

PRESCHOOL PARTNERSHIP GRANT COVER PAGE

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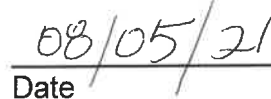
DISTRICT:	Todd County
SUPERINTENDENT:	Mark Thomas
DISTRICT ADDRESS:	205 Airport Road, Elkton, KY 42220
DISTRICT TELEPHONE:	270-265-2436
CHILD CARE PROVIDER:	Playschool Child Care
CHILD CARE PROVIDER LICENSE NUMBER:	L355403
CHILD CARE DIRECTOR:	Kathy Wilson
CHILD CARE DIRECTOR'S EMAIL:	kathywilson@pcc.net
PLANNING GRANT COORDINATOR:	Kim Justice
GRANT COORDINATOR'S EMAIL:	kim.justice@todd.kyschools.us
FISCAL AGENT:	Todd County Schools
DISTRICT FINANCE OFFICER:	Preston Browning
DISTRICT FINANCE OFFICER'S EMAIL:	preston.browning@todd.kyschools.us

I swear under oath, subject to penalty for perjury, that I am authorized to execute this document and assure that the attached application has been reviewed and approved for implementation by all stakeholders and the district will comply with all requirements, both technical and programmatic, pertaining to the Preschool Partnership grant. I acknowledge that failure to comply may significantly impact future funding, in addition to any applicable penalties under law.

Superintendent


Child Care Director

Date


Date

PRESCHOOL PARTNERSHIP GRANT

Todd County

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Preschool Partnership Grant
Todd County

PART 1: NEED

Research consistently shows the profound influence children's experiences at an early age have on their brain development. Children have sensitive periods, or windows of opportunity, in the early years of their development during which synapses are produced. A child whose environment is enriched and engaging is more apt to have a brain that is better developed to manage thinking and planning in a more complex manner. Children of poverty are often at a disadvantage due to their experiences, or lack thereof, associated with living in poverty. Research shows that children of poverty exhibit delays in cognitive, language, and social emotional development. The gap that exists between these children and their higher-income peers continues to grow over time, often leading to academic difficulties, retention and higher dropout rates. A National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) study of early child care showed that children receiving higher quality care scored better in school readiness, language comprehension, and behavioral adjustment. It is our hope that higher quality early childhood services will offset the negative impact of living in poverty.

According to the 2020 Kids Count Data Book, one in four Todd County children live in poverty. Additionally, 71.76% of Todd County students qualify for free and reduced lunch. A staggering 33.7% of children in Todd County, over double the rate of the state

(13.6%), were born to mothers who did not graduate from high school. High poverty rates, coupled with lack of parental education, puts Todd County children at high risk of failure. For this reason, a great need exists to provide these children with high quality early childhood education along with educational supports for parents. During the 2019-2020 school year, 47.1% of Todd County children entering school were classified as "Kindergarten Ready" which was lower than the state average of 51.0%. Todd County's goal within the next two years is to exceed the state average of students who are Kindergarten ready (with an increase of 3.45% each year) and continue to improve the rate over the next 5 years, with a goal that at least 60% of our incoming kindergarteners will be ready for school by putting supports in place for early childhood education centers and for parents.

Needs assessment data was collected from early childhood staff. The top needs of staff included training and materials to improve Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale, 3rd Edition (ECERS-3), as well as training on Autism, special education, behavior, and addressing diverse learner needs.

Todd County has a great need for additional early childhood program slots for 3 and 4 year olds. Todd County has one full-day child care center, Playschool child care. Currently, there is a waiting list at the local child care center. Todd County's preschool program offers tuition slots to parents to allow their children to attend four full days, instead of two days, if space allows.

Needs

Based on an analysis of needs assessment data from multiple sources, Todd County's primary needs include:

- Additional early childhood provider options/slots for children ages 3 and 4,
- High quality instruction in early literacy and numeracy to increase kindergarten readiness,
- Professional development to improve the quality of early childhood programs with an emphasis on social-emotional learning and special education, and
- Program needs assessments to improve ECERS-3 and STARS ratings.

Outcomes

If these needs are addressed, Todd County will be able to offer additional high quality early childhood services to 3 and 4 year old children resulting in improved kindergarten readiness results.

PART 2: PROGRAM QUALITY

Todd County currently has one child care center, and a public preschool program. Both serve Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) eligible children. The local child care centers houses a Head Start program. Todd County Preschool plans to partner with this local center to improve early childhood programming throughout the county.

To assist with meeting the needs listed above, Todd County Schools plans to establish an Early Childhood Outreach Consultant position. This person will be responsible for:

- Providing observation and consultation services in the preschool and child care setting (Playschool Child Care) regarding STARS and ECERS-3 ratings to improve the quality of early childhood programming provided to children of Todd County. Through this process, a needs assessment will be completed for instructional resources, with grant funds being used to purchase needed materials.
- Facilitating social emotional learning and special education trainings and support for preschool and child care staff.
- Collecting progress monitoring data on individual students quarterly using skills checklists that measure early literacy, numeracy, and social emotional skills.
- Facilitating staff trainings for preschool and day care staff based on observations and staff self-assessment with a focus on early literacy and numeracy.
- Facilitate a meeting with the child care center and preschool to review and align suspension/expulsion policies and ensure adequate special education and social/emotional supports are in place.
- Creating an infrastructure in the community (including local health care centers, churches, etc.) to disseminate information to parents regarding the importance of early childhood education, available resources (including CCAP), upcoming screenings, etc. that can continue after grant funds are no longer available.

- Seeking out and recruiting families in the community who may have barriers that prevent access to early childhood education for their children and explore resources that will enable the children to receive the services they need.
- Organizing parent days/evenings within the community to demonstrate ways to incorporate early literacy and numeracy, as well as social-emotional skills, into daily routines with their children at home. Mental health resources will also be shared with families.
- Collecting, managing and reporting preschool partnership student information in Infinite Campus as established by the Kentucky Department of Education. A code will be entered into a field on the preschool tab for children receiving support through the grant. This will allow the students who received support through the grant to be monitored as they progress in school by reviewing data sources, such as STAR assessment and KPREP data.

An additional child care teacher will be hired through the grant to provide the following services:

- To increase the number of 3 and 4 year olds served at the child care center.
- Provide additional support to students with special needs.
- Attend professional development regarding social emotional learning to better meet the needs of children at the child care center.

Using grant funds, both preschool and child care staff will be provided opportunities to attend early childhood trainings and conferences to improve the quality of services offered to children in the community. Preschool staff and child care providers will be surveyed to determine professional development needs. Some areas of need that have already been identified include Autism, special education, behavior, and addressing diverse learner needs. The knowledge and improvements made through these activities will sustain beyond the grant period.

The following goals/data will be used to determine the effectiveness of the Preschool Partnership Grant:

GOALS

Goal 1: Quality of Early Childhood Programs

Short-term Goal:

By the end of the 2021-2022 school year, greater than 50% of children entering kindergarten in Todd County schools will be classified as “Kindergarten Ready” as measured by the Brigance.

Long-term Goal:

By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, 60% of children entering kindergarten in Todd County schools will be classified as “Kindergarten Ready” as measured by the Brigance.

Goal 2: Social-Emotional and Special Education Training

By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, 100% of preschool staff and child care staff serving preschool age children will receive training to improve their competency with meeting the needs of students with disabilities, as well as the social-emotional needs of all children served.

Goal 3: Parent Involvement

By the end of the 2022-2023 school year, at least 100 parents (50 parents each year) of preschool age children will participate in programs that promote early childhood success, specifically in the areas of early literacy and numeracy and social-emotional learning, as measured by sign-in sheets.

PART 3: COLLABORATION

The development of this grant was a collaborative effort. Key partners, including preschool staff, child care/Head Start providers, and some CECC members, collaborated to discuss the new grant application and early childhood needs in the county, and set goals and timelines for the proposal

Through the implementation of the grant, the Early Childhood Outreach Consultant will serve to facilitate ongoing communication among the key partners. One of the primary roles of the Early Childhood Outreach Consultant position will be to serve as a liaison

among preschool, child care, community agencies (health care centers, churches, etc.), and parents to spread the word regarding the importance of early childhood education and experiences. This person will go into the community to share literature regarding the benefits of early childhood education, meet with community stakeholders, provide parent training to explain child care options available in the community, and help remove barriers for children in Todd County so they may have access to experiences that will help them reach their fullest potential.

Additionally, all early childhood providers and available Community Early Childhood Council (CECC) members, will meet at least quarterly to discuss the following, with the intention of continuing meetings even after grant funds are depleted:

- Current progress in grant implementation,
- Needed improvements based on observations to increase STARS and ECERS ratings,
- Staff training needs,
- Recruitment activities,
- Coordination of services to ensure Head Start funding is not supplanted, and
- Parent training activities.

These meetings will provide an opportunity for ongoing coordination of services and assurance that federal Head Start funding is not supplanted. The purpose of these

meetings is to ensure that the needs of the individual children of Todd County are being met regardless of where, thus avoiding competition.

A primary goal of the grant partners is to create sustainability once the grand funds are depleted. Collaborative meetings will continue to take place through the CECC.

Additionally, with recruitment efforts of the Early Childhood Outreach Consultant, the additional child care center slots should be able to maintain themselves through CCAP and state funding. Additionally, the skills that early childhood staff learn through professional development will benefit children for years to come. Lastly, high quality instructional materials will be available for future children to benefit from as well.

PART 4: BUDGET

The Budget Summary Form on the following pages lists the anticipated expenses for implementation of the plan. The primary expenses are the salaries for an Early Childhood Outreach Consultant position and child care teacher. These individuals will be responsible for facilitating many of the activities listed in the grant application. Other expenses are necessary to improve the quality of the early child programs in Todd County, including staff training and instructional materials. Lastly, costs are included for parent outreach and training, including travel and copying informational materials.

PRESCHOOL PARTNERSHIP GRANT

Budget Summary Form

DISTRICT: Todd County Schools

CO-APPLICANT: Playschool Child Care

2021-2022 Budget				
1	2	3	4	5
MUNIS CODE	ITEM	EXPLANATION OF EXPENDITURES	Amt. Of Grant Funds	Source & Amt. Of Matching Funds
0130	Early Childhood Outreach Consultant Salary	Position for the 2021-2022 school year.	\$47,716	Staff also providing supporting services similar to consultant position (10% of salary): 6 Preschool Teachers/KERA \$27,079; School Psychologist/GF \$4741; Special Education Consultant \$6,145; FRYSC Coordinator/FRYSC \$4481; Preschool Coordinator/EC \$8124; 11 Preschool Instructional Assistants /KERA (5% of salary) \$7679; Preschool Interventionist ESSER \$28,478.
0221 0222 0232 0253 0260	Early Childhood Outreach Consultant Benefits	Benefits for Early Childhood Outreach Consultant.	\$14,342	
0130	Child Care Teacher Salary	Creation of a child care teacher position for the 2021-2022 school year	\$34,000	Staff also providing direct instructional services to preschool age children (25% of salary): 6 Preschool Teachers/KERA \$67,697

0221 0222 0232 0253 0260	Child Care Teacher Benefits	Benefits for child care teacher.	\$10,200	
0580	Travel	Cover travel costs of Early Childhood Outreach Consultant throughout the community for grant related activities.	\$1,000	KERA Preschool: \$1,000
0610	Instructional Materials	Provide needed instructional materials for preschool program and child care centers to meet ECERS-3 and STAR requirements and to expand childcare programs to serve more children. Also, provide parent training/kindergarten readiness materials to families.	\$24,530	CECC funds: \$4900; ESSER: \$3924
0559	Other Printing	Provide informational materials to parents regarding the importance of early childhood education and experiences and what opportunities are available in our community.	\$500	
0338	Professional Development	Registration fees/training costs for preschool staff and child care center staff for professional development based on needs assessment with a focus on early literacy and numeracy.	\$6,000	
0580	Trainings: Travel	Travel costs for preschool staff and child care staff for professional development based on need assessment with a focus on early literacy and numeracy.	\$2,000	KERA Preschool: \$1,000
0113	Stipends for Preschool Teachers	Stipends for teachers to assist with parent trainings or attend professional development during evening and/or weekend hours.	\$2,000	
0222 0231 0260	Benefits for Preschool Teachers	Benefits for preschool teachers assisting with parent trainings or attending professional	\$406	

0253		development during evening and/or weekend hours.		
0130	Stipends for Instructional Assistants and Child Care Teacher	Stipends for instructional assistants and child care teachers to assist with parent trainings or attend professional development during evening and/or weekend hours	\$2000	
0221 0222 0232 0253 0260	Benefits for Instructional Assistants and Child Care Teacher	Benefits for instructional assistants and child care teacher assisting with parent trainings or attending professional development during evening and/or weekend hours.	\$406	
0349	Program Evaluation	State evaluation of Preschool Partnership Program.	\$1,500	
0120	Sub Costs for Preschool Teachers	Sub costs for preschool teachers to attend professional development during the work day.	\$2,400	
0339	Other Professional Training and Development Services	Sub costs and/or reimbursement for child care staff to attend professional training and development during the work day, after hours and/or on weekends.	\$1,000	
TOTAL AMOUNTS			\$150,000	\$165,248

2022-2023 Budget				
1	2	3	4	5
MUNIS CODE	ITEM	EXPLANATION OF EXPENDITURES	Amt. Of Grant Funds	Source & Amt. Of Matching Funds
0130	Early Childhood Outreach Consultant Salary	Position for the 2022-2023 school year.	\$47,716	Staff also providing supporting services similar to consultant position (10% of salary): 6 Preschool Teachers/KERA \$27,079; School Psychologist/GF \$4741; Special Education Consultant \$6,145; FRYSC Coordinator/FRYSC \$4481; Preschool Coordinator/EC \$8124; 11 Preschool Instructional Assistants /KERA (5% of salary) \$7679; Preschool Interventionist ESSER \$28,478.
0221 0222 0232 0253 0260	Early Childhood Outreach Consultant Benefits	Benefits for Early Childhood Outreach Consultant.	\$14,342	
0130	Child Care Teacher Salary	Child care teacher position for the 2022-2023 school year	\$34,000	Staff also providing services to preschool age children (25% of salary): 6 Preschool Teachers/KERA \$67,697
0221 0222 0232 0253 0260	Child Care Teacher Benefits	Benefits for child care teacher.	\$10,200	

0580	Travel	Cover travel costs of Early Childhood Outreach Consultant throughout the community for grant related activities.	\$1,000	KERA Preschool: \$1,000
0610	Instructional Materials	Provide needed instructional materials for preschool program and child care centers to meet ECERS-3 and STAR requirements and to expand childcare programs to serve more children. Also, provide parent training/kindergarten readiness materials to families.	\$24,530	CECC funds: \$4900; ESSER: \$3924
0559	Other Printing	Provide informational materials to parents regarding the importance of early childhood education and experiences and what opportunities are available in our community.	\$500	
0338	Professional Development	Registration fees/training costs for preschool staff and child care center staff for professional development based on needs assessment with a focus on early literacy and numeracy.	\$6,000	
0580	Trainings: Travel	Travel costs for preschool staff and child care staff for professional development based on need assessment with a focus on early literacy and numeracy.	\$2,000	KERA Preschool: \$1,000
0113	Stipends for Preschool Teachers	Stipends for teachers to assist with parent trainings or attend professional development during evening and/or weekend hours.	\$2,000	
0222 0231 0260 0253	Benefits for Preschool Teachers	Benefits for preschool teachers assisting with parent trainings or attending professional development during evening and/or weekend hours.	\$406	
0130	Stipends for Instructional Assistants and	Stipends for instructional assistants and child care teachers to assist with parent	\$2000	

	Child Care Teacher	trainings or attend professional development during evening and/or weekend hours		
0221 0222 0232 0253 0260	Benefits for Instructional Assistants and Child Care Teacher	Benefits for instructional assistants and child care teacher assisting with parent trainings or attending professional development during evening and/or weekend hours.	\$406	
0349	Program Evaluation	State evaluation of Preschool Partnership Program.	\$1,500	
0120	Sub Costs for Preschool Teachers	Sub costs for preschool teachers to attend professional development during the work day.	\$2,400	
0339	Other Professional Training and Development Services	Sub costs and/or reimbursement for child care staff to attend professional training and development during the work day, after hours and/or on weekends.	\$1,000	
TOTAL AMOUNTS			\$150,000	\$165,248

