



Duluth Head Start

Annual Approvals Needed

OUR MISSION

Every student, every day will be empowered with learning opportunities for growth, creativity and curiosity, in preparation for their future in a global community.

OUR VISION

Duluth Public Schools provides an academically engaging, safe and inclusive environment with high expectations and responsible use of resources.

OUR CORE VALUES

Learning



Developing a love of learning through life-long inquiry.

Excellence



Having high standards for all through accountability, integrity and authenticity.

Equity



Creating conditions of justice, fairness and inclusion so all students have access to the opportunities to learn and develop to their fullest potential.

Collaboration



Working in partnership with staff, families, students and community.

Belonging



Providing a welcoming and accessible environment where everyone feels safe, seen and heard.



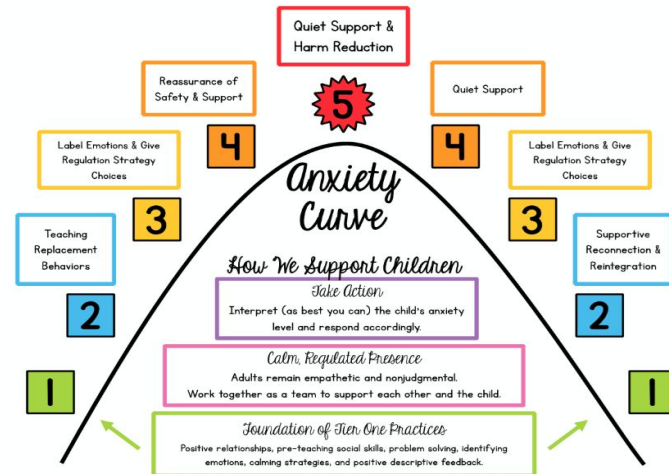
Head Start requires an annual Self Assessment that analyzes progress made toward established goals and addresses any systemic concerns regarding our program. We are required to communicate and collaborate with program staff, parents, and governing body and policy council in the self assessment process. This year's self assessment took place in February.

Self Assessment: Main Points

High Quality Inclusive Classrooms: Navigating Trauma

We continue to see many incidents of physical aggression.
In response, we have:

- Created Professional Development around this topic
- Created a program wide approach to support teaching teams called the Preschool Support Team



Responding to the Unique Needs of Our Community

- **Oshki-Inwewin:** a preschool class that incorporates Ojibwe language and culture into programming continues to grow. More than twice as many families have been accepted into the program this year than last year at this time.



Fostering Resilience with a Focus on Health and Wellness

YMCA Partnership

Our partnership with the YMCA includes:

- 4 full day classes attend Safety Around Water, a 6 week class focusing on skills to prevent drowning
- Day passes for every Head Start family
- Swim classes for parents - new this year! 7 parents attending
- City-wide Father/Father Figure Event at the YMCA. 19 Head Start families attended.



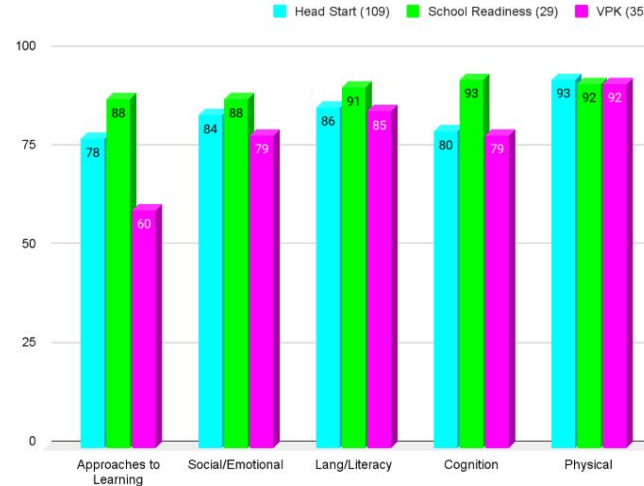
School Readiness

We expect children to make the following gains from fall to spring:

- 25% growth in Approaches to Learning
- 30% growth in Social Emotional Development
- 25% growth in Language and Literacy
- 35% growth in Cognitive Development
- 35% growth in Physical Development

Percent of Growth from Fall to Spring in 23-24	Approaches to Learning	Social Emotional Dev.	Language and Literacy	Cognitive Dev.	Physical Dev.
Half Days	44%	60%	57%	52%	65%
Full Days	61%	55%	68%	65%	72%

Program Comparison 4 YO's SPRING



Self Assessment Recommendations:

1. Plan for a smooth transition to a new Head Start Director.
2. Begin a process of visualizing an ideal Head Start program in preparation for a competitive grant.
3. Add a staff interview to Internal Monitoring to catch things that may be happening outside the timeframe of the walkthrough.
4. Encourage and capture family engagement at the site level

Full Self Assessment Report

*This report requires approval from the Governing Board and Head Start Parent Policy Council

Head Start Transportation Waiver

Voluntary PreK, a funding stream from MDE, requires that transportation be provided to 4 year olds. In Duluth, we extend this to include our 4 year old Head Start students.

Head Start has 2 requirements that we ask to waive in order for this to happen:

1. The use of a child restraint system
2. Bus monitors on board

Safe Delivery of Preschool Students was implemented following a deficiency in this area. Due to this protocol, we have not experienced any similar incidents.

114 four year old children take the bus to school on gen ed buses on any given day.

[Transportation Waiver](#)

Federal Grant FY 26

We have received notice that our Federal Grant will go into competition sometime after July 2025. Until then we will extend our current grant goals for another year (continuation grant)

Funding Type	Federal Head Start
Program Operations	\$2,841,531
- Training and Technical Assistance	\$28,958
Federal Funded Enrollment	190
Total Funding	\$2,870,489

Federal Grant FY 26



Questions?

- Any questions?
- Comments?
- Concerns?
- Feedback?