EARLY INTERVENTION

Understanding, Preparing, and Supporting Students Before They Enter Our Schools

Dr. Jamie Gravinese, Director of Pupil Services
4/7/2026

What Is Early Intervention?

Early Intervention (EI) is a federally mandated system of services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that supports young children with developmental delays or disabilities.

Identify Early

Screening and evaluation across developmental areas

Support Families

Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) and targeted services

Smooth Transition

Coordinated transition from EI to school-based services.

How We Prepare

01

Child Find Obligations Districts must actively locate, identify, and evaluate all children with disabilities ages birth through 21, including those transitioning from EI services.

02

Structured Transition Process Family interviews, record reviews, and transition planning meetings

03

Evaluation and IEP Development Evaluations conducted in alignment with PDE timelines.

04

Staffing and Program Planning Align staff, services, and classroom supports to identified student needs.

How We Manage the Transition

01

Phase 1: Family Interviews Conducted at neighborhood schools with EI partners.

02

Phase 2: Review and Evaluation Planning Determine need for record review or reevaluation.

03

Phase 3: Evaluations and IEP Development Multidisciplinary evaluations and eligibility determination.

04

Phase 4: Kindergarten Entry Services and supports are in place at the start of school.

Transition Assurance for Students

Students enter kindergarten with:

- A finalized IEP, or
- A comparable services plan based on EI services

Comparable services ensure continuity while evaluations are completed

Services are aligned to individual student needs

Evaluation Considerations

Evaluation approach is based on student needs and existing data

May include: Review of records or a comprehensive reevaluation.

Students identified with Developmental Delay are reevaluated prior to kindergarten

Evaluations follow Pennsylvania Chapter 14 timelines

Early Intervention Projections for 2026-2027

Worcester	Arrowhead	Eagleville	Woodland
20	19	15	10
students	students	students	students

Total District

64

students served

Response to Early Intervention Plans for 2026-2027

Early Intervention (EI) Planning: Process begins in December; Projections are complied in the Spring for us to plan for the following year.

Autistic Support Classroom Added

Arrowhead

Additional Emotional Support Class Added

Eagleville

OT/ Speech BootKamp*

K-2 Bootkamp for targeted skills

Collaboration and Partnerships

Collaboration with MCIU and EI providers

Ongoing communication with families

Coordination with preschool and community programs

Our Commitment

- Early identification supports individualized planning
- Structured processes ensure continuity of services
- Systems are in place to support students at kindergarten entry
- Systems are in place to support students at kindergarten entry

Every Child Deserves a Strong Start.