

# Pre-Kindergarten Program Facts



## Parents report:

*"My child has developed a love of learning and continues projects at home. She counts things, names colors and relates things to stories she's read."*

*"The program has made a difference in my child's life and mine. My child is learning to play with other children and he has a love and a passion for writing now that he didn't have before."*

*"Kindergarten would have been a challenging experience for my child without this opportunity to attend Pre-Kindergarten and learn so many skills."*

*"I know my child would not have come as far as he has in school. I don't think we could be able to afford or even be able to find the kind of classroom experience we received, nor would we be able to provide transportation for our child."*



Updated Sept 2018

## Preparing 4-year-old Children for Kindergarten

- At capacity, SPPS serves over 1,900 students the year before Kindergarten in 84 Classrooms.
- There are approximately 350 students on a "wait list" who may not be served in Pre-K classrooms this year.
- Priority is given to children who are English language learners (ELL), eligible for free or reduced meals and/or receive Special Education services.
- A free Early Childhood Screening is required, including vision and hearing, immunization, height and weight, developmental, speech and mental health.
- Funding is provided by the 2012 district referendum, School Readiness, Title I, McKnight grant, Hmong IGDI grant, Pathway II Scholarships and Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten funding.

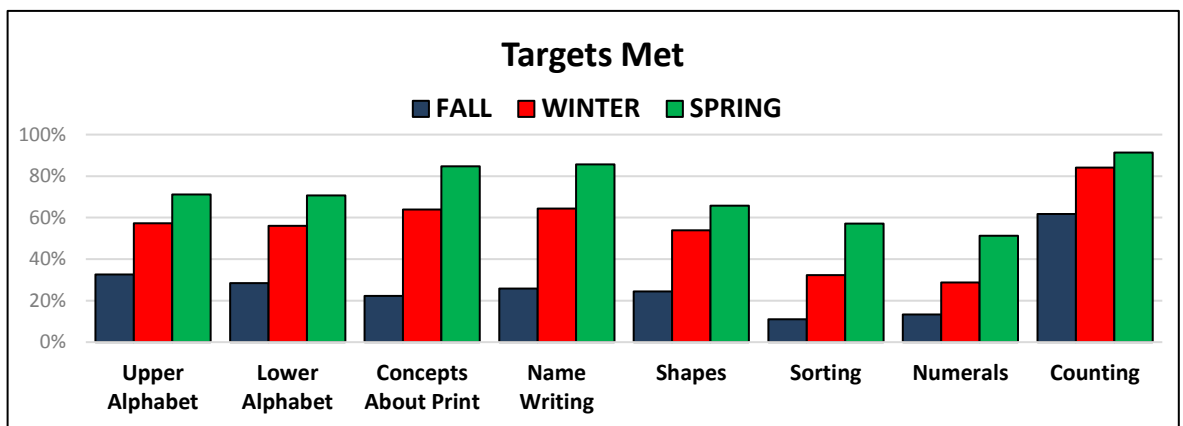
## Core Elements

- Highly qualified staff; teachers hold a Minnesota Birth to Third Grade or Early Childhood teaching license.
- Principals as instructional leaders with support from the district's Office of Early Learning.
- Standards-based curriculum and Early Childhood Workshop instructional framework align with the district's K-5 model and address academic and social-emotional needs of children, ensuring children will experience a seamless transition to Kindergarten.
- Standards-based assessments to monitor progress of students, environment and teaching quality.
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Specialist assists teachers and families with strategies for preventing and addressing challenging behavior.
- Extensive professional development to support quality instruction.
- Sustained on-the-job coaching for teachers by Early Learning Coaches.
- Licensed Partnerships Coordinators hold family educational workshops on early literacy, math, positive behavior support, transition to Pre-K and Kindergarten, and support learning at home.

## Outcomes

- Children and families begin their formal school education with a smooth transition.
  - Parents/guardians have an understanding of the school system.
  - Students can negotiate school routines (lunchroom, bathroom, walking in the hall, group time and independent work time, etc.).
  - Students experience common academic routines, language and instructional strategies in Pre-K and Kindergarten.

## 2017-2018 Academic Highlights



## PROGRAM FACTS 2017-2018

- ✓ 2,169 children served (including Summer)
- ✓ 58 Pre-K and 27 Montessori classrooms
- ✓ 31 Pre-K and 5 Montessori schools
- ✓ 55 half day and 24 full day

## DEMOGRAPHICS 2017-2018

Caucasian, Non-Hispanic	17%
Asian American	38%
American Indian	1%
Hispanic American	12%
African American	32%
Special Education	14%
Free and reduced meals	66%
English Language Learners	47%

## ENROLLMENT INFORMATION 2018-19

- ✓ 1,973 seats (more Full Day classrooms)
- ✓ 57 Pre-K and 27 Montessori classrooms
- ✓ 36 Pre-K and 5 Montessori schools
- ✓ 51 half day and 33 full day