



Multnomah Early Childhood Program

David Douglas School District

5208 NE 122nd Ave. | Portland, Oregon 97230 | 503-261-5535

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in the **Multnomah Early Childhood Preschool Program (MECP)**, a program of the David Douglas School District. We provide a quality **Integrated Special Education preschool program for children with and without disabilities** from 3 years of age to kindergarten. Children must be 3 to enroll in the peer program. Enclosed please find information about our program and forms for enrollment. After reviewing this information we hope you will decide to have MECP be a part of your child's early childhood experience. Once you have completed the forms, please:

- Fill out the online application located here: <https://forms.gle/fpysHCGBN7L8XwJv9>
- or
- Email the fillable application to us at: mecp_peer@ddsd40.org

Our classrooms implement "Big Day for Pre-K" with the "Creative Curriculum," which align with the Oregon's Early Learning and Kindergarten Guidelines to promote Kindergarten readiness for all children.

In addition, we have implemented a peer mediated model called Learning Experiences An Alternative Program For Preschoolers and Parents (LEAP). In this model, the peers in our classroom become mini interventionists, by utilizing our peers' high level of social skills and language development we increase the opportunities for social engagement for children with disabilities. In return, our peers learn empathy, increase their own social skills and language development and learn how to be leaders. LEAP studies show that peers that participate in the LEAP classroom can make up to 2 months more developmental progress in the areas specifically targeted for intervention (e.g., social skills and language development) than peers in non-LEAP classrooms.

It's important to note that all of our MECP classrooms are special education classrooms. We are funded with federal and state special education dollars and must follow all guidelines. On occasion, we may need to close a session in one of our classrooms due to the lack of special education students. If this should happen we will notify the families of the students attending the session as soon as possible and will offer another classroom if space is available.

Frequency: Children attend 4 mornings or 4 afternoons per week.
Class sessions are 2 hours 45 minutes.

Staff: Our professional teaching teams include a state licensed early childhood special education teacher and instructional assistants.

Class times and locations are subject to change. Please call 503-261-5535 for further information, or go to the David Douglas School District website located here: <https://www.ddouglas.k12.or.us/departments/multnomah-early-childhood/mecp-parents/>

Thank you again for your interest in our program.

Sincerely,

Jeanett Sealy, Julie Schweigert, Kristi Byfield, Kevin Anderson, Cami Stevenson, Dave Andrews, and Devon Keas
Administrators, Multnomah Early Childhood Program