

# Early Childhood

February 18, 2026



# Early Childhood Goal

TO PREPARE EVERY CHILD TO BE SUCCESSFUL WHEN THEY ENTER

KINDERGARTEN—THROUGH HIGH QUALITY, INCLUSIVE AND PLAY-BASED

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING EXPERIENCES.



# A Comprehensive Portfolio

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## ECFE

Early Childhood Family Education: The "front door" for families, offering parent-child classes and support.



## Preschool

4-Star Parent Aware rated program for 3- and 4-year-olds, focusing on school success skills.



## Screening

Mandatory health and developmental screening to identify needs early and connect families to resources.

# A Comprehensive Portfolio

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## Evaluation

### Team

Our Early Childhood Special Education Evaluation Team supports MN Child Find and Help Me Grow Referrals in identifying young learners (0-5, not yet in kindergarten) in need of Special Education Intervention, year around.



## Birth to 3 Home Visitors

Early Childhood Special Education Teachers partner with families to provide specialized instruction and coordination of services. Family support and coaching are at the center of this model.



# 742 Preschool: A Standard of Excellence

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- ✓ **4-Star Parent Aware Rating:** The highest possible quality rating in Minnesota.
- ✓ **Licensed Educators:** Every classroom is led by licensed teachers and highly qualified paraeducators.
- ✓ **Inclusive Model:** Co-teaching classrooms integrate Special Education support seamlessly.
- ✓ **Holistic Curriculum:** Focuses on social-emotional, physical, and intellectual growth through play.



# Serving Our Entire District

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Our preschool classes are strategically located to ensure access for families in every neighborhood.

North Locations	South Locations	West Locations
Madison Elementary	Oak Hill Elementary	Westwood Elementary
Kennedy Community School	Clearview Elementary	Discovery Community School
Lincoln Elementary	Talahi Community School	Quarryview Ed. Center

# Early Detection & Support

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Early Childhood Screening is a quick, simple check of how children are growing and developing. Ideally completed at age 3.

**3.5**

Target Age  
for Screening

**100%**

Mandatory for  
Kindergarten Entry

**FREE**

Cost to  
District Families

# Empowering Families

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## ECFE: The First Connection

Early Childhood Family Education is often a family's first interaction with District 742. It builds a bridge between home and school.

- Strengthens parenting skills and confidence.
- Connects families to community resources.
- Promotes early literacy and social skills.
- Creates a supportive community network.



# Looking Ahead

- As we plan ahead for the future, our focus remains on access and maintaining quality.
- Increase capacity and reduce wait lists.
- Community Partnerships-Deepen collaboration with local organizations.

## **Growing Our Future**



**Investments in Early Childhood yield the highest returns for student success.**

# Preschool Enrollment 25-26

- PK4's current enrollment= **460 students**  
(4 days a week)
- PK3's current enrollment= **275 students**  
(2 days a week)
- Young 3's= **32 students**  
(1 day week)
- Total 3's served= **307 students**



**Total Preschool= 767 students**

# Preschool Waitlist And Solutions

- PK4's waitlist currently= **50 students**
- PK3's waitlist currently= **34 students**
- Solution for 2025-26
  - Friday Preschool experience
  - 1 class of PK4's servicing 10 children at Discovery
  - 2 classes of PK3's servicing 20 students at QV
- Solution for 2026-27
  - Friday PK3's opportunity at these sites: Clearview, Kennedy, Madison, Quarryview, and Westwood
  - **44 students off waitlist!**
    - This would provide space for all students on our current 3's waitlist and provide an opportunity for 10 additional PK 3's seats



# Thank you!

Questions?

