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## **Building Bright Futures: Early Childhood Center Receives Gold Circle of Quality from ExceleRate Illinois**

*State recognition highlights ECC's commitment to excellence in early learning and dedication to Hanover Park's youngest learners.*



**HANOVER PARK, Ill. (Sept. 3, 2025)** – Keeneyville School District 20 is proud to announce that the Early Childhood Center (ECC) in Hanover Park has earned the Gold Circle of Quality designation from ExceleRate Illinois, the state's quality recognition and improvement system for early learning programs.

This top-tier designation reflects ECC's commitment to providing high-quality early childhood education that meets rigorous standards in instructional quality, learning environment, family engagement, and staff qualifications.

Programs are evaluated through monitoring visits using tools such as the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Third Edition (ECERS-3) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Compliance Checklist. ECC's recent evaluation confirmed its Gold-level performance.

ECC Principal Mandy Aubry expressed pride in the recognition: "We are thrilled to receive this honor. It affirms our educators' dedication to nurturing young learners and preparing them for lifelong success. This achievement is a true team effort."

Aubry added that she hopes the recognition reassures families of the inclusive, high-quality education their children receive at ECC.

ExceleRate Illinois, administered by the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (INCCRRA), helps families identify programs that meet high standards for educational excellence and continuous improvement.

ECC's Gold rating highlights excellence in:

- Teaching and learning
- Program administration
- Family and community engagement
- Continuous quality improvement

Keeneyville School District 20 remains committed to fostering inclusive, developmentally appropriate environments for all students—starting with its youngest learners.

To learn more, visit [ecc.esd20.org](http://ecc.esd20.org) or [excelebrateillinois.com](http://excelebrateillinois.com).

ExceleRate Illinois is administered through INCCRRA under the joint direction of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

### **About Keeneyville School District 20**

Keeneyville School District 20 (KSD20) is a public elementary school district located in Hanover Park, Ill., serving approximately 1,350 students from preschool through eighth grade across four schools: Greenbrook Elementary, Waterbury Elementary, Spring Wood Middle School and the Early Childhood Center. Founded in 1887 and renamed for local developer Albert F. Keeney, the district has a proud history rooted in community growth and educational innovation. With more than 230 dedicated staff members, KSD20 supports families in Hanover Park, Bloomingdale, Keeneyville and Roselle. As the largest feeder to Lake Park High School District 108, the district is dedicated to inclusive, high-quality education and its mission to ignite each student's power and potential.

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