2025-2026 BUILDING NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR 2026-2027 BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

USD 428 USD Great Bend

Little Panthers Preschool

Grades Served: PreK 3 and PreK 4

SECTION 1: Student Needs		Notes
a. Student Headcount	294	
b. Percentage of students with an active IEP	27%	80/294 students with an active IEP
c. Percentage of students enrolled in English Language Learner (ELL) services	16%	48/294 students are enrolled in English Language Learner (ELL) services
d. Percentage of students identified as At-Risk (Free lunch)?	61.9%	182/294 students receive free lunch

e. Pupil-Teacher Ratio Average	12:1	
f. Pupil-Teacher Ratio Median	11:1	
g. Are the needs of Foster Care Students being met? If no, what supports are needed?	Yes	
h. Are there gaps in student success among race/ethnicity student subgroups?	N/A	
i. Is there a tiered system of support to target reading growth?	Yes	Little Panthers Preschool engages in the MTSS structure that is implemented district-wide. Classroom teachers use the FastBridge platform to administer earlyLiteracy benchmark tests to students that will enter Kindergarten in the following year. Teachers then analyze the benchmark results, implementing literacy interventions and utilizing progress monitoring to address learning needs and progress toward goals.

j.	Is there a tiered system of support to target math growth?	Yes	Little Panthers Preschool engages in the MTSS structure that is implemented district-wide. Classroom teachers use the FastBridge platform to administer earlyMath benchmark tests to students that will enter Kindergarten in the following year. Teachers then analyze the benchmark results, implementing numeracy interventions and utilizing progress monitoring to address learning needs and progress toward goals.
k.	Are there local assessments to measure reading growth?	Yes	Classroom teachers measure growth in reading by using the following assessments: a checklist of prioritized Kansas Early Learning Standards (3 and 4 year olds), curriculum unit assessments (3 and 4 year olds), FastBridge Benchmark composite assessments (outgoing Kindergarten students), and progress monitoring measures for growth toward intervention goals.
l.	Are there local assessments to measure math growth?	Yes	Classroom teachers measure growth in math by using the following assessments: a checklist of prioritized Kansas Early Learning Standards (3 and 4 year olds), curriculum unit assessments (3 and 4 year olds), FastBridge Benchmark composite assessments (outgoing Kindergarten students), and progress monitoring measures for growth toward intervention goals.
m.	Are there learning opportunities for students to focus on academic needs outside the traditional classroom setting?	Yes	Little Panthers students are provided the opportunity to focus on academic needs by participation in Family Engagement nights and reinforcement of academic skills on the playground.

n. Reviewing state assessment data, what steps are you taking for all students to maximize their scores?	N/A	
o. Are there set targets/goals to move students out of proficiency Levels 1 and 2 on state assessments?	N/A	

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SECTION 2: State Board of Education Outcomes (please utilize your district KESA (accreditation) and Star Recognition plans/rubrics)		Notes
a. How is social/emotional growth being measured?	Social/emotional growth for Little Panthers students is currently measured at the beginning of the year by the ASQ and ASQ-SE2 baseline measurements and by Student Intervention Plans (SIT Plans) for students needing extra social/emotional interventions.	
b. What are the targets/goals related to social/emotional growth?	Targets/goals related to social/emotional growth are determined by the Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS).	
c. How do you determine students are ready for Kindergarten? (only if building serves Kindergarteners)	N/A	
d. What are the targets/goals related to Kindergarten Readiness? (only if building serves Kindergarteners)	N/A	
e. How are successes of Individual Plans of Study being measured?	N/A	
f. What are the targets/goals related to postsecondary completion/attendance? (only if building serves Grade 12)	N/A	

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g	How are you ensuring students are civically engaged?	N/A	Little Panthers students are taught and encouraged to exhibit behaviors that are safe, respectful, and responsible through the Character Strong curricular resource and the Building Behavior Matrix. Students receive recognition certificates when demonstrating these behaviors.

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SECTION 3: Curriculum Needs		Notes
a. What extended learning opportunities are provided (after school programs, summer school programs, etc.)?	Little Panthers Preschool offers a skills-focused summer school program, inviting students (attending Kindergarten in the Fall) scoring in Tier 2 and Tier 3 according to FastBridge benchmark data.	
b. Are there appropriate and adequate instructional materials?	Yes	Teachers at Little Panthers Preschool use the Get Set for School curriculum for academic instruction and the Character Strong and Blooming Brains curriculum for social/emotional instruction.
c. Is current technology appropriate? If no, what technology is needed to support the curriculum?	Yes	Each Little Panther's classroom is equipped with an Interactive touch-screen TV and Wi-Fi access, allowing the teacher to display instructional presentations and interactive activities from the district-approved curriculum to support student learning.

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SECTION 4: Educational Capacities (pursuant to K.S.A. 72-3218)		Notes
b. Subjects and areas of instruction necessary to meet the graduation requirements adopted by the state board of education are taught. (only if building serves Grades 10-12)	N/A	
c. Is every child in your school provided at least the following capacities?		
1. Sufficient oral and written communication skills to enable students to function in complex and rapidly changing civilization.	N/A	
2. Sufficient knowledge of economic, social, and political systems to enable students to make informed choices.	N/A	

3. Sufficient understanding of governmental processes to enable the student to understand the issues that affect his or her community, state and nation.	N/A	
4. Sufficient self-knowledge and knowledge of his or her mental and physical wellness.	Yes	Classroom teachers at Little Panthers Preschool provide instruction, guidance, and practice opportunities for students in learning the self-regulation and emotional awareness skills as listed in the Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS).
5. Sufficient grounding in the arts to enable each student to appreciate his or her cultural and historical heritage.	N/A	Students at Little Panthers Preschool are exposed to a variety of cultural and instructional heritage opportunities through teacher-developed activities and presentations delivered by cultural clubs from Great Bend High School.
6. Sufficient training or preparation for advanced training in either academic or vocational fields so as to enable each child to choose and pursue life work intelligently.	N/A	Students at Little Panthers Preschool are exposed to a variety of cultural and instructional heritage opportunities through teacher-developed activities and presentations delivered by cultural clubs from Great Bend High School.

7. Sufficient levels of academic or vocational skills to enable students to compete favorably with their counterparts in surrounding states, in academics or in job market.	N/A	

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SECTION 5: Staff Needs		Notes
a. Is there adequate personnel/staff to meet the needs of the school and the needs of students under ESEA guidelines, which requires every classroom to contain an educator who is certified in the content area being taught in said classroom, and meet the goals of the school?	Yes	Each classroom teacher at Little Panthers Preschool holds a certified teaching license. In addition, each classroom also includes a Teacher Assistant and a shared Paraprofessional to support the licensed teacher with instruction and with supporting student needs.
b. How many classified support staff are currently employed?	25	There are 25 classified Teacher Assistants and Paraprofessionals in the classrooms at Little Panthers Preschool.
c. How many classified support staff are needed?	25	This number is an adequate amount of classified support staff that can be scheduled to support instruction and the individual needs of each classroom.

d. Are there enough appropriately licensed support personnel such as counselors, librarians, nurses, etc.?	Yes	Licensed support personnel at Little Panthers Preschool include one student family advocate (SFA), one nurse, one nurse's assistant, two EL teachers, six certified occupational/physical therapy providers, two speech/language providers, one Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator, and one liaison teacher serving students that transition from Part C to Part B services.
e. Are principals & other key staff trained to provide instructional leadership and professional development to teachers?	Yes	A licensed Building Principal serves as the instructional leader at Little Panthers Preschool, supporting teachers with professional development and coaching.

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f. What staff development is necessary for teachers to support student success and meet the school improvement goals?		Teachers at Little Panthers preschool would like more staff development regarding the topics of formative assessment tools appropriate for Early Childhood classrooms and progress monitoring systems for intervention and SIT processes.

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SECTION 6: Facility Needs		Notes
a. Is there adequate space for student learning?	Yes	
b. Are there necessary repairs and/or adjustment to the existing space that need to be made?	Yes	Repairs, such as painting and deep cleaning/sanitization, can be addressed through district maintenance work order requests.
c. Are additional School Buses needed or any additional Routes needed?	Yes	At Little Panthers Preschool, the only students that qualify for bus transportation have specific Special Education needs. Transportation is not available for the remaining student enrollment, which could benefit from city routes.

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SECTION 7: Family Needs/Community Relations		Notes
a. Do you have regular events to engage parents with teachers?	Yes	The student family advocate (SFA), along with volunteer teachers at Little Panthers Preschool, organizes Family Engagement events including holiday activities and community service opportunities.
b. What types of caregiver training programs (teaching guardians how to give students help with homework, use technology that students will be required to use, etc.) are provided?		The student family advocate (SFA) and Parents as Teachers (PAT) staff provide caregiver support to the guardians and families of Little Panthers Preschool students.
c. Do you have an active Site Council?	No	Little Panthers Preschool does not currently have an active Site Council due to 2025-2026 being the second year of operation. However, the building principal and Building Leadership Team (BLT) plan to establish an active Site Council for the year 2026-2027.
d. Do you have active PTO, PTA, Booster Club, or other organizations with parent leadership?	No	Little Panthers Preschool does not currently have an active PTO, PTA, Booster Club, or other parent leadership organization due to 2024-2025 being the first year that the school is open. However, the Building Principal and Building Leadership Team (BLT) plan to establish an active Site Council for the year 2026-2027.
e. What types of communication exists with families? Is it adequate?	Communication methods used by the staff at Little Panthers Preschool include the SeeSaw application, SchoolMessenger,	

	district email, and paper fliers. These methods provide a variety of ways that families can receive and engage in communication with school staff.	
f. What types of communication/social media exists with your community? Is it adequate?	Little Panthers Preschool staff ensures that informational messages are posted to the school page on FaceBook, in addition to the regular methods of communication.	

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SECTION 8: School Data		Notes
a. Building Attendance Rate	95.88 %	
b. Building Chronic Absenteeism Rate	4.12%	
c. District Chronic Absenteeism Rate	28.34 %	
d. District Graduation Rate	90.4%	
e. District Dropout Rate	1.4%	

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SECTION 8: School Data		Notes
SECTION 8A: High School Needs (buildings with grades 10 through 12 only)		
a. What is our building graduation rate	N/A	
b. What is our building dropout rate?	N/A	
c. What is our average comprehensive ACT score?	N/A	

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SECTION 9: Other Data		Notes
a. Based on the building leadership team's analysis, what are the barriers your school faces with non-assessment related issues?	Little Panthers Preschool faces non-assessment related issues regarding student behavior.	
1. Can these be achieved with additional resources?	Yes	
2. Why or why not?	Little Panthers Preschool teachers and staff could achieve growth regarding student behavior management and regulation through professional development and foundational training with the Capturing Kids' Hearts curricular guidelines. Learned regulation strategies would be implemented within the school-wide structure to promote consistent language, strategies, and systems of support.	
b. Additional building unique items:		

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