

A group of young children are gathered around a table, playing with a sensory bin filled with blue material. They are using various tools like shovels and buckets. The children are wearing face masks. The background shows a classroom setting with a sensory bin and other materials.

Early Childhood

Ann Riebel, Director of Community Education

Current Status

- Early Childhood Family Education - Goodview Elementary EC Wing
 - Parent Education Room
 - Early Childhood Room
 - Zoom Room - Large Motor Space
- Early Childhood Screening
 - Uses ECFE Space In Goodview EC wing
 - Screening on Thursdays and occasional Saturdays
- ALC Childcare
 - Infant and Toddler rooms at the ALC, licensed with DHS
 - Beginning to supplement Early Childhood Special Education due to a lack of classrooms that are age appropriate.
 - Partnership with Early Head Start

Current Status

- Community Kids Preschool
 - Various funding sources:
 - VPK
 - Pathways Scholarships
 - School Readiness Scholarships
 - Tuition
 - ECSE
 - Current Locations
 - 2 Classrooms in Goodview EC Wing
 - 2 Classrooms in WK (1 ECSE, 1 inclusive)
 - Each inclusive classroom serves 3 separate classes
 - Total Capacity is 145
 - WAPS offers transportation

Future Vision

- ECCE
 - Continue in traditional model while increasing community presence
- Early Childhood Screening
 - With current birth rates, the number of appointments available during the school year are appropriate.
- ALC Childcare
 - Continue partnership with Early Head Start and Early Childhood
 - Focus on Student Parent population limits enrollment size

Future Vision

COMMUNITY TASK FORCE EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESENTATION

- Community Kids Preschool
 - Universal Pre Kindergarten is an ongoing conversation in legislation
 - Universal access is a step towards allowing all children the opportunity to prepare for Kindergarten
- Currently serving some preschool children in their home school, others transfer for Kindergarten
 - Alignment between Early Childhood and Kindergarten programs can smooth transitions for children and families
- Program is growing and we are reaching capacity this year.

Barriers

- Early Childhood is limited due to the following:
 - ECSE/ECS have very little flexibility in trying new schedules.
 - ALC Childcare is an overflow for Early Childhood Special Education. This has a limited capacity as well. Student parents should be the priority and could impact the ability for ECSE to access the resource.
 - EC programs at WK are separated in the building, collaboration for children is limited due to distance. Space is very limited in the preschool room for equipment. There isn't a changing station. There is a lack of accessibility.
 - For Community Kids Preschool to serve more children, additional classrooms would need to be identified. Aligning services would be critical.
 - Any possible wrap around services are limited due to space.

Questions?

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