

The Kid Angle

Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children

News of the Week

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To kick off the holiday weekend, another short and sweet round up of kid news:

Tomorrow: President Biden is expected to release a \$6 trillion FY 2022 budget on Friday that the First Focus policy team expects will flesh out proposals in the American Families Plan. The president's initial spending proposal (aka: the "skinny budget") included significant increases for children's funding in FY 2022, with an additional \$42 billion dedicated to programs that benefit kids, according to our budget team analysis. The gold we'd like to see in the detailed budget? A plan to make permanent current improvements to the Child Tax Credit, as well as provisions to include all children. Also, a [reversal of the downward trend](#) of investments in children. And candy. To start, anyway.

- Five Senators introduced legislation this week that would provide **new mandatory funding to increase the child care supply**, and improve quality and affordability, especially in child care deserts. The [Building Child Care for a Better Future Act](#) would provide new permanent federal funding to support new child care providers to open, help existing providers expand or upgrade their programs, train and invest in the child care workforce, and provide other technical and financial support to child care providers.
- On a related note, a former vice chair of the Federal Reserve praises the **enormous dividends that would come from President Biden's plan to spend on pre-K and paid leave**. Writing on WSJ opinion page (!!!), Alan Blinder says that this "real supply-side economics" could yield as much as \$8.60 for each dollar invested in pre-K alone.
- First Focus on Children loves the **Child Tax Credit** (see above). But don't just take it from us. Here's a great piece by **our friend Amy Jo Hutchison, an advocate for economic justice, as well as someone who's been there:** [Tax credits would be "life-altering" for some](#). You may know Amy Jo from her powerful testimony to Congress on child poverty that became a YouTube sensation. If you don't, [here's your chance](#).

First Focus in the News:

- [Schools face new pressures to reopen for in-person learning](#), *The Hill*
- [HHS to invest American Rescue Plan money into pediatric mental health](#), *Inside Healthy Policy*
- [Parents getting kids shots left out of COVID-19 paid leave options](#), CQ

- [Sen. Bob Casey re-introduces sweeping 'Five Freedoms' children's legislation](#), *Erie News Now*

Bust out the Weber, but don't do this:



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