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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Indoor Playground Invites Jennings Preschoolers to *Stay & Play!*

(JENNINGS, MO, Jan.13, 2026) – The excitement is building as Fairview Primary School’s Early Childhood Education students will finally be able to test out their brand new indoor play space! Following a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, Jan. 15, at 9 a.m., the space, located at 7053 Emma Avenue, 63136, will be open to preschool students and families districtwide.

Kimberly Wooden, director of Early Childhood Education and Extended Programs, explained, “Playtime is serious business for three- to five-year-olds, and we are excited to see their reactions to our new Stay & Play! The custom-built space is approximately 3,000 square feet of state-of-the-art equipment that allows students to climb, crawl, swing and land safely on three layers of soft padding. But it's not all fun and games,” Wooden smiled, “It’s primarily a physical course, but strategically designed with sensory elements added to ensure our preschoolers are always learning and building skills.”

According to Wooden, there are approximately 134 Jennings School District early childhood students across three elementary schools: Fairview, Northview and Woodland. “Fairview was chosen as the site because the majority of our preschoolers are at Fairview (86 students), and we happen to have the perfect space. We have been planning the build for two years.” She added, “The indoor play space is our superintendent’s passion project.” Wooden said, “When we found we could reconfigure space at Fairview, Dr. Knight immediately envisioned a place where preschoolers would be free to play and exercise, rain or shine.”

Superintendent Paula Knight, Ed.D., said, “Over the past two years, our preschool team researched state-of-the-art equipment. We built our playground on a scale that beckons younger students and emboldens them to be adventurous in the safety of their carefully designed space. It’s ADA compliant and will enable us to meet the needs of all preschoolers, including our special education students – helping them bridge the academic, social and emotional gaps between preschool and kindergarten.”

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Portrait of a JSD Warrior



Wooden said students have noticed local muralist Brock Seals, who has been painting colorful, custom art along the walls and hallways leading to the space for the past several weeks. “Mr. Seals has created an atmosphere that you would associate with an amusement park. That was exactly what we wanted!”

Going forward, Wooden said teaching teams will build a schedule for use of the Stay & Play play space, inviting field trips and special activities, including tumbling classes throughout the year. An interactive whiteboard will quickly transform the space into an activity classroom.

Knight added, “Preschool is such an important stepping stone in a child’s personal growth and development. Enrolling your child in preschool now takes the pressure off as we work together to prepare for the future.” She said, “Our district invests in Early Childhood Education because it’s important to get our young students into school early in order to truly prepare them for kindergarten. This space is a great addition to our program as it makes learning, strength and skill building fun!”

Preschool is offered FREE to the children of JSD residents. Enrollment launched on Jan. 7 and it’s never too soon to reserve your child’s spot. If you have a young one who is potty-trained and will turn three or four years old by July 31, 2026, you may enroll now for the 2026-27 school year. Enroll online at www.jenningsk12/Enroll or call Michele Reed at 314-653-8084. We keep class sizes small, so space is limited.

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About Jennings School District: Founded in 1871, the [Jennings School District](https://linktr.ee/JenningsK12) serves 2,320 students PreK-12 across four elementary schools: Hanrahan, Woodland, Northview and Fairview (Primary and Intermediate), Rose Mary Johnson Jennings Middle School and Jennings Senior High School. JSD spans three communities, Jennings, Country Club Hills and Flordell Hills. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Links are available at <https://linktr.ee/JenningsK12>.

About Brock Seals: [Brock Seals](#) is a multi-faceted artist who brings stories to life through **paint, design, music, and community experiences**. “Creativity isn’t just what I do—it’s how I connect. Whether I’m painting murals across **St. Louis**, designing custom pieces, or making music, my goal is always the same: to **create art that moves people and brings them together**.”

