

Early Childhood to Kindergarten

Transition and Alignment

- Overview of grant support for transition activities
- Round-Up and Kindergarten Connection participation
- Sample Kindergarten Connection invitation and agenda
- Pre-kindergarten-Kindergarten Forum
- Duluth Public Schools Funding Opportunities for 2015-2016
- Duluth Public Schools Early Childhood Programming

OVERVIEW OF SUPPORT FOR PREKINDERGARTEN-KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION WITH EARLY LEARNING SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS

- Grant funds were earmarked for families we currently serve in district early childhood programs and were funded by scholarships awarded to Head Start and School Readiness through our applications from parents in those programs.
- Because we were able to carry funds forward, the 2nd year, we broadened the support to all elementary schools.
- Grant funds supported Round-Up activities with the use of best practices including:
 - creating a family friendly environment
 - utilizing evening round-up options
 - paying for buses to orient children to riding
 - buying WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP banners
 - avoiding testing/assessments (children in district ECH programs are assessed 3 x a year)
 - providing food or refreshments for Round-Up and Kindergarten Connection participants
 - building loyalty and community with ISD 709 logo water bottles and school logo cinch sacks
 - collaborating with PTSA
 - bringing back the Kindergarten Connection program
 - beginning a conversation with PreK and Kindergarten Transition Forum
 - offering paid time for school staff to attend programming outside their school day

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	ROUND-UP SUPPORT	KINDERGARTEN CONNECTION	EVENING ROUND-UP	NOTEWORTHY
Lowell	Participated for 2 years	Yes. Lower attendance, 5-8, may be based on the fact that many Barnes parents do not have Lowell as their home school. Very well received. Looked at websites and technology access for parents.	Held evening Round-Up with dinner, school tours, welcome video.	Had a good plan for Round-Up before our grant money. No assessments given at Round –Up. Many school personnel in attendance.
Piedmont	Participated for 2 years	Yes. 11-12 parents at each of 3 nights. Parents were pleased with the program. Parents were unaware of the free breakfast for all students.	The 1 st year there was a great degree of collaboration with early childhood. The 2 nd year that was not the case.	
Lester Park	Participated for 2 years	Yes. Full attendance. Principal showed parents the School Portal.	Did not hold an evening Round-Up	Had a good plan for Round-Up before our grant money. No assessments given at Round –Up. Many school personnel in attendance.
Homecroft	Not part of original grant	Did not participate	Held an evening Round-Up	Assessments were given to incoming children.
Lakewood	Not part of original grant	Did not participate	Did not hold an evening Round-Up. Round-Up times designated by last name.	
Laura MacArthur	Participated for 2 years	Yes. Attendance ranged from 9-18 families. Very well received by parents.	Held evening Round-Up with dinner,	Had a good plan for Round-Up before our grant money. No assessments given at Round –Up. Many school personnel in attendance.
Myers-Wilkins	Participated for 2 years	Yes. 10-11 every night. Every night the staff collected parent questions to give to the school personnel panel on the last night.	Held evening Round-Up with dinner,	Had a good plan for Round-Up before our grant money. No assessments given at Round –Up. Many school personnel in attendance.
Stowe	Did not accept Round-Up support	Yes. 12-15 parents at each of 3 nights.	Did not hold an evening Round-Up. Round-Up times were assigned to parents.	
Congdon	Not part of original grant	Did not participate	Did not hold an evening Round-Up. Round-Up times are made by appointment.	

Join us for... **KINDERGARTEN CONNECTION**



These three evenings of special events are for families whose child will be attending Lowell next year as a kindergartener.

Where: Barnes Head Start Room 33

When: Thursday, April 30th, May 7th and May 21st

5:30-7:00pm

What: Each session will have special events for children and their parents beginning with a meal. Children will be in the classroom for Kindergarten readiness activities and siblings will go to a child care room or gym, depending on age. Parents will have a chance to meet and discuss topics on kindergarten readiness.

Week One (April 30th): Literacy activities and make a literacy box to take home.

Week Two (May 7th): Math activities and playing games together.

Week Three (May 21st): Visit from the principal and other Lowell staff. Time for questions and a fun tour of the school for the kids.

We hope you and your child will join us for this special family time.

To Register: Please fill out form below and return it to your child's teacher by April 28th.

We Plan to attend Kindergarten Connection:

Parent(s) name _____

Child's name _____

I will need Sibling care _____ Number of Children _____ Ages _____

List any food allergies _____

Which nights can you make it (please circle). 1st 2nd 3rd ALL (please circle)

Pre-K and Kindergarten Teachers!

ISD709

**Pre-K and Kindergarten Teacher
Transition Forum**
GREYSOLON PLAZA~MOORISH ROOM
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015

4:30-6:30 pm

TACO BAR
BEVERAGES
DESSERT
PRIZES
PAY

Please **RSVP**

to Pamela.Rees

@isd709.org or call

336-8815 ext.2985

We need your help!

Parking in the ramp
on 1st St.

Pre K-Grade 3 Alignment Team

Carla Harold
Holly Johnson
Jebbeh Edmunds
Charlie Liebfried
Jay Roesler
Jennifer Jaros
Pam Rees
Gail Watterson
Todd Blatt
Rebecca Crane
Patricia Isbell

Some of your colleagues (see list to the left) in the school district have been working to understand the best practices in Kindergarten Transition and Pre K to Grade 3 Alignment. We will share a titch of what we learned and ask you to have dinner with your colleagues and give us your thoughts and ideas on the subject. We know you have what we need to help our district move forward on this and we hope you are willing to spend a few hours with us talking about these issues. Oh and we will feed you and pay you!

Pre K and Kindergarten Transition Forum
February 5, 2015 4:30-6:30 pm
Greysolon Plaza Moorish Room

Welcome, Roll Call and details of tonight's event

What do already know about Kindergarten Transition?

What would you like to know?

What does the research say?

What is being assessed in Pre K?

What do you need?

What suggestions do you have as we move forward?

Would you be willing to meet again?

**Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for your efforts to support
Kindergarten Transition in the Duluth Public Schools!**

Duluth Public Schools Early Childhood Funding Opportunities for 2015-16

- **Early Learning Scholarships \$104,268.** This money funds 8 part-time paras in Head Start. Our portion of 35 scholarships. The rest of the money **\$69,276** goes to School Readiness for program expansion from 3 to 4 days and adding 3 PT paras Also helped lengthen CE PreK time to 3 hour sessions.
- **Early Learning Scholarships \$86,772.** For piloting transportation at 2 collaborative sites. This is extra money we applied for and received due to the legislature raising the cap on scholarships from \$5000. To \$7500.
- **Family Service Collaboration of Southern St. Louis County/FSCSSLC \$19,688.**To be used for mental health consultation for School Readiness/ECFE/Head Start and Community Education Preschool. We have contracts with 2 new mental health consultants, Mary Ann Marchel and Krista Harju. The remaining funds will be used to pay facilitators to run a Circle of Security group for professionals over the course of the 2015-2016 school year. 22 staff are signed up for this opportunity. They will receive a stipend for their attendance.
- **The Northland Foundation \$5000.** This will fund 2 more sessions of Race Awareness Workshops for all Head Start staff and will allow us to pilot a Dad's Group led by one of our staff.
- **The Northland Foundation \$4000.** This will support building a system of alignment between Prekindergarten and Kindergarten. Includes looking at assessments, curriculum and standards, observation of each other's classrooms and more opportunities like the PreK-K Transition Forum held last year.
- **The Northland Foundation** also provided the opportunity for a team of ISD 709 staff to be trained along with others in the state on the Framework for Planning, Implementing, and Evaluating PreK-Grade 3 Approaches authored by Kristie Kauerz, Ed.D. from the University of Washington.
- **PreK-3 Leadership Series** sponsored by MDE – Assistant Superintendent Amy Starzecki has pulled together a team at the district level to participate in this opportunity.
- **2015 Omnibus Education Finance Bill** appropriated increases in state aid entitlement for School Readiness for the biennium. This will allow for program enhancement and expansion. ECFE per pupil formula increase (2% each year) funding formula is now tied to the K12 formula.

Program	Admin	Who is Served	Curriculum	Assessments	Fees	Funding Source	Ratios	Staff Development	Parent Aware Rating
Early Childhood Family Education (EFCE) 336-8890	Jay Roesler Director of Community Ed 336-8760	Parents with their children birth to age 3 as well as some pregnant moms.	Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework (based on MDE indicators for birth-3)	Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) Ages and Stages Questionnaire Social Emotional (ASQSE)	Sliding Fee Scale	State Fund 04 Parent fees (sliding fee scale, fee can be waived for at risk families)	1-5 infants 1-6 toddlers 1-24 parents	Four trainings per year for 4 hours each time.	Not eligible to apply currently
School Readiness (SR) 336-8890	Jay Roesler Director of Community Ed 336-8760	Children 3-5 by Sept. 1 st .	-Opening the World of Learning (OWL) -Second Step (SE)	-Modified version of Work Sampling -Individual Growth and Development Indicators (IGID's)	Sliding Fee Scale	State Fund 04 Parent fees (sliding fee scale, fee can be waived for at risk families) Up to 100	1 to 10 PK	Four trainings per year for 4 hours each time.	Four Star
Head Start (HS) 336-8815	Pam Rees Director of Head Start 336-8815	Federal Children 3 & 4 yrs old by Sept 1 st State 6 weeks-4years in Child Care Collab. Families in Transition—B to 4	-Opening the World of Learning(OWL) -Second Step (SE) -Creative Curric. (CC Collab-PK) -Parent Infant Toddler Curriculum (PITC) -Second Step (SE)	Duluth HS Assessment System: -IGDI's -PALS -PNI's -Aims-Web -Modified Version Work Sampling Dev. Screening: -DIAL-PK -ASQ-I/T -ASQ-SE-all	None	Federal (Funded for 255 PK) State (Funded for 39-18 PK and 21 Infants/Todd.)	1 to 10 PK 1-7 Toddlers 1-4 Infants	Individual Staff Development Plan and Monthly Staff Training	Four Star
Community Education (CE) 336-8760	Jay Roesler Director of Community Ed 336-8760	Children ages 3-5 yrs. old by Sept. 1st	Creative/Theme Based Social/Emotional	Observation Cumulative data Anecdotal records	Yes	Parent Fees Serves up to 120	1 to 10	Individual, dept. and collaborative staff trainings, First Aid/CPR certification	Eligible to apply
Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) 336-8744	Laura Fredrickson Director of Special Services 336-8741	Children with identified developmental needs who are eligible for MN Special Education services from ages birth to Kindergarten age.	Established curriculums in our partnering community programs are used.	A variety of assessments are used to establish MN eligibility.	None	Federal and State funds	n/a	Individual staff development plan, monthly staff training, state and regional training	n/a