



Deer Valley Unified School District

To: James Veitenheimer

From: Dr. Gayle Galligan

Date: September 24, 2015

Re: Building Capacity and Usage Committee- DVUSD Early Childhood Center Proposal

Early Childhood Leadership: Barbara Ervin-Comm. Ed. Director, Janet Zeek-Early Childhood Manager

Objective: District Leadership has indicated a desire to expand programs for early childhood parents in our district.

Goals:

1. Revenue for the district (If placed in a “high demand” area)
2. Provide additional classroom space for Developmental Preschool
3. Service for underserved students (That do not qualify for Head Start or DES)
4. Provide least restrictive environment for students with special needs
5. Expand services (to include 2 year olds with the potential for future expansion for birth-1 year olds)

Current Spacing Issues:

1. Lack of Developmental Preschool classroom space (no classrooms at LB, LS, SH, PH, WW, HL, SV)
2. Some Developmental Preschool programs are at capacity/or almost at capacity (ME, CC, DE, GB, PM, TE)
3. These issues cause wait lists for programs, and long bus rides for preschool students
4. Lack of space for Community Education Preschool and Developmental Preschool, causes programs to be bumped to new locations
5. Some Community Education Preschool programs are at capacity/or near capacity (11/15 fall into this category)
6. Every time a program moves, it causes additional licensing fees
7. Facilities aren’t always developmentally appropriate in size (bathrooms, playground equipment)
8. Some classrooms not equipped with bathrooms or sinks

Identified Early Childhood Centers throughout Arizona

1. Fowler Unified School District
2. Pendergast Elementary School District
3. Mesa Public Schools (2)
4. Higley Unified School District
5. Marana Unified School District
6. Sahuarita Unified School District
7. Sunnyside Unified School District
8. Glendale Community College
9. Yavapai - H'man'shawa Early Childhood Development Center
10. Casa Grande Elementary District
11. Cartwright School District
12. Roosevelt Elementary School District
13. Peoria Unified School District –exploring utilizing an underutilized school as an Early Childhood Center

Potential Financial Considerations

1. Dedicated Developmental Preschool Funds to set up classrooms – typical peer funds \$50,000
2. No additional M&O funds necessary for salaries for this transition
3. Dedicated Community Education Funds to start-up center \$100,000
4. Utilization of DVFRF funds & resources - \$25,000
5. After hour facility rental funds - \$50,000 annually
6. Modernization Funds-if available

Location:

The preferred location would be centrally located in the district. This would enable the district to keep the cost of transportation at a minimum. The ideal location would be easily accessible to parents, and to our high school CTE students. Anticipated space requirements would include 40-50 classrooms with accessibility to a cafeteria, gym/or multi-purpose room, media center, and ample office space.

1. Conveniently located in the district (near the 101 Loop)
2. Limited space at westside schools for Developmental Preschool classrooms
3. Accessibility to MR/SDO CTE ECH and travel from BC
4. DVFRF region
5. Community Education Early Childhood program expansion

Partnerships:

1. First Things First
2. Quality First
3. Early Head Start
4. CTE
5. Potential ASU West

Anticipated programs that will be at the Early Childhood Center-3 Year Plan:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
2 Year Old classroom (1) 8 kids	Maintain Year 1 programs	Maintain Year 1&2 programs
3 Year Old Gen Ed. classroom (2) 30 kids	6-10 additional classrooms-expansion	6 additional classrooms-expansion
Developmental Preschool classrooms (6) 180 kids am/pm	Developmental Preschool (3) 90 kids am/pm	Developmental Preschool (2) 60 kids am/pm
Head Start Classrooms (1) 20 kids	2yr old childcare for employees (1) 11 kids	2yr old childcare for employees (1) 11 kids
4 Year Old Gen Ed. Classroom (2) 40 kids Full day or double ½ day	Community Ed Classrooms (2-6) 30-90 kids	Community Ed Classrooms (2) 40 kids
Indoor Play Area (1)		Potential Infant childcare (1)-employees
Sensory Room/Library (1)		Potential Medical Clinic Partner
Child Find Screening (3)		Potential Food Bank
Art Studio (1)		
Music room (1)		
Indoor Dining area (1)		
Gymnasium (1)		
DVFR (2)		
Comm. Ed (1 classroom-8 work stations)		
Comm. Ed (1 classroom-5 offices)		
Head Start (1 classroom-3 work stations and reception area)		
Dev. Preschool (1 classroom-5 offices)		
Year 1 Classrooms total 29. Anticipated kids 278.	Year 2 Classrooms total 35-39. Anticipated kids 400	Year 3 Classrooms total 41-45. Year 3 total anticipated kids 520.

Program Types/Ages of Students/Number of Classrooms:

DVFC – serving birth through 5 years

Preschool Programs - Apply for Quality First participation for Developmental Preschool and Community Education Gen. Ed (so we can provide scholarships to families that can't afford preschool)

1st Year

2yr. old Gen. Ed class (1 classroom)

- Employ non-certified teacher for cost savings
- Loop teacher up with students to 3's program

3yr. old Gen. Ed class (2 classrooms)

- Employ one non-certified teacher and one certified teacher
- Create a co-teaching environment
- Loop non-certified teacher with the 2's program

3-5 yr. old Dev. Class (6 classrooms)

- Employ 6 certified teachers
- 12 Paraprofessionals

3-4 yr. old Head start (1 classroom)

- Employ 1 certified teacher
- Employ 1 assistant teacher
- Bus students if necessary at our expense

4yr. old Gen. Ed Class (2 classrooms)

- Employ one non-certified teacher and one certified teacher
- Use as least restricted environment for speech only students
- Loop non-certified teacher with the 3's Gen. Ed program

Specialty Rooms: In rank order of necessity

1. Indoor Playground Community/Water Play room – Sponsored by local businesses (Home Depot, Wet n Wild, etc. Having sponsors will offset the price of building this room).
2. Sensory Room/Library (classroom split in half)
3. Art Studio
4. Music Room
5. Indoor Dining area
6. Gymnasium

Modernization Needs Associated With Early Childhood Center

- Remodeling of classrooms to make them developmentally appropriate
- Playground equipment and surface choices
- Restrooms in all classrooms/or shared between 2 classrooms– (Jack and Jill style/sliding doors-diapering/potty training)
- Common Area restrooms-developmentally appropriate
- Furniture-chairs, tables (use as much as possible from current programs)

Office Space:

- Reception Area with 3 small work/privacy stations
- Developmental Preschool (5)
- Head Start (3) sound filtered work stations
- Community Ed (5)
- Community Ed (8) sound filtered work stations
- DVFRC (2 adjoining rooms – one office/adult classroom, one childcare/classroom)
- Evaluation Team (3 rooms)

Tuition Options:

- Possible Student Scholarships through Quality First for all preschool programs - \$135,000 annually (based on current funding)
- Tuition for Gen. Ed students & typical peers (consistent with other Com Ed programs)
 - Half Day Program \$255
 - Full Day Program \$540
 - Extended Mid-day
 - Optional Wrap Around Care
 - Morning Childcare 7:00-8:45
 - Afternoon Childcare 3:30-5:00
 - Both AM & PM Childcare 7:00-5:00
 - 7 am – 5 pm on Early Release Days
 - Closed for all district holidays
- Head Start Funded Program-5 Hour program (wrap around care available)
- Developmental Preschool Students half day funded-2 ½ hour program (wrap around care available)

Parenting Opportunities Offered Throughout the School Year:

- Enrichment Classes
- Parenting Classes-Free through DVFRC, birth-school age
- Mommy & Me classes-Toddler play

CTE Partnership:

- ECH students at high schools will research & design possible centers
- Advanced ECH students will teach students for their course
- Advanced ECH students may fulfill internship requirements at the ECH center
- Employment Opportunities for ECH students as childcare assistants
- Engineering students/Graphic Design students-build a model or possibly design indoor playground

DHS Staff to Student Ratio by Age:

- Infants: 1:5 or 2:11 (Year 2)
- 1 yr. 1:6 or 2:13 – Consider demand/cost – possible expansion beyond 3rd year
- 2 yr. 1:8 – Offer half or full day program year one. Include 2, 3, or 5-day option for this age group. Consider the lower ratio vs. cost prior to opening and or expanding in year two.
- 3 yr. 1:13
- 4 yr. 1:15

Curriculum & Assessment:

- Currently Creative Curriculum & Teaching Strategies Gold

Staffing:

- **Certified**
 - Certified teacher for Gen. Ed classroom (Continuum of services-we don't currently have this Level of Service) Shared cost between Community Ed and Developmental Preschool
- **Classified**
 - Leads - 2 year old program
 - Assistants – CDA's, ECH, Experience (Job fair with CTE students)
 - Paraprofessionals- Highly Qualified Dev. Preschool
- **College Interns**
 - GCC, ASU, PVCC, Rio Salado students
- **Paid CTE Interns**
 - Released/work after school 1-5 pm

Additional Steps:

- Determine timeline
- Determine size of the campuses (sq. ft.) and number of classrooms on each
- Determine sq. ft. needed for a brand new building/facility
- Determine licensing costs

Additional Collaborators on Draft Proposal:

- Jayme Fitzpatrick, CTE Manager
- Eva Harlow, Com Ed Program Supervisor
- Roberta Paul, Com Ed Operations Program Supervisor



Indoor Play Community/Climbing Structure



Indoor Water Room



Typical ECH Classroom



Gymnasium



Library

Music Room

