

**Meeting Minutes #4: Curriculum/ Special Education/ Technology Committee**  
**Preschool Program Meeting**  
**December 1st - virtual – 5:30-7:00 pm**

**Attendance:**

Crystal Hopkins  
Melanie Deysher  
Allison Silverstein  
Ms. Finnerty  
Dr. Harrison-Crawford

-Welcome / Introductions

- Pre K Plan
  - At the end of July Dr. Harrison-Crawford and Ms. Finnerty were asked to move on the PEA: Preschool Expansion Aid. Once the Grant was rewarded we had 3 weeks to fulfill the layout written about in the grant application.
    - The curriculum we are using is *Tools of the Mind*
      - *December 8th followed by two other workshops*
    - *Each classroom has one teacher and one paraprofessional*
      - *59 initial slots*
      - *220 Families applied for the lottery*
      - *Qualifiers were either 3 or 4 years old by October 1st and a Montclair resident*
      - *The other information as far as demographics, gender, where they live etc. is gathered once a family confirms that they were interested in taking the spot.*
      - *In the future we will go above and beyond the parameters in making sure that we will make sure that all families have an opportunity.*
      - *A version of Before / After care will be offered next year.*

**Enrollment numbers (as of 12/1/22):**

Location Enrolled Students

***DLC*** (2 classrooms) 27 (14 & 13) - **Available slots 3**

***MCPK*** (1 classroom) 13 - **Available slots 2**

***Nishuane*** (2 classrooms) 22 (11 & 11) \*3 pending - **Available slots 5**

***YMCA*** (1 classroom) 11 \*1 pending - **Available slots 3**

**Total 73** (4 pending)

**Total: 13** available slots

**Projection for class sizes:** All classes are projected for a maximum of 15 students

- Because we started this program in October enrollment will remain rolling until all spots are filled.
  - The PEA Grant is a general education grant. We also have to include learners with Special Ed needs thus not reaching numbers until we're finished with an evaluation for a learner who then will start in a classroom.
  - Currently 24 students across the program identified as special education learners.
  - We estimate that we will have 2 to 3 learners with IEP's per classroom and if that number increases we will not move current learners from their classroom but push in with services.
  
- Diversity
  - While the selections were at random the classrooms are diverse with a 50/50 representation throughout the program. The representation is not only with students but with staff as well.
  
- Staffing
  - Each classroom has one teacher with a P3 certification and a paraprofessional. For those students with needs that require additional support, those will push in.
  
- Space
  - The goal was to start off slow and increase the classrooms and number of students next year. Our district space will remain the same as real estate in our buildings is limited but we will increase to two classrooms at MCPK and 3 classrooms at the YMCA. Along with partnering with head start, MCDC and Neighborhood Childcare center.
  - The goal is to have an increased expansion in 2024-2025, using this current school year and the following as building/planning years.
  
- Preschool Advisory Committee
  - Assist in driving the direction that Montclair intends to go with preschool programing beyond the PEA grant.

- Preschool Community parent involvement specialist this person will manage the committee, family outreach and connecting families with various outreach.
  - Part time position for 22-23 school year
  - Full time beginning 23-24 school year