



IHBIA-R - KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS

I. Who May Provide Full-Day Kindergarten

A. PSD Elementary Schools

An interested Poudre School District elementary school may submit an application for district approval to provide full-day kindergarten with PSD staff or in partnership with a community early childhood provider.

B. Fort Collins Community Early Childhood Providers

A community Request for Proposals (RFP) will be sent to all community early childhood program directors/owners inviting them to partner with an interested elementary school(s) to provide an educational extension to the Poudre School District kindergarten program.

II. Applications

Elementary schools and community providers will submit an application which will address the following components:

A. Personnel

Applicants will outline how the staff selection process will occur.

1. PSD Sites

PSD sites will follow the PSD personnel guidelines for staff selection.

2. Community Providers

Providers will be encouraged to involve elementary school staff in the selection process. The teacher must hold a valid Colorado teaching certificate/license.

B. Budget

1. Budget Outline

Budget revenue and expenses will be outlined in the application and will include, but will not be limited to, salary and benefits, consumable supplies, materials, and student and liability insurance. All applicants

will address how scholarships, sliding scales, and/or other methods will provide tuition options for families. Applicants will outline how they will inform potential parents of the scholarship possibility.

2. Tuition

The tuition rates will be set by the elementary site or community providers. Tuition rates cannot be raised throughout the school year. Applicants may adjust the tuition rates at the time of re-application.

3. Available Revenues

Elementary sites are encouraged to be creative with all available site resources. For example:

* The elementary site could consider establishing a scholarship fund. A site, in strong collaboration with its PTO, may use money from fundraising efforts to offset the tuition costs for families.

* Other building resources could be used to offset the personnel or operational expenses.

C. Class Size

Applicants will include the minimum and maximum number of students that could be enrolled in the program.

D. Curriculum/Standards

1. The supplemental curriculum will complement the PSD curriculum and provide opportunities for students to successfully meet the content standards. Since this additional half day of kindergarten is above the district requirements, the curriculum should be considered supplemental. Innovation, creativity, and exposure to new curriculum and teaching methods should be encouraged.
2. All applicants will address how the curriculum aligns with the PSD content standards for kindergarten. Opportunities for students to meet and/or exceed the standards should be included. Examples of current kindergarten programming will be requested.
3. Elementary sites which are partnering with community providers or will employ two different PSD staff members should outline how personnel will effectively communicate on a regular basis. Strong communication will be necessary to effectively articulate the student and family needs that arise.

E. Evaluation

1. Student Evaluation

Applicants will outline how student growth and achievement will be measured and communicated with staff and parents. These measurements would be beyond the district-level standard assessments.

2. Program Evaluation

Applicants will outline how the perceptions and satisfaction of the parents and staff will be determined.

F. Schedule

Applicants will outline a schedule of a typical day, explaining how literacy, motor, math, and science opportunities will be provided.

G. Governance

1. PSD Sites

The school's charter and covenant will outline the decision making process.

2. Community Providers

To effectively deliver contracted services, the provider must have the site cooperation to manage the day-to-day program. At the same time, the elementary principals and PSD must have the ability to improve underperforming contracted programs and terminate them if improvement is not feasible.

- a. Providers and site management should meet routinely to discuss program effectiveness, concerns, and issues.
- b. Providers and site management should meet routinely with the parents of students to assess the program from their perspective.
- c. The provider should be invited to participate in the site organization such as PAB and SIT.

III. District Approval Process

A. Deadline

Elementary schools and community providers will submit applications to the assistant superintendent of school services by March 1.

B. Review Process

A review committee will make recommendations to the assistant superintendent of school services for district-level approval.

IV. PSD/Community Partnership Process

An interested elementary school may partner with an approved community provider. Elementary schools would review approved applications and interview providers. A match between an elementary school and a community provider would be at the mutual consent of each party.

V. Student Enrollment

A. Voluntary Participation

The PSD full-day kindergarten program is based on voluntary participation. No student will be excluded on the basis of ethnicity, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, or disability.

B. Access

Equal access with regard to ethnicity, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, or disability is required. Complete access due to the (in)ability to pay all or part of the tuition is strongly desired and encouraged. A good-faith effort is required on the part of PSD schools and community providers to ensure that no students are excluded based on the ability to pay.

VI. Schools of Choice

The PSD schools of choice policy applies to the full-day kindergarten options.

VII. Report to the Board of Education

An annual report will be provided to the Board of Education. The report will include the following information.

- A. Each site will provide the following information:
 - 1. Description of the full-day kindergarten program
 - 2. Number of students participating
 - 3. Number of families who received scholarships or accessing sliding fee scales
 - 4. Number of students denied access to the program and the reason
 - 5. Results of student achievement measures
 - 6. Results of parent and staff satisfaction measures

- B. The PSD administration will outline:
 - 1. The costs to the district
 - 2. Issues and challenges that emerged throughout the year and how they were resolved
 - 3. Site participation for the following year

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CROSS REFS:

JC, School Attendance Areas
JFAB/JFABA, Admission of Nonresident Students/Tuition Charges
JFABD, Admission of Homeless Students
JFBA, Intra-District Choice/Open Enrollment
JFBB, Inter-District Choice/Open Enrollment