



GOVERNOR MIFFLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

EDUCATING, INSPIRING, & EMPOWERING
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

LISA TEMPLIN HESS, ED.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

MARY E. LIBBY, ED.D.
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

BRIAN COTE
PRINCIPAL CUMRU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Guardians:

At Governor Mifflin School District our 2023-2024 school year is coming to a close, but we're already thinking about our 2024-2025 school year! As a district, we are proud to offer Pre-K Counts, a program made possible through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. What does this mean? ***It means that we offer free, high-quality, full-day pre-kindergarten programs to qualifying children in our community!***



So... why Pre-K Counts?

Great question! A common misconception about pre-K is that it's simply childcare but, in reality, it is so much more. A quality pre-K education allows children to develop...

- Beginning reading & math skills
- Strong listening skills
- Greater attention span
- Better interpersonal skills
- Passion for learning

In short, high-quality pre-K programs like ours help children stay ahead of the curve and increase their chances of excelling not just in school, but long after graduation!

What can you expect from our classrooms?

Our Pre-K Counts rooms are led by certified teachers with experience working with young children and a goal in mind of helping children to grow not just academically, but also socially. Our teachers regularly review each child's progress and choose activities and instruction that help each child meet those goals. Thanks to our small, 20-student class sizes, children have plenty of one-on-one time with their teachers to ensure they are on track!



What is expected of you as a parent?

As a parent of a potential applicant, we expect your dedication to ensuring a quality education for your child and your child's regular attendance. Our Pre-K Program follows an August through June calendar. Children should arrive to school between 9:00-9:15 AM and should be picked up from school between 2:30-2:45 PM. Please note that district transportation is not provided to our Pre-K students.

Who is eligible for PA Pre-K Counts?

PA Pre-K Counts is a FREE program designed for children who are:

- 4 years old and have not yet entered kindergarten
- Fall below 300% of the federal poverty level – please see page 4 of the enclosed application for full eligibility guidelines.

Verification of income will be required. A copy of your 2023 1040 tax form must be submitted with your application



How are children selected?

This program **does not accept students on a first-come, first-served basis**; students are chosen to participate based on household income and other risk factors. Applications are ranked based on the level of need. We will place 60 four-year-old students in the program; any remaining applicants will be placed on a waitlist and contacted if a space becomes available.

Please note that all applicants must be 4 years old by December 1, 2024, to be considered for the program.



How do I apply?

We've included an application for our 2024-2025 school year in this envelope. However, additional copies are available on our website at www.gmsd.org/prek. You may also contact Kristen Gerhard, Pre-K Coordinator, at 610-775-5081 or Kristen.gerhard@gmsd.org to request a hard copy to be mailed to your address.

Cumru Elementary will also be hosting Pre-K Application Days! Application Days will occur on Tuesday, April 9, and Tuesday, May 7, from 4:30-6:30 PM. Applicants should bring their completed application, all items listed on the attached checklist, and their child. **Applications may NOT be processed if all items and your child is not present for the appointment.** Please select your preferred date at bit.ly/PreKAppDays.

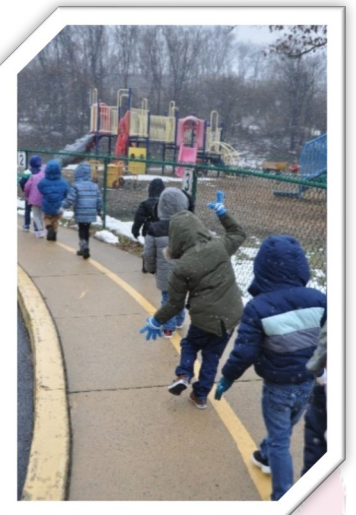
All families who submit a completed application will receive a book bundle!

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kristen Gerhard, Pre-K Coordinator, at 610-775-5081, extension 5109, or Kristen.gerhard@gmsd.org.

Sincerely,

Kristen Gerhard

Pre-K Coordinator
Governor Mifflin School District





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Dear Parent or Guardian,

Thank you for applying to Pre-K Counts at Cumru Elementary. As a friendly reminder, **applications will not be considered complete without the items listed below**. Before submitting your application, please use this checklist to verify that you have included all necessary documents with your application:

- 2024-2025 Pre-K Counts Enrollment Form
- Copy of 2023 Income Tax Form
- Birth Certificate
- Private Dental Form
- Private Physical Exam Form
- Proof of health insurance for student
- Proof of Immunization
 - All
 - DPT (**after 4th birthday**)
 - IPV
 - Varivax or Date of chickenpox disease: _____
 - MMR # _____
 - Hepatitis B # _____
- Proof of Residency (**2 forms required**)
 - Driver's License or state ID
 - Mortgage or lease agreement
 - Electric bill
- IEP (if applicable for your child)

Please bring your completed application, copies of the documents listed above, and your child to your Pre-K Application Day. **To select your Pre-K Application Day, please visit bit.ly/PreKAppDays and complete the form.** If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Gerhard, Pre-K Coordinator, at Kristen.gerhard@gmsd.org or 610-775-5081. Thank you, we look forward to meeting you and your child!

2024-25 PA Pre-K Counts Enrollment Form

(This information is confidential to the PA Pre-K Counts program)

Date Form Completed: ____ / ____ / ____
MM DD YY

Last Name (Child)	First Name (Child)	Middle Initial
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Street Address	County	
City	State PA	Zip Code
School District of Residence		
Home Phone	Work Phone	Email Address

Child's Date of Birth	Age <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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Race (optional)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> White
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	
Ethnicity (optional)	Primary Language
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> English
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify)

Name of Parent or Guardian completing this application	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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Relationship to Child	(Select)
<input type="checkbox"/> Father	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster
<input type="checkbox"/> Guardian	<input type="checkbox"/> Adoptive
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify)

Role	
<input type="checkbox"/> Primary Guardian	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Guardian
<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Guardian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify)

List Household Members below for determination of family size (required):		
	Relationship to Child	Age
1	ENROLLING CHILD	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

- Per PKC Statute, Regulations, and Guidance, the following members of the household are included in family size:
- Parent of the child (biological or adoptive mother or father, stepmother or stepfather, caretaker or spouse)
 - A biological, adoptive, unrelated or foster child or stepchild of the parent or caretaker who is under 18 years of age and not emancipated.
 - A child who is 18 years of age or older but under 22 years of age who is enrolled in high school, a general educational development program, or a post-secondary program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate and who is wholly or partially dependent on the income of the parent or caretaker or spouse of the parent or caretaker.
 - Others supported by the income of the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child enrolling or participating in the program. ***If counted toward family size, any applicable income of these persons must also be counted for eligibility purposes.***

Note: A family size value of one (1) with an income of \$0 is entered when a foster child is applying for Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts.

DETERMINED FAMILY SIZE =

Employment Status of parent/guardian	Employment Status of 2 nd parent/guardian (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Employed Full-Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Employed Full-Time
<input type="checkbox"/> Employed Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Employed Part-Time
<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Household Income Sources (Must check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment Compensation	<input type="checkbox"/> Worker's Compensation	<input type="checkbox"/> TANF Cash payments
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Security	<input type="checkbox"/> SSI	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Alimony	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Other Child Eligibility Risk Factor Criterion (Must check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Behavioral Supports: A child who was referred to PA Pre-K Counts from an appropriately credentialed health or mental health practitioner who is not employed by the PA Pre-K Counts program; a child who is receiving mental health treatment. Additional verification beyond the interview is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Child Protective Services: A child who is a foster child, a kinship care child or receiving Children and Youth services.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level of Guardian: Does not have high school diploma or GED or post-secondary degree.
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Language Learner: A child whose first language is not English and who is in the process of learning English is considered an English Language Learner.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individualized Education Plan (IEP): A child who is currently enrolled in the Preschool Early Intervention program with an active IEP. Verification would be a copy of the IEP or other source of documentation from the parent or Early Intervention provider.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incarcerated Parent: A child for whom one of the child's parents is currently in prison.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Homeless: A child who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence due to one of the following: A. Children who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, or camping grounds due to lack of alternate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement; B. Children who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; C. Children who are living in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Migrant (Non-Immigrant)/Seasonal Student: A migrant child has moved from one school district to another in order to accompany or to join a migrant parent or guardian, who is a migratory worker or migratory fisher, within the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain temporary or seasonal employment in qualifying agricultural or fishing work including agri-related businesses such as meat or vegetable processing, working in nurseries such as Christmas and evergreen trees farming.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Teen Mother: A child whose mother was under the age of 18 when the child was born.

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application and the associated income documentation is accurate. I understand that I may be asked to verify or substantiate information provided.

Parent/Guardian (Signature)

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (Print Name)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Income Verification

2024 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines Based On Annual Income

Family Size	100% (Head Start Eligible)	300% (Pre-K Counts Eligible)
1	\$15,060	\$45,180
2	\$20,440	\$61,320
3	\$25,820	\$77,460
4	\$31,200	\$93,600
5	\$36,580	\$109,740
6	\$41,960	\$125,880
7	\$47,340	\$142,020
8	\$52,720	\$158,160
Each Additional	+\$5,380	+\$16,140 for each additional family member

Actual Annual Verified Gross Household (Family) Income: \$ _____

*Attach copies of documents used to verify income prior to enrollment

Family Size (per PKC guidelines): _____

Family income is at or below 300% of federal poverty level relative to family size (required risk factor). Consider all sources of income. Must be verified prior to enrollment.

Staff Verifying Income and Risk Factors Signature

Date

For Head Start Eligible families (100% of FPL or below)

Check if not applicable

I have been informed of my child's eligibility for Head Start and given the following:

- Contact information for the following Head Start location _____
- Application and/or assistance with referral
- Brochure or website with information about Head Start

My signature below indicates that I have been informed about my options but may still choose to enroll in the Pre-K Counts program.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Staff Signature

Date

STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS:

Married Divorced Separated Other _____

In a divorce/separation situation, is there a custody order available? Yes* No

*If yes, a copy of the most recent Court Order must be given to the school office.

In a divorce/separation situation, guardianship is granted to _____

In a divorce/separation, who should receive paperwork? _____

Child Custody Information

If child custody arrangements are part of your family structure, you need to be aware of our policies in the area:

- Copies of current custody order must be on file at Governor Mifflin School District.
- In the absence of a custody order, the school assumes shared custody, which allows both parents to be involved in their child's education.
- Both parents, regardless of custody arrangements, have access to their child's records unless an order specifically prohibits access.
- The parent of record is the parent with whom the child resides.
- The parent of record must live in the Governor Mifflin School District.
- Enforcement of Custody Orders is a police responsibility, not one for the school.

Note: Only a legal parent/guardian signature will be accepted.

I certify that the information is accurate and that, if it applies, I understand the child custody policy.

Parent Signature

Date