

What is Kindergarten Launch Academy?

Kindergarten Launch Academy (KLA) is a pre-kindergarten option for students who are entering kindergarten the following year. KLA provides students with a foundational year of early childhood learning before attending a standard kindergarten classroom.

What is different about Kindergarten Launch Academy for the 2026-27 school year?

KLA 2020-2026	KLA beginning 26-27
- Students completed two years of kindergarten - Year 1: KLA classroom - Year 2: Kindergarten classroom - Students were retained after year one and listed as a kindergartener for two school years. - Located at 3 elementary buildings - Elementary day, Monday-Friday. - Instruction aligned to Ohio's Kindergarten standards with required kindergarten assessments.	- Students complete one year of preschool before Kindergarten - Year 1: Pre-Kindergarten - Year 2: Kindergarten - Students enroll as a preschooler in a tuition based Early Learning program prior to Kindergarten - Located at Pleasantview First Step Preschool - Preschool day and extended enrichment, Monday-Friday. - Instruction aligned Ohio's Early Learning standards and preschool assessments with kindergarten readiness.

Who is eligible for Kindergarten Launch Academy?

- KLA Age Criteria: Students are eligible if they turn 4 or 5 by the start of the school year and will attend Kindergarten the following school year.
- KLA Students must meet the registration and residency requirements established for all Parma City School students.
- KLA is a general education preschool setting for students who attend as peer model/general education students, as well as students with IEPs whose teams have determined that a general education setting is appropriate.

Where is Kindergarten Launch Academy located? Is bus transportation provided?

- KLA will be located at Firststep Preschool in Pleasantview School
- Bus transportation is *not* provided to KLA students unless the student has this outlined in an individualized education plan (IEP).

What is the calendar, weekly/daily schedule for Kindergarten Launch Academy?

- Students follow the PCSD district calendar and participate in preschool building activities.
- Students will attend Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-1:45 PM
 - 9:00-11:30AM preschool instruction begins
 - 11:30-1:45 PM (includes lunch/recess & enrichment time)
- Specific drop off and pick-up times will be communicated by the principal at a later date.

What do students experience in Kindergarten Launch Academy?

- With KLA, students have exposure to Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards and an opportunity to build a strong foundation for learning and kindergarten readiness success.
- Daily hands-on and play-based learning opportunities enhance students' academic skills, social and self-regulation skills, empathy, problem-solving, collaboration, and communication.
- Afternoon enrichment time will reinforce early literacy and math skills through engaging, hands-on experiences while providing STEAM explorations, creative discovery, and structured social play that build curiosity, confidence, and independence.
- Daily schedules and additional experiences to be communicated by teacher/building

What main instructional materials will be used in KLA?

- Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum for Pre-K blends play with intentional teaching to build strong kindergarten readiness foundations.
 - An Ohio-approved preschool instructional material
 - The Pre-K edition is an extension designed for the year before kindergarten
 - Aligns with other First Step Preschool classrooms who currently use Creative Curriculum Preschool edition, creating consistency across our early learning programs
- Additional hands-on-resources to enhance teaching and learning

Is there a cost for my student to attend KLA? (Proposed Cost Pending Board Approval)

Peers	Students with Disabilities
• KLA:\$1500/year total +\$40 fees (½ day preschool: \$800/year +\$20 fees & enrichment: \$700/year +\$20 fees)	• KLA:\$700/year total +\$40 fees (½ day preschool: \$800/year +\$20 fees & enrichment: \$700/year +\$20 fees)

How do I enroll my child in KLA?

- Please review the information about KLA to make sure this is the right choice for your child.
 - View information slides from the virtual event on February 23rd, 2026. ([LINK TO SLIDES](#))
- Complete the KLA application ([LINK](#)).
 - KLA Applications will open for the 2026-2027 school year on March 2nd, 2026.
 - Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to current First Step students.
 - Applications submitted by **March 27th** will be considered in the first round, with email notifications sent by **April 17th**. Families will be notified to update or submit official

registration paperwork. For applications received after March 27th, families will be notified of their status within 2 weeks of submitting their application

Who do I contact if I have questions?

For questions about KLA:

- Contact our Curriculum and Instruction Department by calling (440) 885-8316 or contacting the Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Amy Szeremet szeremeta@parmacityschools.org

For questions about online registration:

- Contact our Registration and Enrollment Office by calling (440) 885-8334 or contacting the Administrative Specialist, Jennifer Nance nancej@parmacityschools.org