



Date: May 23, 2011

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Daniel A. Nerad, Superintendent

RE: Four Year Old Kindergarten (4K) School Sites

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## I. Introduction

- A. Title or topic/reason for report or presentation** - The purpose of this item is to request BOE take action to (1) approve Midvale and Gompers as additional 4K school sites, (2) approve Olson Elementary as the 4K site for students from, Leopold, Thoreau, Midvale (overflow), and Chavez (overflow) for the 2011-2012 school year with the MMSD Learning Center as a 4K site for the 2012-2013 school year. The MMSD Learning Center should still remain as a backup site to be used if there is a dramatic increased 4K registration for the 2011-2012 school year.
- B. Presenter or contact person for the presentation** – Sue Abplanalp, Erik Kass, and Scott Zimmerman
- C. Background information** – The primary reason for the Madison Metropolitan School District's (MMSD) implementation of four year old kindergarten (4K) is to better prepare all students for educational success. Similarly, the community and society as a whole receive many positive benefits when students are well prepared for learning at a young age. *The Economic Promise of Investing in High-Quality Preschool: Using Early Education to Improve Economic Growth and the Fiscal Sustainability of States and the Nation.*

There are three DPI models of 4K programming that MMSD will use to delivery 4K:

1. Model I: is at a school site with a MMSD teacher
2. Model II: is at an ECE center site with a MMSD teacher
3. Model III: is at an ECE center with an ECE center teacher

The following are 20 approved school sites to provide Model I 4K programming:

1. Chavez
2. Elvehjem
3. Emerson
4. Falk
5. Franklin
6. Glendale
7. Hawthorne
8. Huegel

9. Lapham
10. Lincoln
11. Lowell
12. Marquette
13. Mendota
14. Muir
15. Olson
16. Orchard Ridge
17. Stephens
18. Sandburg
19. Shorewood
20. MMSD Learning Center

The following 30 ECE centers have returned signed contracts to MMSD for providing 4K Model III programming:

1. Bernie's Place
2. Big Oak Child Care
3. Creative Learning Preschool
4. Dane County Parent Council Bayview,
5. Dane County Parent Council East Madison,
6. Dane County Parent Council Northport,
7. Dane County Parent Council Packers,
8. Dane County Parent Council Preschool Enrichment Program,
9. Dane County Parent Council Red Arrow,
10. Dane County Parent Council South Madison
11. Dane County Parent Council Wexford.
12. Eagle's Wing
13. Goodman Community Center
14. KinderCare-Londonderry
15. KinderCare-Old Sauk
16. KinderCare-Raymond
17. LaPetite-North Gammon
18. MATC-Downtown
19. MATC-Truax
20. Meeting House Nursery
21. Monona Grove Nursery
22. Orchard Ridge Nursery
23. The Learning Gardens
24. University Avenue Discovery Center
25. University Houses Preschool
26. University Preschool-Linden
27. University Preschool-Mineral Point
28. Waisman EC Program
29. YMCA-East
30. YMCA-West

The following ECE centers were approved by the BOE for 4K Model II programming:

1. Animal Crackers
2. Kennedy Heights Neighborhood

- D. Describe the action requested of the BOE** - It is recommended that the BOE consider approval of the following items: (1) additional 4K school sites of Midvale Elementary School and Gompers Elementary School, (2) Olson Elementary School as a 4K site during 2011-2012 school year for students from Leopold, Thoreau, Midvale (overflow) and Chavez (overflow) in place of the MMSD Learning Center.

Gompers Elementary School is being requested as a 4K site due to Kennedy Heights Center recently only being able to offer space for 4K in the afternoon, instead of all day. That site serves mostly students from Schenk Elementary School, Sandburg Elementary School, and Hawthorne Elementary School. Both 4K programs at Sandburg Elementary School and Hawthorne Elementary School are currently full.

Midvale Elementary School is being requested as a 4K sites in order to move one of the sections from the MMSD Learning Center to Midvale. This will also cut down on the cost of busing students on a route that is not currently established from the Midvale area to the Learning Center.

The Allied Learning Center is an approved 4K site next year for students from Midvale, Leopold, and Chavez. However, there are several factors which make Olson Elementary School a more effective 4K site for the 2011-2012 school year. The following are factors to consider:

- (1) Parents have raised concerns about their child being placed at the MMSD Allied Learning Center for 4K programming, therefore some students (20) have been considered for transfers to other 4K sites.
- (2) The MMSD Learning Center requires additional costs for building modifications would need to take place, such as putting in 4 year old play equipment at a cost of \$8,775.00 and a fence around the play area at a cost of \$6,630.00. It is not wheelchair accessible.
- (3) The MMSD Learning Center requires additional staffing for a nurse (60%-\$50,000), clerical person \$66,399 and educational assistant (\$47,394). A principal from a school nearby would need to function as an on call administrator since there is not an administrator on site.
- (4) Olson Elementary School is a newer school with appropriate play equipment and staffed with a school nurse, clerical person and principal.
- (5) The MMSD Learning Center has MSCR programming starting in the afternoon with staff arriving at 2:30 and children at 2:50; 4K programming would not end until 3:02 or later (3:17 for late start schools). The MSCR program serves about 100 children in grades K-5 with 15-20 staff.

## **II. Summary of Current Information**

- A. Provide a brief synthesis of the topic** - As of May, 10 2011, approximately 1,730 students have registered for the MMSD 4K program. Detailed information about these 4K registration numbers by site and school are located below in the Appendices A. As a result of these 4K registration numbers, Midvale Elementary and Gompers Elementary schools are being presented to the BOE for consideration as an additional school sites for 4K programming.

Olson Elementary School is the site recommended to the BOE to serve students from Leopold, Thoreau, Midvale (overflow) and Chavez (overflow) during the 2011-2012 school year. In order for the MMSD Learning Center to be Therefore,

it is recommended that the MMSD Learning Center be used the following school year (2012-2013) as a 4K site to allow time to work out additional staffing costs and building modifications. The MMSD Learning Center should still remain as a backup site to be used if there is a dramatic increased 4K registration for the 2011-2012 school year.

- B. Clearly label any recommendations** - It is recommended that the BOE (1) approve Midvale and Gompers as additional 4K school sites, (2) approve Olson Elementary as the 4K site for students from, Leopold, Thoreau, Midvale (overflow), and Chavez (overflow) for the 2011-2012 school year with the MMSD Learning Center as a 4K site for the 2012-2013 school year. The MMSD Learning Center should still remain as a backup site to be used if there is a dramatic increased 4K registration for the 2011-2012 school year.

**Link each element summarized to supporting detail - N/A**

### **III. Implications**

- A. Budget – N/A**
- B. Strategic Plan** - Four year old kindergarten was referenced in the MMSD Strategic Plan for improving academic achievement for all students and continuing to close the achievement gap.
- C. Equity Plan –** Four year old kindergarten will provide MMSD students with equitable access to pre-school programming in preparation for 5K. The MMSD 4K is provided at no cost to parents.
- D. Implications for other aspects of the organization- N/A**

### **IV. Supporting documentation**

Appendices A: 4K Registration Numbers by School Site



