

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



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



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

- ✓ **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

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

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

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?

