

Fairfield Public Schools Pre-K Programs

Burr and Stratfield Schools and
the Early Childhood Center

Curriculum

- ▶ Board approved PreK Literacy and Numeracy can be reviewed on district website
- ▶ Aligned with Preschool Curriculum Frameworks (now State Early Learning and Development Standards) and linked to Kindergarten standards

Literacy Focus Areas

- ▶ Developing Joy and a Love for Books
- ▶ Living and Learning in the Preschool Classroom
- ▶ Language the Foundation of Learning
- ▶ Supporting Emergent Readers
- ▶ Supporting Emergent Writers

Central understandings (Literacy):

Students will-

- ▶ Listen to and understand increasingly complex language
- ▶ Use language to express thoughts and needs
- ▶ Use appropriate conversational and other communication skills
- ▶ Comprehend and respond to books and other texts
- ▶ Explore and use increased understanding of concepts about print and the alphabetic principle
- ▶ Explore and use emergent writing skills

Math Focus Areas:

Developing Creativity and Problem-Solving

Foundations for Learning in a Mathematical Community

Supporting Emergent Mathematicians

Central Understandings:

- ▶ Use number concepts and operations to count, quantify and connect numerals with their quantities
- ▶ Understand and describe spatial relationships and shapes
- ▶ Compare and measure
- ▶ Demonstrate knowledge of patterns in number relationships
- ▶ Engage in inquiry

Typical Day

- Opening and closing circle
- Table top and fine motor activities
- Literacy and numeracy experiences
- Play-based centers
- Large and small group instruction
- Art, music (Burr and Stratfield)
- Physical education (all sites)
- Social skills
- Playground time

How will I know how my child is progressing? What if I am worried about his/her learning?

- ▶ Newsletters
- ▶ Communication logs
- ▶ Parent/teacher conferences
- ▶ Team meetings
- ▶ District assessments
- ▶ Infinite Campus
- ▶ District early intervention team
- ▶ Child Find- referral to special education and evaluation

How do I apply for my child to attend the FPS Preschool Program?

- ▶ Applications are available online at www.fairfieldschools.org and are at the district offices at 501 Kings Highway East, 2nd floor.
- ▶ Students are registered at the District offices. No appointment necessary.

Applying: What is required?

- ▶ Full applications include:
 - ▶ Application form
 - ▶ School Health requirements
 - ▶ Early Childhood Health Assessment Record
 - ▶ Child's Birth Certificate
 - ▶ Proof of Residency in Fairfield (mortgage statement or lease, utility bill, car registration)
 - ▶ Parent or Guardian Photo ID (driver's license or passport)
 - ▶ Income verification (current 1040 form)

Placement Process

- ▶ Applications are approved as they are received, beginning in January
- ▶ Space is limited to 18 students in each session (a.m. and p.m.) at Burr and Stratfield and to available space at the Early Childhood Center
- ▶ Classes are mixed-age with 3s and 4s in each classroom

Placement Process

- ▶ Children who are not yet 3 on the first day of school will start school on or just after their 3rd birthdays.*i.e. If your child turns 3 years old on October 2nd, 2017, this will be his/her first day of school.
- ▶ Children must be toilet-trained for placement at Burr or Stratfield
- ▶ 3 year olds will return to the program for the 4 year old year, the office will ask families to confirm
- ▶ Students that are age eligible for Kindergarten (5 by December 31st) can not attend the PreK program as a peer

Tuition

- ▶ Full tuition is \$4250 per year (for families with income of \$75,000 and above)
- ▶ Reduced tuition is \$2125 per year (for families with income between \$50,001 and \$74,999)
- ▶ Free tuition is also possible for families with income of \$50,000 and below per year
- ▶ First month deposit due at the time of acceptance/placement
- ▶ No refunds after April 1st
- ▶ Tuition will increase 3% annually in the following years.

Placement considerations:

- ▶ Students who live in the Holland Hill, Jennings, North Stratfield, Dwight and Burr districts attend the **Burr PreK**
- ▶ Students who live in the Mill Hill, Sherman, Riverfield, Osborn Hill or Stratfield districts attend the **Stratfield PreK**
- ▶ Students live in the McKinley district can attend **any PreK** program

Placement considerations:

- ▶ Any student can attend the **Early Childhood Center**
- ▶ The Early Childhood Center also provides special education services for most of the eligible children in Fairfield ages 3 to Kindergarten
 - ▶ Classes are mixed in age and disability and balanced for boys and girls
 - ▶ Some classrooms have a specific focus on social skills, and a greater ratio of peers to students with IEPs (more peers)
- ▶ Students receiving special education for speech and language only may apply to the classroom program at **any location** they are eligible.

Transportation



- ▶ **Early Childhood Center:** transportation is provided as a related service only for students identified with disabilities or delays
- ▶ **Burr and Stratfield:** transportation is provided for students who qualify for Reduced or Free tuition

What is the Pre-K schedule?

- ▶ **A.M. Class: 8:45-11:30**
- ▶ **P.M. Class: 12:30-3:15**
- ▶ **ECC: 4 days/week**
- ▶ **Burr and Stratfield: 5 days/week**

What happens after PreK?

- ▶ Students at **ECC** transition to the district's eleven elementary schools
- ▶ **Burr** and **Stratfield** students:
 - ▶ Parents can apply to have students and their siblings “opt-in” to the school (Burr or Stratfield) that they attended for PreK
 - ▶ Transportation is provided for students who “opt-in”
 - ▶ If students move out of their original PreK feeder pattern, the opt-in no longer applies
 - ▶ Students return to their home middle schools when they enter grade 6.

Thank you!

Questions?