
2020-2021 Plattsmouth Community School District Head Start ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION STATEMENT:

To create a foundation for success through creative, interactive, and intentional experiences that build positive relationships, develop independent problem solvers, and foster each child's learning potential while displaying empathy, tolerance, and appreciation of differences.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The Plattsmouth Community School District Head Start program has been actively involved in delivering developmental and comprehensive services to children and families for over 40 years. The comprehensive services include Health, Nutrition, Family Engagement, Early Childhood Development, Transition, School Readiness, and Disabilities Services.



The grantee for the Head Start program that operates in Cass County is the Plattsmouth Community School District (PCSD). The PCSD Board of Education serves as the governing body for the Head Start program and the Head Start Policy Council also provides governance, leadership, and guidance for the program.

PCSD Head Start is funded to serve 100 children and operates 7 classrooms. One classroom is located at Conestoga Elementary School in Murray and six classrooms are located in Plattsmouth at the Plattsmouth Early Childhood Center (PECC). The classroom in Murray operates full days for four days a week from the end of August to the end of May. The classrooms at PECC operate full days for five days a week from the end of August to the end of May. In September of 2015, PCSD Head Start started an Early Head Start home based program which is funded to serve 10 children/families in Cass County.

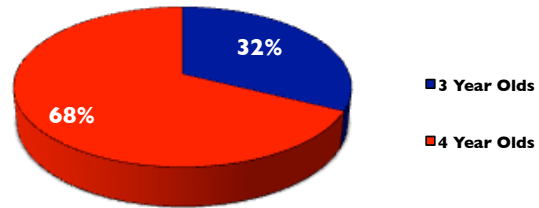
The 2020-2021 Head Start Annual Report was approved by the Plattsmouth Community School District Board of Education on 2/14/2022 and the Head Start Policy Council on 2/28/2022.



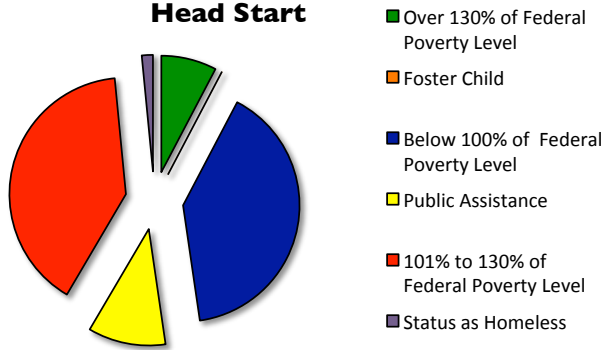
Head Start

PCSD Head Start was funded for 100 slots during the 2020-2021 program year. The program cumulatively served 65 children throughout the program year. The number was lower than usual due to COVID-19 restrictions. The chart to the right shows the cumulative percentage of 3 year old and 4 year old children enrolled in the Head Start program (age as of July 31st).

Age of Children Enrolled in Head Start



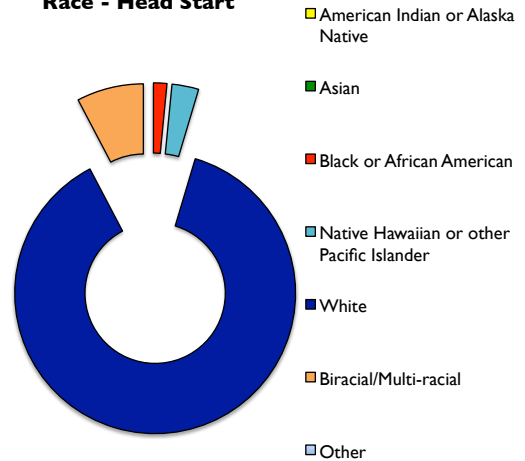
Primary Type of Eligibility Head Start



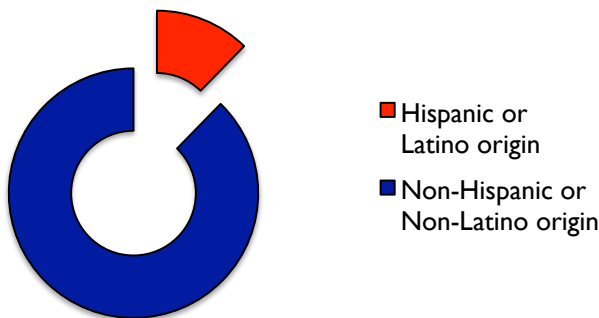
Children are eligible to enroll in Head Start due to the following factors: below 100% of the federal poverty level, homelessness, enrolled as a foster child, or child or family are eligible for federal assistance. The program is also able to accept up to 35% of enrollment as children whose families are between 101% and 130% of the federal poverty level and up to 10% of enrollment as children whose families are over 131% of the federal poverty level. The chart to the left shows the enrollment by primary type of eligibility.

Of the 65 participants (cumulative) in the PCSD Head Start program during the 2020-2021 program year, 8 (12%) were of Hispanic or Latino origin and 57 (88%) identified themselves as being of Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino origin. In regards to race, 57 of the participants identified themselves as White. Five participants identified themselves as Biracial/Multi-racial, one as Black/African American, and two as Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. There were not any participants who identified themselves as Unspecified or Other, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Asian.

Race - Head Start

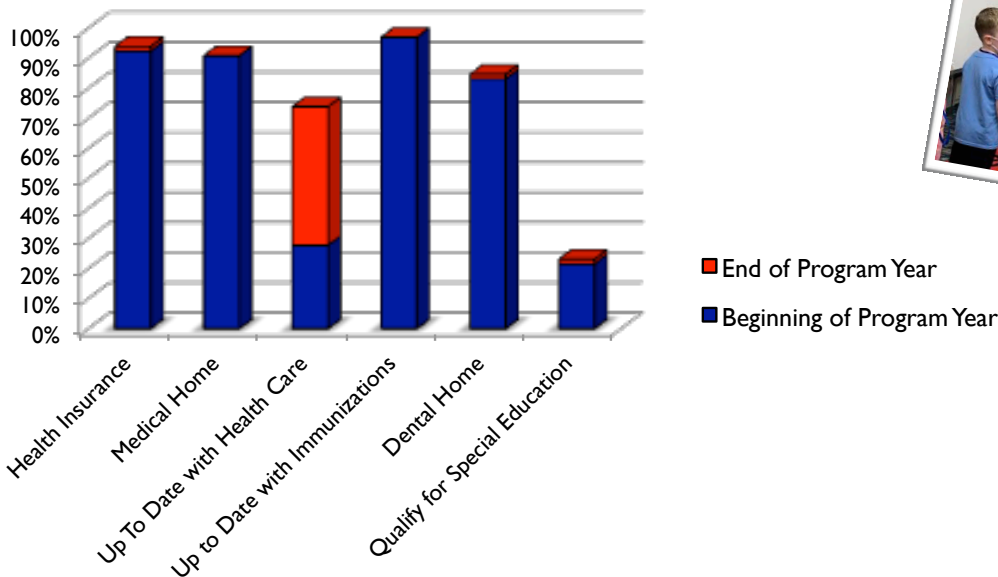


Ethnicity - Head Start



The PCSD Head Start program was funded for 100 children and served an average monthly enrollment of 55.6 children (55.6% of funded enrollment) during the 2020-2021 program year. The program served a cumulative enrollment of 65 children. The percentage of children that received various services during the 2020-2021 program year is listed in the graph and table below:

Percentage of Children at Beginning of Program Year and End of Program Year



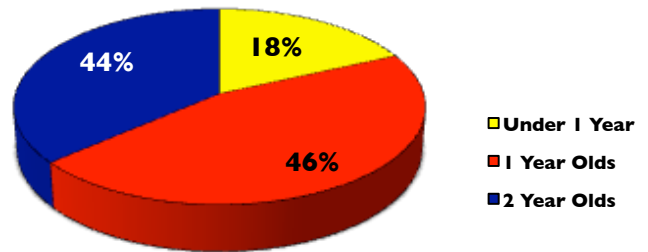
Percentage of Children in Head Start at Beginning and End of Program Year that had the Listed Services in Place

	Beginning of Program Year	End of Program Year
Health Insurance	92%	94%
Medical Home	91%	91%
Up To Date with Health Care	28%	74%
Up to Date with Immunizations	97%	97%
Dental Home	83%	85%
Qualify for Special Education	22%	23%

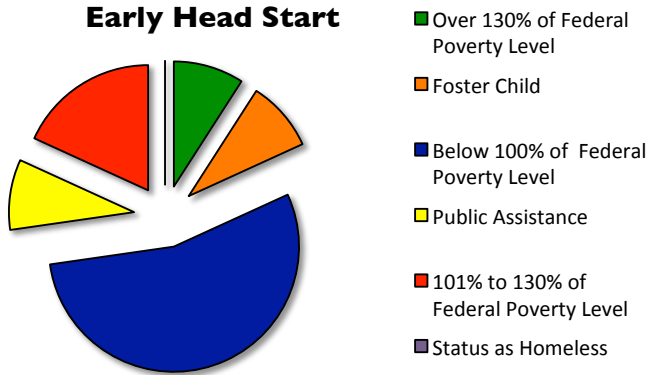
Early Head Start

Early Head Start was funded for 10 slots during the 2020-2021 program year. As of the end of May 2021, the program was serving 10 children. The chart to the right shows the percentage of under 1 year old, 1 year old, and 2 year old children enrolled in the Early Head Start program (age as of July 31st).

Age of Children Enrolled in Early Head Start



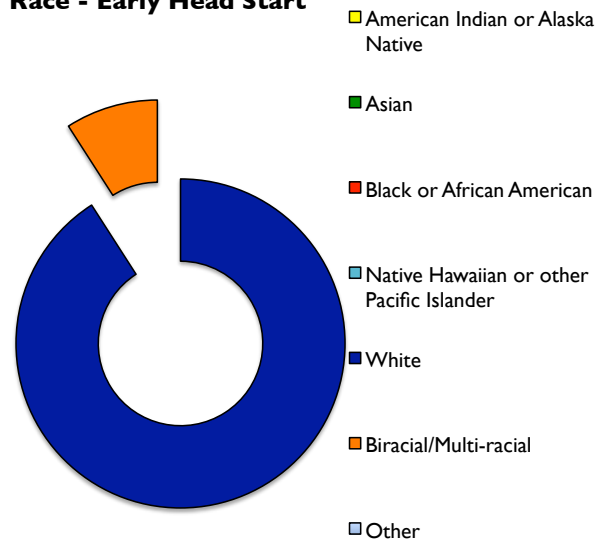
Primary Type of Eligibility Early Head Start



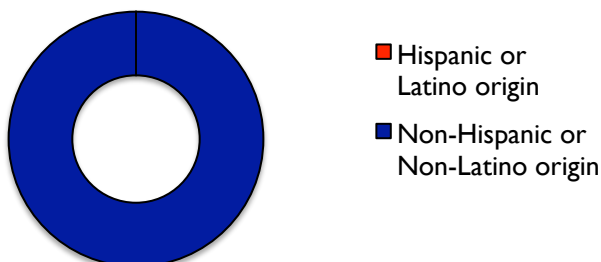
Infants, toddlers, and pregnant women are eligible to enroll in Early Head Start due to the following factors: below 100% of the federal poverty level, homelessness, enrolled as a foster child, or child or family are eligible for federal assistance. The program is also able to accept up to 35% of enrollment as children whose families are between 101% and 130% of the federal poverty level and up to 10% of enrollment as children whose families are over 131% of the federal poverty level. The chart to the left shows the enrollment by primary type of eligibility.

Of the 11 participants (cumulative) in the PCSD Early Head Start program during the 2020-2021 program year, all identified themselves as being of Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino origin. In regards to race, ten of the participants identified themselves as White and one participant identified as Biracial/Multi-racial. There were not any participants who identified themselves as American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, or Other.

Race - Early Head Start

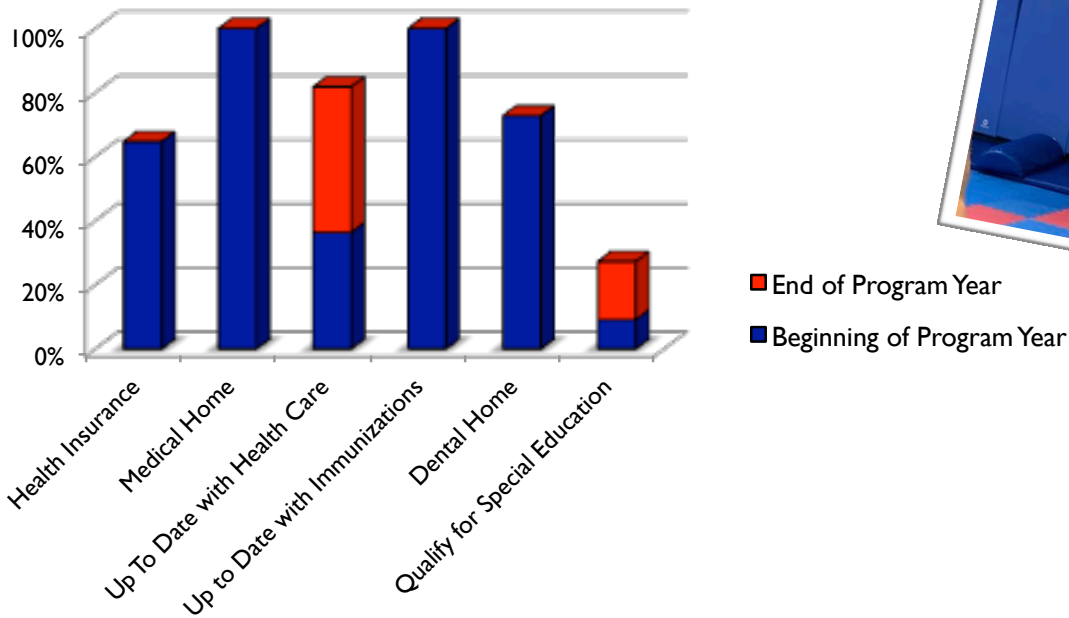


Ethnicity - Early Head Start



The PCSD Early Head Start program was funded for 10 infants/toddlers or pregnant women and served an average monthly enrollment of 10 (100% of funded enrollment) during the 2020-2021 program year. The program served a cumulative enrollment of 11 infants/toddlers or pregnant women during the program year. The percentage of participants that received various services during the 2020-2021 program year is listed in the graph and table below:

Percentage of Children at Beginning of Program Year and End of Program Year

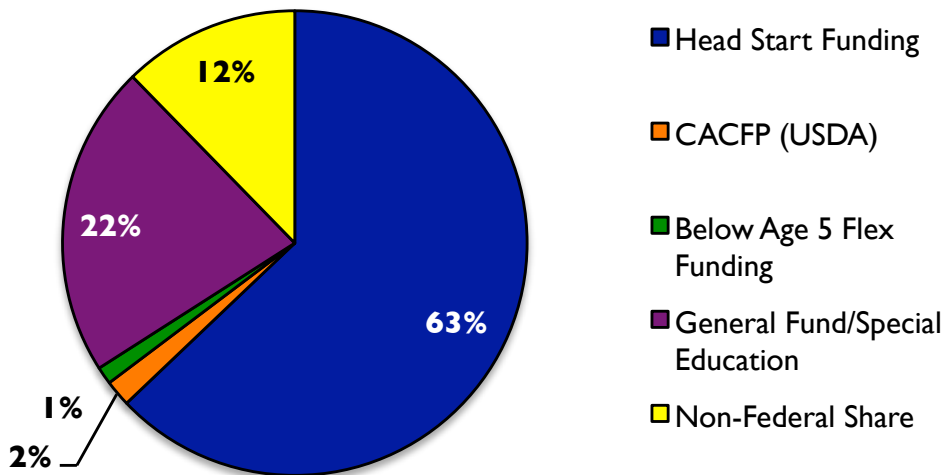


Percentage of Children in Early Head Start at Beginning and End of Program Year that had the Listed Services in Place

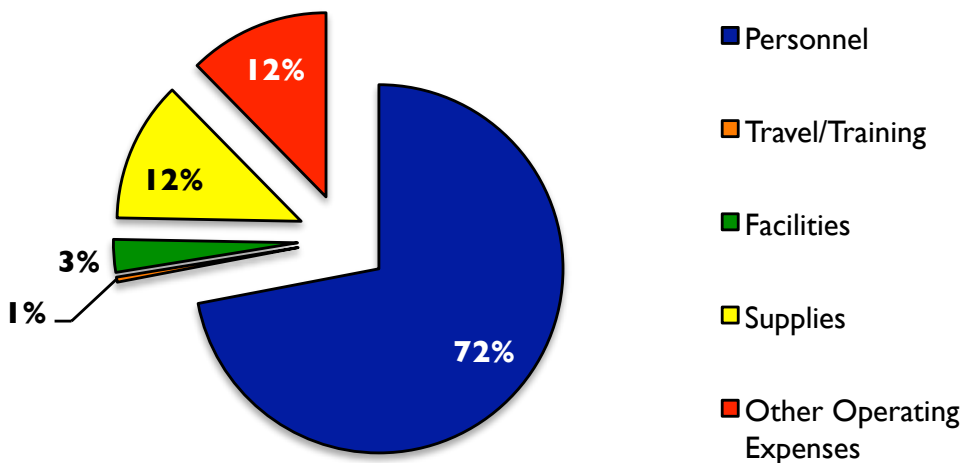
	Beginning of Program Year	End of Program Year
Health Insurance	65%	65%
Medical Home	100%	100%
Up To Date with Health Care	36%	82%
Up to Date with Immunizations	100%	100%
Dental Home	73%	73%
Qualify for Special Education	9%	27%

Program Financials

The total amount of public and private funds received for the 2020-2021 program year was \$1,946,396. The chart below outlines the percentage of funds received from each source.



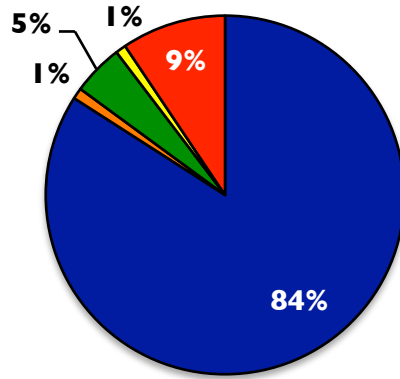
The chart below outlines the percentage of funds expended in each budget category for the 2020-2021 program year.



Proposed Annual Budget for September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022

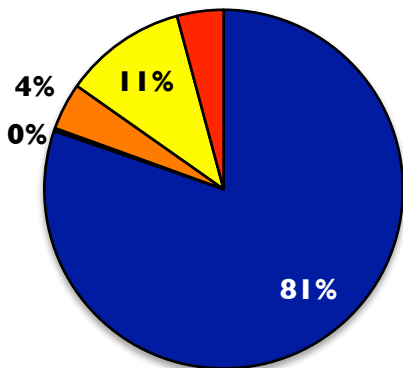


Head Start



- Personnel
- Travel/Training
- Facilities
- Supplies
- Other Operating Expenses

Early Head Start



- Personnel
- Travel/Training
- Facilities
- Supplies
- Other Operating Expenses



2020-2021 Parent Involvement

Parent/family involvement is an important part of the PCSD Head Start program. Staff members worked with 65 (cumulative) enrolled families in Head Start and 11 (cumulative) enrolled families in Early Head Start to promote their involvement through the methods listed below. Many events were held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Two home visits by the classroom teacher
- Two parent/teacher conferences at the classroom center
- Monthly Policy Council meetings
- Monthly Parent Committee meetings
- Becoming a Blue Bird Welcome Event
- Parent orientation
- Self-Assessment
- Monthly Parent and Child Together (PACT) activities
- Community Outings
- Parent survey
- Parent Networking
- Birth to Three Play'N'Learns (socializations)
- Classroom volunteer opportunities



2020-2021 School Readiness

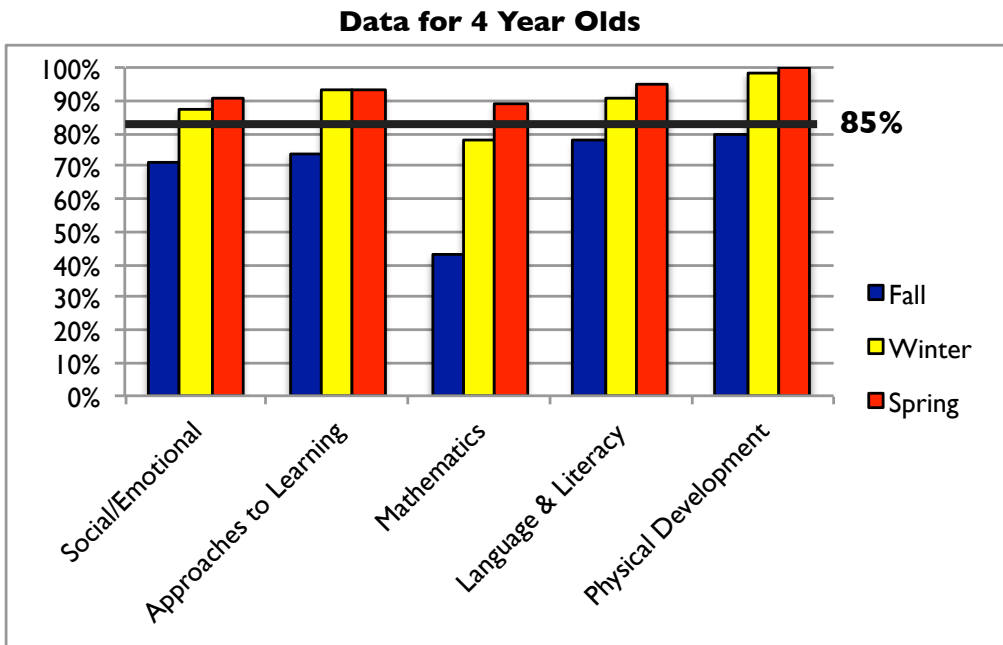
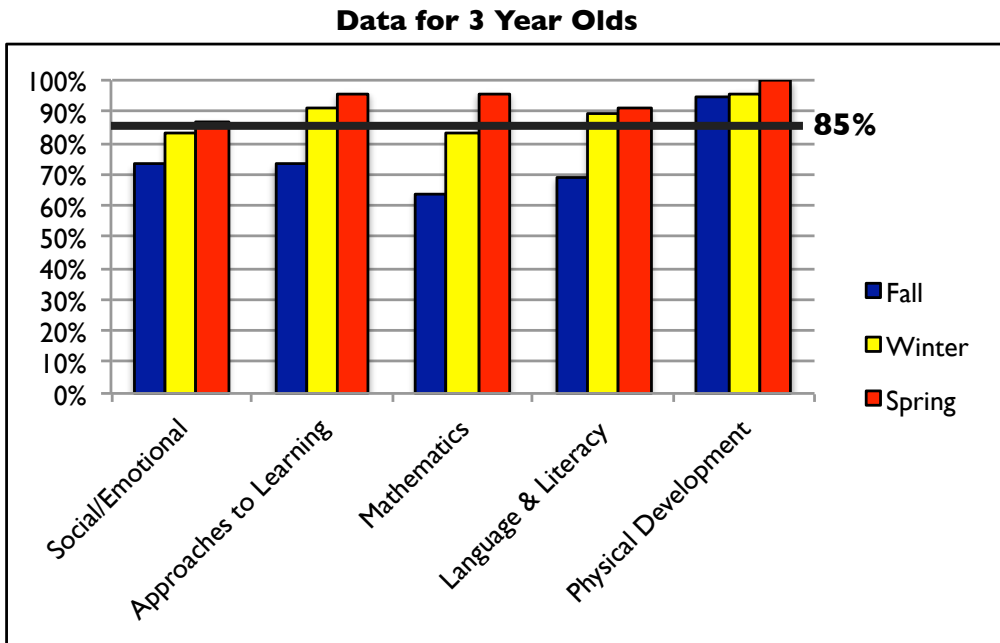
One of the primary goals of the PCSD Head Start program is to prepare children for success in kindergarten. To assist with that effort, the program has set the following school readiness goals that are in alignment with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HSELOF) and the Nebraska's Birth to Five Learning and Development Standards:

- **Social/Emotional Development**
 - Students will demonstrate improved healthy relationships by increasing their GOLD* social/emotional domain score by the spring checkpoint.
- **Cognitive and General Knowledge**
 - Students will demonstrate an improved knowledge of number concepts and operations by increasing their GOLD* mathematics domain score by the spring checkpoint. Not applicable for infants, ages birth to one year.
- **Language and Literacy Development**
 - Students will demonstrate increased knowledge of phonological awareness by increasing their GOLD* language domain and literacy domain scores by the spring checkpoint. Not applicable for infants, ages birth to one year.
- **Approaches to Learning**
 - Students will demonstrate positive approaches to learning by increasing their GOLD* cognitive domain score by the spring checkpoint.
- **Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development**
 - Students will demonstrate improved physical development by increasing their GOLD* physical (fine and gross motor) domain score by the spring checkpoint.

* Refers to *Teaching Strategies GOLD*, an authentic, observational assessment system that is completed 3 times a year (fall, winter, and spring) to gather data on all areas of a child's development

2020-2021 School Readiness - Head Start

The charts below show the data collected through the *Teaching Strategies GOLD* assessment during the fall, winter, and spring checkpoints for 3 year old and 4 year old children enrolled in PCSD Head Start during the 2020-2021 school year. The program goal is 85% of children to be within Widely Held Expectations on the *Teaching Strategies GOLD* assessment by the Spring checkpoint.



2020-2021 School Readiness - Early Head Start

The chart below shows the data collected through the *Teaching Strategies GOLD* assessment during the fall and winter checkpoints for children enrolled in PCSD Early Head Start during the 2020-2021 school year. The percentages listed in the chart indicate the percentages of children in each age category within or above Widely Held Expectations on the *Teaching Strategies GOLD* assessment for each of the listed domains.

	Social & Emotional Development				Cognitive & General Knowledge				Language & Literacy Development			
	Social/Emotional Domain - GOLD				Mathematics Domain - GOLD				Language Domain & Literacy Domain - GOLD			
	Birth to 1 Yr	1 to 2 Yrs	2 to 3 Yrs	3 Yrs	Birth to 1 Yr	1 to 2 Yrs	2 to 3 Yrs	3 Yrs	Birth to 1 Yr	1 to 2 Yrs	2 to 3 Yrs	3 Yrs
Fall	N/A	100%	100%	N/A	N/A	100%	70%	N/A	N/A	100%	65%	N/A
Winter	100%	100%	100%	N/A	100%	100%	100%	N/A	83%	67%	83%	N/A
Spring	100%	100%	100%	N/A	100%	100%	100%	N/A	100%	100%	88%	N/A
	Approaches to Learning				Physical Development & Health							
	Cognitive Domain - GOLD				Physical Domain - GOLD							
	Birth to 1 Yr	1 to 2 Yrs	2 to 3 Yrs	3 Yrs	Birth to 1 Yr	1 to 2 Yrs	2 to 3 Yrs	3 Yrs				
Fall	N/A	100%	100%	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	N/A				
Winter	100%	100%	100%	N/A	100%	100%	100%	N/A				
Spring	100%	100%	100%	N/A	100%	100%	100%	N/A				

The Office of Head Start (OHS) uses the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) Pre-K Teacher-Child Observation Instrument during its on-site reviews of grantees. CLASS® is organized into three domains: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. In 2020, 78 Head Start grantees received CLASS® reviews and the mean (average) score for each CLASS® domain is represented in the chart below. The chart also shows information related to the seven PCSD Head Start classrooms during a CLASS® monitoring review conducted in April of 2016 and CLASS® scores from a staff review completed in the spring of 2021. The Office of Head Start (OHS) announced quality thresholds which represent OHS's expectation for all grantees regarding the quality of classroom learning environments as well as competitive thresholds for all three of the CLASS® domains.

	Emotional Support	Classroom Organization	Instructional Support
PCSD Head Start Classrooms - Spring, 2021	6.24	5.71	3.15
PCSD Head Start Classrooms - Spring, 2016 Federal Review	6.43	6.29	3.24
2020 National Grantee-Level Mean Scores	6.03	5.78	2.94
CLASS Quality Thresholds	6.0	6.0	3.0
CLASS Thresholds for Re-Competition	5.0	5.0	2.3

PCSD Head Start Community Assessment

A comprehensive community assessment was completed for PCSD Head Start in September of 2018. Policy Council and Board of Education members review the community assessment annually to reflect any significant changes including increased availability of publicly funded pre-kindergarten, rates of family and child homelessness, and significant shifts in community demographics and resources.

Community Assessment Summary:

Selected Statistics	Cass County	State Average
Households with Children Enrolled in SNAP Benefits (2017)		
	9.0%	15.2%
Children Under 6 in Poverty (2017)		
	9.6%	18.4%
Children in Low-Income Families (2017)		N/A
Births with Inadequate Care (2018)		
	13.3%	15.0%
Children Without Health Insurance (2018)		
	4.3%	5.2%
Children Enrolled in Public Health Insurance (2018)		
	16.5%	28.7%
Child Food Insecurity (2019)		
	9.5%	17.4%
Rate of Child Welfare System Involvement (2018)	8.5 per 1000	7.1 per 1000
Rate of Children in Out-Of-Home Care (2018)	7.3 per 1000	N/A
Children Enrolled in Free- or Reduced-Price School Meals (2017-2018)		
	30.9%	44.8%
3 and 4 Year Olds Enrolled in School (2017)		
	56.2%	N/A
Poverty Ages 0-17 (2018)		
	9.4%	12.9%

County Population (2019 Estimates):

Age Group	Cass Count
0 to 5 Years	1,549
6 to 19 Years	6,325

2020-2021 Program Audit

Frankel Zacharia, LLC completed the audit for program year September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021. The audit was conducted in accordance with the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). The audit results indicated that the District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to in the standards mentioned above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended August 31, 2021. The auditors did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that are considered to be material weaknesses. There were no audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR, §200.516(a).

The auditors reported that a key component of internal control over financial reporting is segregation of duties and due to the size of the District there is limited segregation of duties over bookkeeping, billing and accounting functions. The same individual routinely reconciles the bank statements, makes journal entries, and manages the general ledger functions. The District has determined that it is not cost beneficial to hire staff and utilizes the Superintendent and the Board of Education (BOE) to review and approve all expenditures to assist with segregation of duties. The BOE was informed of the audit findings at a regularly scheduled BOE meeting. Policy Council was informed on the audit findings at the regularly scheduled meeting on February 14, 2022.

2020-2021 Monitoring Information

From October 7, 2019 to October 10, 2019, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted a Focus Area One (FAI) monitoring review of the Plattsmouth Community School District Head Start & Early Head Start program. The FAI review allows the Office of Head Start to understand how programs are progressing in providing services in the 5-year grant cycle.

The final report was received on December 16, 2019 and there were no Opportunities for Continuous Improvement, Areas of Concern, Areas of Noncompliance, or Deficiencies were identified.