

Tuition Based PreK Option at UECS

Urbana Board of Education presentation

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Cris Vowels

Benefits to UECS/USD #116

- * More Urbana 3-5 year olds receiving quality, standards-based PreK
- * Neighborhood peers and language models into classrooms
- * Maintain manageable class-size/student/teacher ratio
- * Can direct tuition funds where needed
- * Maintain transportation for all students
- * Keep district support levels down

Benefits USD #116 Families

- * High-quality, NAEYC accredited program
- * Multicultural experience
- * Certified teachers in early childhood, special education, and English Language Learner (ELL)
- * Highly qualified teaching assistants
- * Family supports and programs: parenting classes, home visits, workshops, family events
- * New, state-of-the-art facility
- * Local - Urbana
- * Transportation (fee)

PreK-All Grant Funding Over the Years

FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Projected FY 2016
\$1,204,179	\$1,107,363	\$1,107,363	\$1,107,363 \$1,086,089	\$1,086,089?
Funding Reduction	-\$96,816		-\$20,544	
Total deficits since 2012	\$96,816	\$96,816	\$117,360	

Current Funding Break out

280 At-Risk Students	Funded through Pre-School for All Grant	26 staff members, supplies, program costs, transportation, 50% building maintenance	Fall 2014 \$1,107,363 Spring 2015 1,086,089 (-\$20,544)	Fall 2015 \$1,086,089
80 Early Childhood Students with special needs	Funded through Special Education funds	22 staff members, supplies, transportation	Approx. \$500,000	
360 Total students	Local/District Funds:	50% building maintenance, transportation, 1 staff member, administration costs	Fall 2014 Approx. \$185,000 Spring 2015 \$205,500	Increase in staff salaries and increase transportation costs

Options for Inclusive Classrooms

- ISBE recently shared a webinar and supplemental document with Prek Administrators to assist programs with inclusive placement options for students.
- Tuition and blended models were at the top of the list for schools receiving PFA, (Preschool for All) funding.
- Tuition models include blended programs with students funded by PFA, special education, and tuition.

Community outreach

- * Letters & personal contacts were made with 28 local Childcare and Preschool Centers. (provided in board packet)

General Consensus:

- * Our school serves a different clientele: Most families using community preschools also require full-day childcare

Sample of school districts with tuition-based programs

- Cass
- CCSD 89
- CCSD 93
- CUSD 200
- Center Cass 66
- DesPlaines Dist 62
- District 158
- Downers Grove
- Edwardsville Dist 7
- Elmhurst 205
- Hinsdale
- Indian Prairie 204
- Mahomet
- Naperville 203
- Oak Lawn 123
- Ofallon
- Oswego
- Salt Creek 48
- SD 308
- Skokie
- St Charles d303
- Triad
- West Chicago 94
- Westmont 201
- Winfield 34

*Average 2014 tuition costs: \$285/month

What could tuition based option look like?

- * 1 paid student per session (total of 24 students)
- * Blended into current classrooms
- * Same policies/procedures
- * Tuition paid monthly
- * Optional transportation for fee
- * Open tuition enrollment in Spring/Summer notice of entry

Tuition Option costs

See tuition fees/services comparison pages

- * Recommending \$285/mo x 24 students \$6840
- * \$6840 x 9 months \$61,560
- * Additional fee for transportation services,
(TBD)

Benefits

TO URBANA FAMILIES

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Summary

- * Given the current funding crisis in our State, Urbana is at risk of losing the quality of the UECS program and limiting access Urbana parents have to PreK.
- * Without additional funding, the number of children ready for Kindergarten in Urbana Schools will be affected.
- * The tuition-based blended model, as recognized by ISBE, will help USD #116 to continue to transport students to our school and maintain current staffing levels.