



2022

2023

SOUTH SAN ANTONIO ISD

Head Start Program Annual Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Program Governance	2
Mission and Vision/Program Goals	3
Head Start Program Locations	4
Policy Council/Policy Council Members	5
Enrollment	6
Attendance	7
Demographics of Families Served	7
Primary Home Language	8
Family Services	8
Community Partnerships	9
Health Services	10
Health Screenings	11
Nutrition	11
Disabilities/Special Needs Services	12
Kindergarten Readiness	13
Education Services	14
Annual Financial Report	15

SSAISD Program Governance

Program Governance is a responsibility shared by families, district and campus governing bodies, and Head Start staff. All members' ideas, opinions, and concerns are heard and respected according to the bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order.

SSAISD School Board Members



Manuel Lopez
District 1
Board President



Ernesto Arrellano Jr
District 2 Trustee



Homer Flores Jr.
District 3 Trustee



Shirley Ibarra
District 4 Secretary



Abel Martinez Jr
District 5 Trustee



Cyndi Ramirez
District 6
Vice President



Joe Araiza
District 7 Trustee



Henry Yzaguirre
Superintendent

Program Overview

Mission

Since taking on the role as the Head Start Grantee in 2012, South San Antonio ISD has served over 3,500 children and families. Our primary objective in South San Antonio ISD is to provide young children with the necessary skills to thrive academically and in their future lives. To accomplish this, we offer a range of services that focus on early learning, health, and family well-being. We strongly emphasize the involvement of parents as active partners throughout the entire process.

Vision/Program Goals

The vision of the South San Antonio ISD (SSAISD) Head Start Program is to ensure that today's children are fully prepared to thrive in a future world that is technologically advanced and focused on college and career readiness. Through our program, all participating children will be equipped with a solid foundation for school readiness, enabling them to enter kindergarten ready to learn and continue their journey as successful learners. Our commitment to this vision extends to every child and family we serve. To achieve this vision, the SSAISD Head Start program is dedicated to providing services of the highest quality. We continuously adapt and improve our offerings to meet the specific needs of the children and families under our care. Furthermore, we aim to integrate the Head Start program seamlessly into a comprehensive system of community services focused on young children in the South San Antonio ISD area. In all that we do, we prioritize the value and importance of families and children, recognizing their central role in our mission.



Head Start Program Locations 2022-2023

Armstrong Elementary	7111 Apple Valley Drive San Antonio, TX 78242
Athens Elementary	2707 West Gerald Ave San Antonio, TX 78211
Benavidez Elementary	8340 I 35 Access Rd San Antonio, TX 78224
Carrillo Elementary	500 Price Ave San Antonio, TX 78211
Five Palms Elementary	7138 Five Palm Drive San Antonio, TX 78242
Hutchins Elementary	1919 West Hutchins Place San Antonio, TX 78224
Kindred Elementary	7811 Kindred St San Antonio, TX 78224
Madla Elementary	6100 Royal Gate Drive San Antonio, TX 78242
Palo Alto Elementary	1725 Palo Alto Rd San Antonio, TX 78211
Price Elementary	245 Price Ave San Antonio, TX 78211

Policy Council

The SSAISD Head Start Policy Council, consists of a robust and highly valued advocacy representative from each campus. The purpose of the Policy Council (PC) is to provide a formal means for parents to be involved in the SSAISD Head Start program planning and decision-making processes. Each parent representative shares campus goals and highlights in a "magic minute" to share what is happening with their campus Head Start program. Parents also have an opportunity to speak with the Head Start department staff to ask questions and/or ask for any clarification as needed.

Policy Council Members

Representative	Campus Representing
Samantha Vandenburg	Armstrong
Abbygale Barrientos	Armstrong Alternate
Theresa Zapata	Benavidez
Aaron Vincent	Benavidez Alternate
Diana Cazares-Vasquez	Carrillo
Sunocean Daniels	Five Palms
Dinorah Daniela Diaz	Hutchins
Samantha Webb	Hutchins Alternate
Priscilla Garcia	Madla
Crystal Garza	Palo Alto
Jaquelin Delgado	Palo Alto Alternate
Heather Garza	Price
Irene Barrientos	Price Alternate
Tahira Mahmood	Community Member

Enrollment

The Federal Poverty Guidelines determine income eligibility for the SSAISD Head Start Programs. The SSAISD Head Start Program's enrollment of 288 is reflected in the table below and is identified as funded enrollment and cumulative enrollment. Cumulative enrollment includes all enrollees who received services during the program year. Due to turnover, more children may have received services than indicated by the funded enrollment numbers.

Head Start Enrollment	2022-2023
Funded	288
Cumulative Children	330
Families	312



Attendance

Attendance	2022-2023	School Year
Month	2022	2023
August	96%	
September	89%	
October	89%	
November	87%	
December	89%	
January		90%
February		91%
March		90%
April		93%
May		74%

Demographics of Families Served



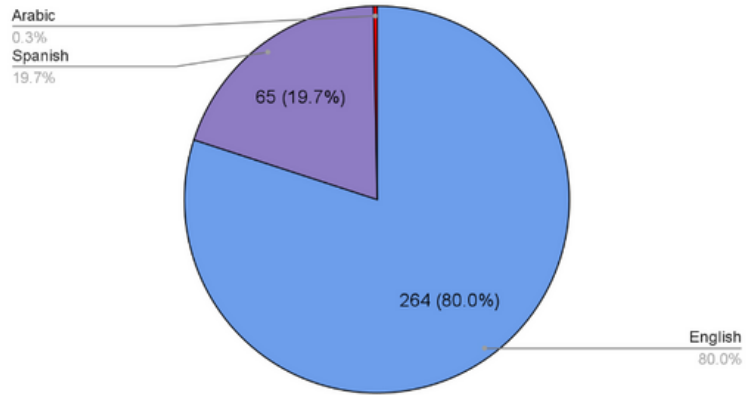
During the program year 2022-2023, SSAISD Head Start had families from diverse backgrounds. From the 330 families that were served, 309 classified themselves as white, 8 as black, 6 as biracial/multi-racial, and 1 as American Indian/Alaskan Native, 1 as Asian, and 5 as other.

Race

Asian	1
Black	8
White	309
Biracial/Multi-Racial	6
American Indian/Alaskan /Native	1
Other	5

Primary Home Language

Primary Languages



Family Services

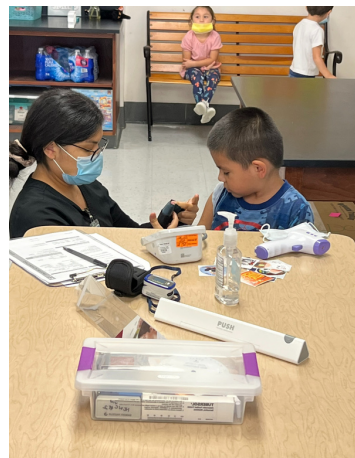
Parents are a critical part of their child's educational achievement. SSAISD Head Start program believes that parents are their student's first teachers. They have the ability to empower our children and mold their young minds to be successful and productive citizens within our society. To help reinforce and support our families, we conduct family assessments at the beginning of every year to help assess their needs. We also help them establish family goals that are focused on strengthening the family and improving school achievement for the student. Our parent involvement activities are supported by the Family Facilitators are located at every campus. The activities give parents an opportunity to work/learn with their children in a positive, engaging, and safe environment. Activities include but are not limited to parenting classes utilizing the Triple P (Positive Parenting Program curriculum), fatherhood initiative events, financial literacy classes, art projects, classroom volunteer opportunities, and Conscious Discipline Behavior strategies that connect to our PBIS/MTSS district-wide.



Community Partnership

The Vision of the SSAISD Community Partnerships initiative is to support significant improvements in educational and developmental outcomes for our students by providing access to great schools in supported and supportive communities. Agencies that partner with SSAISD support children and their families in order to support the whole child (academically, physically, and financially). The following is a list of vendors that partner with SSAISD:

- Brident Dental & Orthodontics
- University of the Incarnate Word Nursing Cardinal Wellness Center
- Family Services
- DYS Group LLC, a subsidiary of Diversified Youth Services (Baby Paws)
- Catholic Charities
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
- Assistance League of San Antonio
- Empower House
- San Antonio Food Bank
- Care Zone
- Children's Bereavement Center
- ESC 20
- Center for Health Care Services - Bexar Cares



Health Services

Comprehensive health care services are coordinated for every Head Start student in order to identify and address any health, nutrition, dental, and mental health concerns. Our Head Start Health team works closely with staff from every campus to address any identified concerns and to support families in developing a healthy lifestyle. SSAISD Head Start promotes children to be school-ready by providing healthy snacks, family nutrition classes, dental screenings, mental health discussions, and resources. Physical health screenings are offered to all our students throughout the school year. Support for parents ranges from nutrition and physical activity and connecting them with social services that are provided through community partnerships. SSAISD ensures that parents are educated with resources and have access to quality health care when needed.



To support our children and families on the importance of dental care, we have partnered with Brident Dental to provide educational programs to our students and families. Brident Dental conducts a yearly dental screening to identify any oral disease or other oral conditions that may require management and/or treatment by an oral health professional.

Dental Services	Student #'s
Completed Dental Screenings	329
Required Follow-Up Treatment	4
Received Follow-Up Treatment	0

Health Screenings

Conducting health screenings for students in school, including measurements such as height, weight, and blood pressure, as well as assessments of hearing and vision, is crucial for the well-being of our young learners. Undetected vision and hearing issues can significantly impact a child's academic performance and grades. Therefore, it is essential to identify these concerns as early as possible and provide appropriate support to ensure that all students are prepared and equipped to engage fully in their learning journey.

Health, Development & Social-Emotional Screenings	Student #s
Enrolled Head Start	288
Enrolled Pre-K	185
Total Enrollment	473

Nutrition

A child's nutrition is of the utmost importance in establishing healthy eating habits early on and can greatly benefit a child in both the short term and the future. Therefore, SSAISD Head Start partners with Texas A&M AgriLife to provide educational resources for parents and offer in-person programs that promote long-term health and wellness for Texans of all ages. This helps parents understand the importance of healthy habits for their families. Teaching children to eat nutritional and healthy foods prepares them for learning and helps them stay healthy for the rest of their lives.

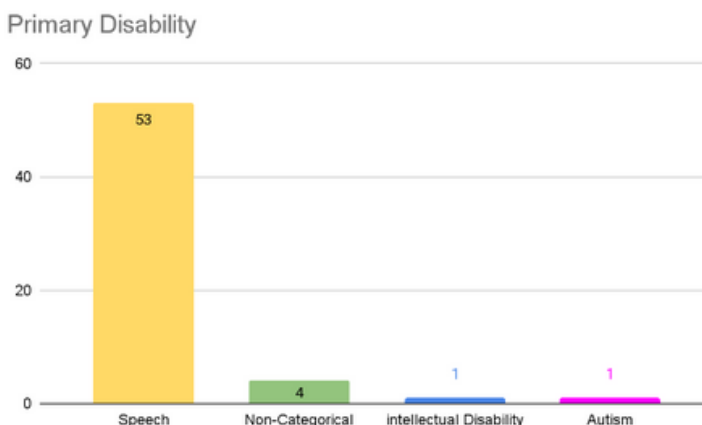


SSAISD also provides a healthy daily snack during the school day to keep students from overeating at their next meal or reaching for unhealthy food when hungry. This also helps students feel less cranky or have fewer mood swings by keeping their blood sugar levels stable.



Disabilities/Special Needs

The Head Start program works closely with the Head Start teachers and the SSAISD Special Education Department to help enroll IDEA-eligible students who may need interventions and/or strategies based on their individual unique needs. Screenings, evaluations, and referrals are made to determine if an individual education plan is needed. SSAISD Head Start program ended the 2022-2023 school year by providing services to 59 children with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). However, the process for evaluation for students has been considered a weakness for our district. The Special Education Department, along with other departments, is reviewing and restructuring the current RTI/MTSS process to make the evaluation timeline process more effective. The SSAISD teams/departments are being restructured, which has led to staffing challenges, delaying the process, and low student support. In 2022-2023, there were a total of 8 referrals made, resulting in 4 IEPs in place.



Kindergarten Readiness

To promote school readiness, SSAISD and the Head Start program engage in proactive planning and provide activities that help develop the necessary skills for optimal learning. The goal is for children to possess the knowledge, skills, and experiences that will set them up for success in school and lifelong learning. Both programs have established strategies to support a smooth transition from Head Start to kindergarten. They also collaborate with South San families to advocate for their children and ensure a positive transition into kindergarten. Moreover, the Policy Council dedicates discussions during its spring meetings to school readiness.

- Families are encouraged to attend the “Kindergarten Round-Up” meeting at the school their child attends
- Pre-k/Head Start students visit kindergarten classrooms. They can speak with kinder students and ask questions
- Portfolios with the child's assessments and records are passed along to the student's future Kindergarten teacher.
- Family Facilitators along with the Head Start Instructional Coaches and teachers host a meeting for the parents “Transitioning to Kindergarten”
- Align and include the five essential domains of The Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines
- Focusing on self-help skills
- Teaching students to be/take responsibility
- Develop and follow routines



Education Services

Our Head Start program has developed an assessment plan to gather data throughout the school year, specifically during the fall, winter, and spring. This assessment plan utilizes Circle Progress Monitoring to measure progress in the five key domains: Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy, Approaches to Learning, Cognition and Perceptual, and Motor and Physical Development. We are committed to implementing Developmentally Appropriate Practices to support early learners in our SSAISD Head Start program effectively.



The Head Start program implemented by SSAISD utilizes the FrogStreet for the pre-K curriculum, which has been approved by the Texas State Board of Education. This curriculum aligns all instructional goals and objectives with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and the Texas Pre-Kindergarten Guidelines. These guidelines specifically, outline the essential skills and knowledge that is necessary for children prior to entering kindergarten.



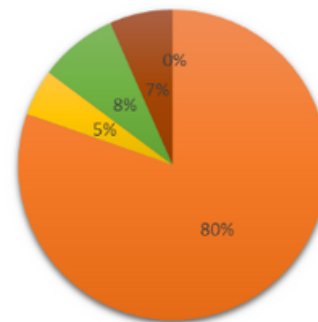
Annual Financial Budget

Every academic year, SSAISD carries out an annual evaluation of the Head Start Financials. The pie chart provided below illustrates the distribution of funds for the 2022-2023 period, indicating the percentage allocated to various program expenses such as operations, professional development, quality improvement, and investments in technology. It is important to note that contract funds can be utilized for a diverse range of program expenditures.

Year 04 Budget

6100 - Salaries and Benefits: \$2,016,466.00
6200 - Contracted Services: \$121,356.00
6300 - Materials and Supplies: \$206,221.00
6400 - Travel & Misc. Oper. Costs: \$166,154.00
6600 - Capital Outlay: \$39.00
Subtotal: \$2,510,236.00
Indirect Cost: \$125,212.00
Grand Total: \$2,2635,448.00

Year 04 Budget



6100 - Salaries and Benefits 6200 - Contracted Services
6300 - Materials & Supplies 6400 - Travel and Misc. Expenses
6600 - Capital Outlay

In conclusion, the SSAISD Head Start program provides a multitude of benefits that have a lasting positive impact on children, families, and our community. By offering comprehensive early childhood education, health, nutrition, and family support services, SSAISD Early Childhood and Head Start sets children on a path to success from an early age. These programs support children's cognitive, social, and emotional development, fostering school readiness and preparing them for future academic achievements. Additionally, SSAISD Early Childhood/Head Start actively involves parents and caregivers in their child's education, empowering them to participate actively in their child's learning journey. Investing in Early Childhood/Head Start is an investment in the future, as it lays the foundation for a brighter and more prosperous society by narrowing the achievement gap, promoting equity, and ensuring every child has access to quality early education and comprehensive support. The benefits of SSAISD Early Childhood/Head Start extend far beyond the classroom, shaping the lives of children and families for years to come.



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