Fort Smith Public Schools
Preschool Program
• Locations
  • 17/19 FSPS Elementary Schools
  • 29 Classrooms
• Serving 568 Children
  • 3 and 4 year olds
• Funded by:
  • Three grants
  • $4 million
FSPS Preschool

• Full-day preschool services (8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)

• Each classroom has a 2:20 staff to student ratio
  • 1 instructor
  • 1 paraprofessional

• Each site has a Child Care License issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHS)

• Operate in accordance with the Arkansas Department of Education

• All sites are quality accredited, Better Beginnings Level 3
Arkansas Better Chance for School Success (ABCSS)

- State Funded
- Awarded in 2003
- Serve 290 children
  - 3 or 4 year-old children
- Total Revenue = $1.4 million
Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)

• Federally funded, state appropriated

• Awarded in 2012

• Serve 90 children:
  • 3 or 4 year old children

• Total revenue = $429,975
Preschool Development Grant (PDG)

- Federally funded, state appropriated
- Awarded in 2015
- Serve 188 children
  - 4 year old children
- Total Revenue = $2 million
2016-2017
Kindergarten Qualls Early Learning Inventory
General Knowledge

0 - Not Developed
1 - Skill Developing
2 - Skill Developed
Preschool is an Intervention

• increased school readiness
• lower rates of grade retention and special education placements
• improved high school graduation rates
• reduced interaction with law enforcement
• higher rates of college attendance and completion
Preschool Expansion Proposal

• Goal: Expand FSPS Preschool Program to accommodate up to 360 additional economically disadvantaged* four-year-old students using district funds.

• 1076 four-year-olds in FSPS (per demographer report) x 73% district-wide rate of qualification of economically disadvantaged = 785 students

• 785 total economically disadvantaged four-year-olds – 438 economically disadvantaged students currently served with existing grant-funded program = 347 students

• 360 students/20 students per classroom = 18 new classrooms
## Preschool Expansion Proposal Costs: 18 Classrooms

### Annual Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certified Preschool Teacher</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$922,355.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Paraprofessionals</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>$589,829.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance and Oversight</td>
<td></td>
<td>$171,158.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Materials and Supplies</td>
<td></td>
<td>$180,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,863,322.81</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### One-Time Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, Fixtures &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$180,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$180,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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