



Proposal: Preschool Tuition for 2023 - 2024

Proposal:

The Hopkins County Schools preschool program would like to offer preschoolers who do not qualify for KERA preschool services on tuition at \$150 per month for one session, four days per week.

Reason:

Universal preschool did not pass in the recent legislative session. At this time, students can only attend Hopkins County KERA preschool with a disability or financial need. This leaves a large group of students without a Hopkins County School option, contributing to day care concerns in our county and missing students who need support with kindergarten readiness.

Availability:

The Hopkins County preschool program would like to start small with tuition based offerings, offering 3-5 spots per school site. This will give us space for students that qualify mid year based on disability or who are coming in with “guaranteed” spots through First Steps or the foster system. We would like to offer those spots to employee children first, then children who were screened and didn’t qualify based on disability or financial need. Thus, we would offer these spots at first on an individual basis rather than mass advertisement.

Long Term Goals:

The following are long term goals for expanding the Hopkins County preschool program

- Offering two to four sessions of preschool at each elementary school (based on school size) to ensure space for every child attending Kindergarten there
- Offering a built in child care option before or after the preschool session
- Increasing school readiness and success in the Kindergarten program
- Increasing educational equity by serving more students