



# Preschool Programs

## **What is the goal of the preschool program?**

The goal of the Elk Grove Preschool Program is to focus on the pre-academic and developmental needs of four-year-old children in order to prepare them and their families for transition to kindergarten and the primary educational program.

## **How old must students be participate in EGUSD preschool programs?**

Students must be four years old on or before December 2<sup>nd</sup> to enter a program.

## **Are there services available for students with special needs?**

Early Intervention and Special Education programs have partnerships with the Sacramento County Office of Education. Through these partnerships, Elk Grove Unified's preschool programs have been able to serve many children with special needs. This also includes students with disabilities in full inclusion classes.

## **What preschool programs are there in EGUSD?**

There are currently three types of preschool programs offered through EGUSD – Head Start preschool, Title I Pre-Kindergarten, and State preschool.

### **Head Start Preschool**

The Head Start program is federally funded for preschool children from low-income families. In Sacramento County, the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA) is the Head Start grantee and is the provider of direction and training for the Elk Grove Head Start program.

The Head Start program has a Parent Policy Council made up of representatives from each classroom. The council meets once a month. Designated members from this committee also are responsible for attending monthly Sacramento County Parent Policy Committee meetings. Each classroom also has monthly parent meetings.

Head Start Preschool classes are held at Prairie Elementary School, David Reese Elementary School, Charles Mack Elementary School, Samuel Kennedy Elementary School, Florence Markofer Elementary School, and Florin Elementary School. Each

class has 20 students as well as one teacher and one instructional assistant.

Eligibility for Head Start preschool is based on low income guidelines.

### **Title I – Pre-Kindergarten**

Title I Pre-Kindergarten provides early intervention and readiness for four year olds through funds from the Federal Improving America's School Act of 1994. Most Title I classes are combined with the Twilight program and are housed in kindergarten classrooms. Title I preschools sites include Charles Mack, Prairie, Samuel Kennedy, David Reese, Herman Leimbach, and Florin elementary schools.

Title I students meet from 3:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays. Parent participation in classes is always encouraged.

Title I classes are staffed by teachers with college degrees and child development certification. The ratio of students to teachers in each class is 20 to 1 and includes instructional assistants.

Eligibility for Title I preschool is based on attendance at a low income school.

### **State Preschool**

Each state preschool classroom has a preschool teacher, an instructional assistant and parent volunteers. EGUSD's preschool classrooms are staffed by highly-qualified teachers with college degrees and certification in child development. Children in this program attend school for three hours a day, five days per week.

The State Preschool program enrolls children regardless of race, sex, creed, color, national origin or handicapping condition. The state program holds 10 percent of their enrollment specifically for children with disabilities. EGUSD exceeds this percentage through inclusion programs for children with special needs.

State preschool classes are held at two elementary schools in the district – Charles Mack Elementary School and Samuel Kennedy Elementary School. For more information on preschools at Elk Grove Unified, please call the preschool office at (916) 686-7595.

Eligibility for State preschool is based on low income guidelines.