

Missoula County Public Schools

INSTRUCTION

2113

Prekindergarten Programs

The District may establish a pre-kindergarten program based on the premise that the District's teachers, support staff, and physical facilities can offer a quality of experiences that cannot be provided by area nursery schools. If it is not possible for the District to provide such a program for all four-(4)-year-old children in the District, those children in greatest need will be sought and identified.

The objectives of the program are to:

1. identify children with incipient problems of a social, emotional, and/or physical nature, regardless of whether they are related to maturational development;
2. provide an educational experience that will ameliorate or eliminate these problems at an early age, thereby deterring adjustment and/or learning problems from developing in subsequent years;
3. identify children who do not have facility in the English language and provide experiences that enhance and accelerate the development of such a facility;
4. identify children who would not otherwise attend a nursery school prior to entering public school and provide them with equal learning opportunities;
5. provide experiences for the parents of these children, through a volunteer aide program whereby they can become oriented to the task of the school and how their role as parents might relate to the task as it affects their children; and
6. provide learning experiences in early childhood education and child care for high school students, through cooperative arrangements with the District High School.

Legal Reference: § 20-7-117, MCA Five-year-old schooling and preschool programs

Policy History:

Adopted on: January 14, 2003

Revised on: