

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION ITEMDEPARTMENT: SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE 6.2 ACTION ITEM

TITLE: SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

**Pre-K Update**

Our Kinder Ready programs continue to run at full or near full capacity. The current sites are Mendenhall River Community School, Harborview Elementary, and Glacier Valley Elementary. In each of our sites students receive a waiver for tuition costs. From 43 to 65% of our students receive scholarships for their tuition. While we run two sessions a day, we offer children the chance to stay for both sessions and at each site, we have 10 to 12 who attend both sessions.

Our Children's House Montessori program is full as well with 11 PK students in their PK/K classroom. This is a full day program where there is availability of care from 7:00 - 5:30.

Our Integrated PK (Special Education) program serves peers alongside students with IEPs. We are at capacity for our students with Special Needs and will be opening up a new afternoon session in January. This happens relatively frequently due to children becoming eligible for services from the school district on their third birthday. We currently have an Integrated program at each of our elementary schools (two sessions at each of 4 schools, 3 sessions at MRCS and 1 at Auke Bay).

We have multiple sources of funding to support our Kinder Ready programs. The STEPs and DEED grants both provide funding on an annual basis while we also received some "one time funding" from CBJ to support programming. Currently the state requires that a certified teacher be teaching in our Kinder Ready programs. The Special Education Integrated PK has always had certified teachers due to the SPED services we are providing. Children's House has also always had a certified teacher because it is a PK/K classroom.

On February 11th, I am holding a Strategic Planning session with all PK Teachers (Integrated, KinderReady, Children's House) along with Joy Lyon from AEYC and Amber Fromherz from Tlingit-Haida Head Start to discuss our overall programming for Early Childhood. I am hoping that this time together will result in a clear vision of where we are headed with programming, limitations we foresee based on vulnerable funding, and inform our practice so we have a solid understanding of the differences in our programs and position us well to provide strong early childhood programs.

I was asked by Mayor Weldon to serve on the CBJ Child Care Task Force. We have had several meetings and will continue to meet in January and February. Our task has multiple facets but in general, our task is to inform the CBJ Assembly on what our best recommendation is for how they should provide support for Early Learning (child care and Pre-K) in Juneau.