



EUFAULA CITY SCHOOLS

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February 23, 2026

Dear Eufaula City Schools Families and Community Members,

Eufaula City Schools remains deeply committed to supporting our youngest learners and ensuring that children with disabilities receive the services they need to thrive. Over the past several years, we have seen a steady increase in the number of preschool-aged children identified as needing special education services. This growth reflects our community's trust in our schools and our shared commitment to early identification and support.

To better respond to these increasing needs and expand our capacity to serve more children, we are transitioning away from the L.E.A.P.S. standalone preschool program model. This change will allow us to provide services to a greater number of eligible children ages 3–5, rather than limiting enrollment to a set number of classroom seats. By aligning our service delivery with Alabama State Department of Education guidelines for preschool special education, we will be able to offer more flexible, individualized supports tailored to each child's needs.

Children ages 3–5 who are found eligible for special education services will continue to receive services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP). Services will be delivered in accordance with each child's needs and in the least restrictive environment appropriate for that child. This may include services provided within community-based preschool settings, public prekindergarten classrooms, or through other service delivery models.

Families seeking preschool opportunities for their children may enroll in Head Start, Eufaula City Schools' Pre-K program (if eligible), or other public or private preschool programs available in our community. Enrollment information for these programs may be obtained directly from the respective program sites.

If a parent or guardian suspects that their child, ages 3–5, may have a disability or developmental delay, a referral for evaluation may be made at any time. Referrals can be initiated by contacting Eufaula City Schools' Special Education Department. Following a referral, a comprehensive evaluation will be conducted to determine eligibility and the need for services.

We are excited about this transition and the opportunity it creates to serve more children while continuing to provide high-quality, individualized early childhood services. Thank you for your

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continued partnership and support as we work together to meet the needs of every child in our community.

If you have questions or need assistance with preschool options or special education referrals, please contact the Eufaula City Schools Special Education Office.

Sincerely,

Eufaula City Schools