

**District Advisory Committee
Board of Education Annual Mid-Year Written Report
2025-2026**

CHILDCARE AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Administrator Co-chairperson: Susan Samarge-Powell

Co-chairperson: Ben Swett

Charges for Current School Year:

Charge 1 - Continue to research and discuss Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) integration opportunities, including the Infant Toddler Center (ITC), Preschool (PK), Transitional Kindergarten (TK), School Age Programs (SAP), and Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P).

Charge 2 – Explore ways to expand our visibility in our communities so we can identify new staffing opportunities and further grow our programs.

Charge 3 – Explore the best avenues to maintain stable fiscal support even with variances of outside factors.

Accomplishments to date:

- Phased in final stage of Transitional Kindergarten (TK). Now we have 20 TK classrooms across every elementary school.
- Provided funding to the Early Childhood Task Force from UPK to support outreach in the community
- Worked with an outside agency Right At School (RAS) to ensure stability for CDS staff while providing additional childcare for more families.

Highlight(s) to date of particular note:

- The TK Teams were commended at multiple sites from outside visitors regarding the consistency and continuity of learning for our students. Visitors noted the strength of the TK program, specifically that it was developmentally appropriate for TK and the programming reflected the state's emphasis on play-based and student-centered learning.

Budgetary Implications:

- With UPK funds sunseting from the state soon, how do we ensure that the consistency and continuity we want in TK as a school district continue with funds diminishing?
- With TK continuing to grow, our preschool programs have been deeply affected. We continue to have excellence in early learning – but how do we remain fiscally viable so we can maintain our level of excellence?