

**School Board Meeting:**

**January 22, 2018**

**Subject:**

Little KidKare Closure

**Presenter:**

**Kim Carlson, Director  
Community Education**

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**SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:**

Recommend approval

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Little KidKare Program in Montrose has been operating in a deficit for the past 5 ½ years. Attempts to improve the deficit were unable to generate sufficient funds without substantially raising fees to cover the operating costs. Therefore, we are recommending that the Little KidKare childcare program close at the end of the day on Friday, March 30, 2018. We hope that this will allow families time to find childcare options.

We will plan to open a 3-5 year-old KidKare program at the Montrose Early Education Center in the room that Little KidKare occupied on April 2, 2018. We currently have successful KidKare preschool-age programs operating in Tatanka, Northwinds and Discovery Elementary Schools.

We met with families and staff individually on January 11<sup>th</sup> to inform them of the closure. On January 18<sup>th</sup>, representatives from the school board, along with the superintendent and me, invited families and staff to the Montrose Early Education Center for further discussion. We are currently making calls to local childcare centers to see if there is any interest in leasing the space from the district to continue a childcare program in the space.

I will update you with those findings and take any additional questions Monday evening.