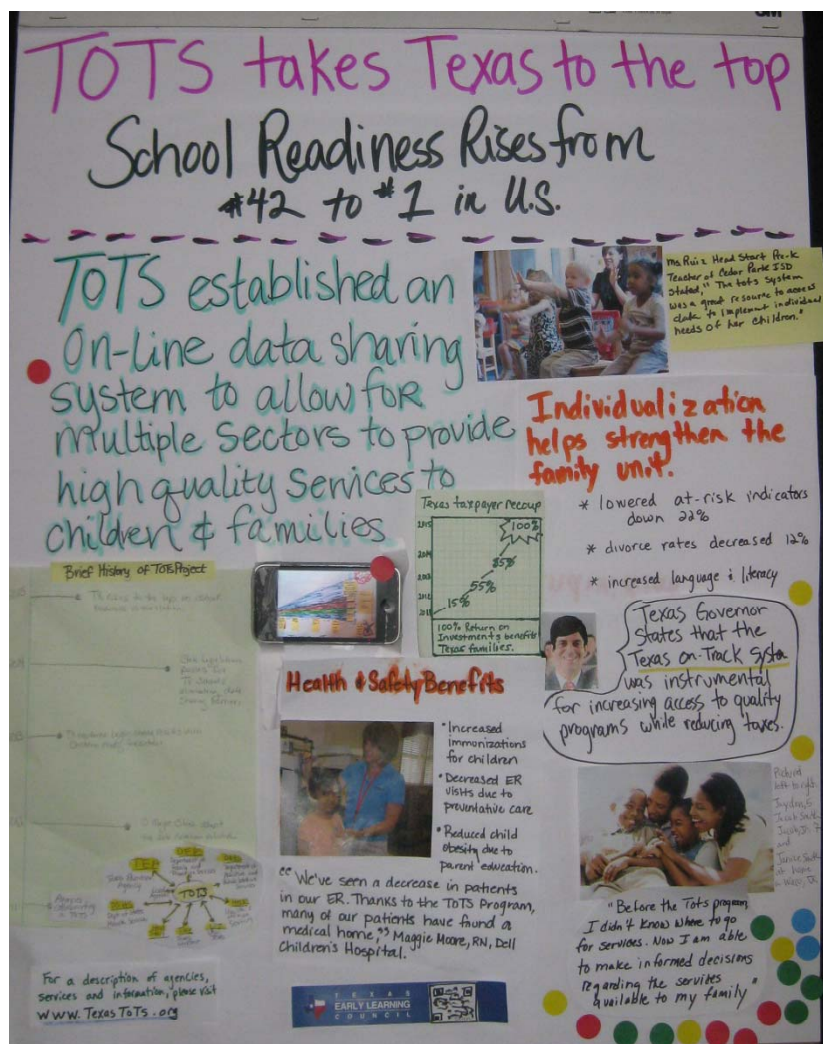


### Takeaway:

Collaboration among different stakeholders results in positive outcomes for children and their families.



## Group 12 (18 votes)



### Highlights:

#### School readiness rises from #42 to #1 in U.S.

- TOTS established an online data sharing system to allow for multiple sectors to provide high quality services to children and families
- Governor says TOTS was instrumental for increasing access to quality programs while reducing taxes
- Parent: "Before TOTS I didn't know where to go for services. Now I am able to make informed decisions regarding the services available to my family."
- Teacher: "TOTS is a great resource to access data to address the individual needs of children."

### Takeaway:

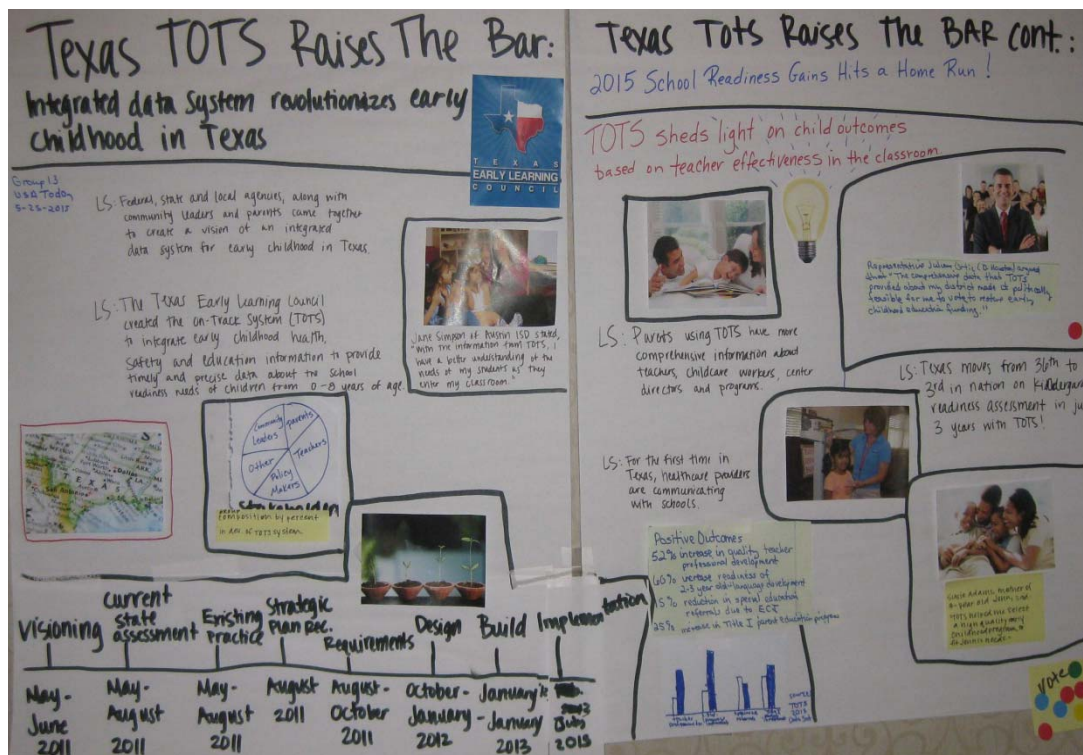
Data sharing enables stakeholders to provide the best services for children, leading to better outcomes and saving taxpayers' money.

# Group 13 (8 votes)

## Highlights:

### Integrated data system revolutionizes early childhood in Texas

- Federal, state and local agencies, along with community leaders and parents came together to create a vision of an integrated data system for early childhood in Texas
- The Council created TOTS to integrate childhood health, safety, and education information to provide timely and precise data about the school readiness needs of children from 0 – 8 years of age
- TOTS sheds light on child outcomes based on teacher effectiveness in the classroom



- Parents using TOTS have more comprehensive information about teachers, childcare workers, center directors, and programs
- For the first time in Texas, healthcare providers are communicating with schools
- Texas moves from 36<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> in nation on kindergarten readiness assessment in just 3 years with TOTS!

### Takeaway:

TOTS brings together multiple stakeholders to share health, safety, and education data; ultimately improving the school readiness of children.

# Key findings

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- Collaboration among stakeholders is key for the success of TOTS
- TOTS enables parents to make better decisions regarding the early childhood education of their children
- TOTS enables teachers to identify needs early
- TOTS must include mechanism to safeguard privacy
- Data integration reveals gaps and areas of need in early childhood programs. Addressing such gaps and needs in a timely manner leads to better outcomes for children and their families
- As a result of data integration and stakeholder collaboration, stakeholders are making better decisions regarding ECE and thus improving the lives of children and families and reducing future societal costs.
- TOTS is perceived as an accessible platform
- TOTS is perceived as a key component of attracting business investment



# Key risks

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One key risk is the perception that TOTS will solve all (or most) early childhood problems.

TOTS is part of the solution and also part of a broader effort by the Texas Early Learning Council to improve the school readiness of young children. Other components of the Council's effort include:

- Collaborations and Standards
- Parental Outreach and Communication
- Workforce and Professional Development