www.oceanschools.org

Preschool Plan

Township of Ocean School District
2025-2026

Presented by:
Kristin Vona, Director of Preschool

What is the Preschool Expansion Aid Grant?

Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) is a program that helps school districts establish or expand access to high-quality preschool programs for three- and four-year-olds

Why did we apply for the Preschool Expansion Grant?

- To provide high-quality inclusive programs through general education funding
- To improve our early identification of students with developmental delays
- To yield higher inclusion rates in elementary grades
- To ensure fewer learning, behavioral, and social issues for students in the future

High Quality Preschool Program Features

- Planning community collaboration through our Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)
- Curriculum development and implementation
- Inclusion of children with disabilites in general education classes to the maximum extent possible
- Professional development and training for all stakeholders
- Transition planning to kindergarten
- Program monitoring and evaluation

High Quality Preschool Program Features

- Preschool Instructional Coaches (PIC)
- Community Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS)
- 1 Certified Teacher and 1 Instructional Assistant in each classroom of 15 students
- Preschool Interventions and Referral Team (PIRT)
- Behavior Specialist
- Social Worker

Preschool Expansion (PEA) Ocean Schools 2019-2025

Year	OTES Wanamassa Wayside	Acelero Learning Center	Total Preschool Sections	Total Preschool Seats
2019 - 2020	1	2	3	45
2020 - 2021	7	2	9	135
2021 - 2022	13	2	15	225
2022 - 2023	16	2	18	270
2023 - 2024	19	2	21	315
2024 - 2025	22	2	24	360

Preschool Expansion (PEA & PSD) Ocean Schools 2019-2025

Year	OTES Wanamassa Wayside	Acelero Learning Center	Preschool Disabilities Classes	Total Preschool Sections
2019 - 2020	1	2	3	6
2020 - 2021	7	2	3	12
2021 - 2022	13	2	3	18
2022 - 2023	16	2	3	21
2023 - 2024	19	2	3	24
2024 - 2025	22	2	3	27

Striving for our Universe

- Our current waitlist has 9 students
- Our current enrollment is 316 students out of 360 seats. All general education seats are filled.
- A requirement of the PEA funding is to continue to grow until you have exhausted your waitlist and reached your Preschool Universe
- The NJDOE calculates a district's universe as 2x the first grade enrollment
- Our current preschool universe is 203 x 2 = 406

Projected Preschool Plan 2025-2026

- Add 2 more sections of PEA classes
  - 1 at Wanamassa
  - 1 at Wayside

- Decrease 1 section at Acelero Learning Center, while still maintaining our partnership and meeting our state funding requirement with 1 section

- Implement class ratios of 12 general education students and 3 special education student district wide, yielding 6 additional seats

Projected Preschool Plan 2025-2026

Year	OTES Wanamassa Wayside	Acelero Learning Center	Total Preschool Sections	Total Preschool Seats
2024 - 2025	22	2	24	360
2025 - 2026	**24**	**1**	**25**	**375***

*303 general education seats/72 special education seats

Impact on the Township of Ocean School District

- 18 additional general education seats
- 3 special education seats in each classroom across the district
- Students currently attending another district school will have the option to return to their homeschool
- 2025 - 2026
  - 149 (4) year olds moving on to Kindergarten (123 GE/26 SE)
  - 167 (3) year olds remaining in our preschool (153 GE/14 SE)
    - Approximately 30 students projected to enroll this year
  - Anticipated seats for 2025-2026
    - 150 general education
    - 28 special education

Questions...