

If You Plant a Seed



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Pre-K Counts:
Helping Children
Learn & Grow

Pre-K Counts
Presentation

September 2019

Pre-K Counts

- Is based on the quality components adopted for pre-kindergarten by the PA Department of Education;
- provides families in participating communities with a choice of quality pre-kindergarten options in a school, child care center or nursery school;
- increases access to quality pre-kindergarten to children and families throughout the commonwealth with a priority in at-risk communities.



MCIU Partnership

- Operated by the MCIU – Grant \$
- Instructional Days = 180/160
- Certified Early Childhood Teachers
- Serves children ages 3 to 5 years old
- Eligibility criteria
- Application process
- Maximum Caseload – 20 students with a certified teacher and an instructional aide
- No cost to the district – the MCIU is responsible for all costs.
- Memorandum of Understanding
- One year commitment – can be extended the following year



Benefits of Pre-K

- Results from this initiative find that children's early learning improves when all programs in a community share resources to improve quality and coordinate early learning experiences in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and beyond.
- Provides exposure to curriculum aligned to PDE's Early Learning Standards
- Facilitates opportunities for social and emotional growth through play and peer interactions
- Prepares students for kindergarten experience through use of consistent routines and structure in the classroom



Pre-K at Arcola

- **Arrival and dismissal after Arcola's so there would be no additional traffic during the busiest times**
- **Would follow Arcola's schedule with regard to drills and closings/early dismissals**
- **MCIU connects with Aramark for food services (breakfast, lunch, snacks)**
- **Any and all services needed for students being served are provided by MCIU**
- **Opportunities for peer buddies with Arcola students (literacy building)**
- **Access to library (dedicated time), if possible**
- **Students: 95% will be Methacton residents!**



Next Steps

- If the board approves and the MOU is signed, Arcola will remove laptops and furniture from the proposed classroom (former computer lab)
- MCIU will review applications for enrollment, hire staff, and begin setting up the classroom
- Pre-K Counts supervisor will share information about the program with Arcola administration and staff, including arrival and dismissal times
- Arrangements with Aramark for food services will be made
- Tentative Start Date: October 7



