



Halifax Area School District

3940 Peters Mountain Road
Halifax, Pennsylvania 17032-9098
Telephone: (717) 896-3416

Michele M. Orner, Ed.D. - Superintendent

Pre-K Counts Application & Program Information

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for inquiring about our Pre-K Counts program as administered under the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Office of Child Development and Early Learning. The Pre-K Counts classrooms at Enders-Fisherville Elementary will begin on August 28, 2017. The Pre-K Counts program will consist of a high quality early learning environment for your child. The enrollment window for the 2017-2018 school year will be open from February 6, 2017 through Friday, March 16, 2017.

Enrollment is a two phased process. First, please complete the enclosed application and schedule an appointment to verify the required documentation. Along with the completed application, you will need to bring:

- Income verification (2 pay stubs for each employed parent/guardian or a copy of a tax return).
- Proof of residency (Name on a tax roll, lease, sales agreement, or utility bill).
- Child's Birth Certificate

Accepted applicants will be notified by March 23, 2017. If accepted, further enrollment information will be provided and you will be asked to attend a Pre-K Counts Registration Event at Enders-Fisherville Elementary School on March 31, 2017. Before completing the application, please read the following policies and procedures. You must agree to abide by these guidelines in order to participate in the program.

Enrollment Research Based Rationale: *Children's potential for growth and development is maximized through participation in a high quality environment. The development of relationships with teachers and peers, along with consistent learning experiences that build on each other day to day come from regular attendance in preschool settings.*

Intent: *The intent of HASD Pre K Program is to provide children with a quality preschool program immediately prior to their eligibility for kindergarten.*

Enrollment Policy: *Children must be three on or before the date used by Halifax Area School District's kindergarten age-eligibility deadline date. Five year olds who are age eligible for kindergarten are not eligible to remain in the preschool setting funded by PA Pre-K Counts funding.*

Attendance Intent: *We realize that young children, particularly in group settings, are susceptible to illness and may miss days of school. In addition to childhood illness, there may be other legitimately-excused absences that could be identified. The development of good attendance practices by families must be established in order to maintain full enrollment in the program.*

David R. Hatfield
Director of Curriculum,
Instruction & Assessment

Michael L. Bower
Business and Operations
Manager

John J. Osuch
High School Principal

Rick M. Ansel
Middle School
Principal

Carla A. Sauer
Elementary
Principal

Matthew D. Czaplicki
Special Education
Supervisor

Lori M. Weber
Director of
Food Services



Halifax Area School District

3940 Peters Mountain Road
Halifax, Pennsylvania 17032-9098
Telephone: (717) 896-3416

Michele M. Orner, Ed.D. - Superintendent

David R. Hatfield
Director of Curriculum,
Instruction & Assessment

Michael L. Bower
Business and Operations
Manager

John J. Osuch
High School Principal

Rick M. Ansel
Middle School
Principal

Carla A. Sauer
Elementary
Principal

Matthew D. Czaplicki
Special Education
Supervisor

Lori M. Weber
Director of
Food Services

Attendance Policy: Children enrolled in the Pre-K Counts program are to adhere to the "Attendance and Absence" available in the "Handbook for Parents". In addition, unexcused absences that total more than 10 days over the course of the school year, could be grounds for dismissing a child from the Pre-K Counts program. Excuses must be provided in writing and signed by a parent. Acceptable excused absences include illness, religious holidays, health care appointments that cannot be made during other hours, and family emergencies. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to: non-educational vacations and visits; or routine appointments that could be scheduled during non-school hours.

Reporting Individual Child Outcomes Intent: Parents who enroll children in Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts are receiving state funding for a Pre-Kindergarten educational program. The state legislature relies on individual child outcomes data to be collected for all children in Pre-K Counts programs. The purpose of a statewide process for measuring child progress is to allow a higher quality of data that will allow for comparisons across programs in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania has made a large investment and commitment to early childhood by funding high quality pre-kindergarten education through PA Pre-K Counts. In return, we must be able to document the results of this investment and show benefits for children and families. Collecting and reporting on children's progress in achieving early learning outcomes is one way to demonstrate these results.

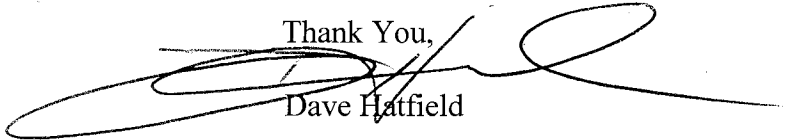
Individual Child Outcomes Policy: Children enrolled in the Pre-K Counts program will be measured according to their progress multiple times per school year. Information obtained from child observations, portfolio work, and assessments, will be used for curriculum planning for setting individual goals for children. Conferences with parents will be held multiple times per school year and upon parent request. Information gained through all outcomes will be reported to the state.

Length of Day Policy: At least five hours of instructional time must be provided for full-day programs. Children must attend the program on scheduled school days as per the HASD approved school calendar from 8:30am to 2:00pm. Wrap around services are available at a private pay rate for children who need care before and/or after the Pre-K Counts program.

Program Operational Days Policy: 180 days of instructional services must be provided. The Pre-K Counts program will follow a schedule similar to the HASD calendar year.

I look forward to working with you and sharing in the wonderful Pre K experience. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to call my office at 717.896.3416 ext. 108.

Thank You,


Dave Hatfield