

Head Start Annual Report 2018-2019

Our Mission

To support development and ensure learning that will positively impact children, families, and our community now and in the future.



The ECASD Head Start program offers education, health, and family services to eligible families with children ages 3 to 5. The program was established in 1970 and is a delegate agency of Western Dairyland. The program is operated by the Eau Claire Area School District and is governed by the ECASD Board of Education. The program is located at Prairie Ridge Early Learning School in conjunction with 4 year old Kindergarten and Special Education services. Teachers and staff are employed by the school district and meet all the qualifications of Head Start and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Special points of interest:

- Combination classrooms offer Head Start, 4 Year-old Kindergarten and Special Education.
- Head Start students are offered the full spectrum of school district pupil services: school counselor, psychologist, social workers, instructional media materials, services and staff.
- All teachers hold DPI Certification in Early Childhood Education and most are also certified in Special Education. All teachers have Bachelor's or Advanced degrees.
- Prairie Ridge Early Learning School has implemented Conscious Discipline to fidelity.
- All staff have been trained in S.M.A.R.T. (Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness Training). This is a program based on brain research and movement to enhance children's learning readiness skills.



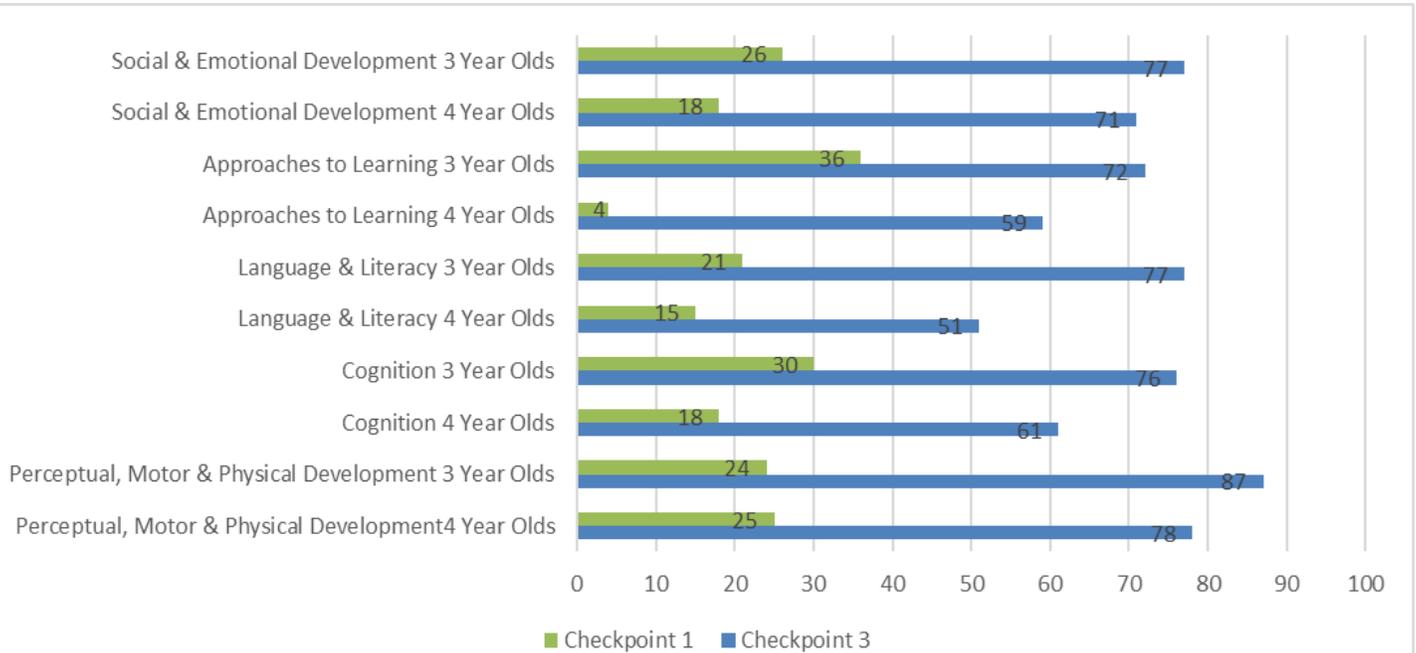
Child Services

Children in the ECASD Head Start program benefit from highly qualified teachers, research-based curriculum, and well-equipped classrooms. Social-emotional, math, early language and literacy development are areas of focus for the ECASD Head Start program. Building Blocks, Creative Curriculum, Handwriting Without Tears, S.M.A.R.T. and Conscious Discipline materials support learning that occurs throughout the classroom day through intentional and thoughtfully planned learning activities. Parents are included in the screening process and provide input at home visits and through use of Ages and Stages-3. Children's learning is observed and documented and the assessment of skills is on-going. Teaching Strategies Gold is used to assess children's learning and scores are reported three times during the program year.

Health Services

Head Start's commitment to wellness embraces a comprehensive vision of health for children and families. The health component consists of physical health, dental health, social & emotional health and nutrition. In the 2018/2019 program year, 99% of children enrolled established a medical home where families have access to an ongoing source of health care; 95% of the children were up-to-date on their scheduled, age appropriate preventive and primary health care, and 92% of the children were up-to-date on immunizations for their age. Dental health is another vital element of wellness. Preventive dental services and treatment are designed to ensure the child's teeth and gums are healthy, and dental problems do not affect the child's overall health. Dental hygiene is promoted through the fluoride varnish program and daily brushing with fluoride toothpaste. This year 99% of our children had a professional dental exam. The ECASD Head Start program utilizes professionals to provide screening for social-emotional concerns. They address identified needs of children through observations and input from interviews with family members, teachers, and other staff who are familiar with the child's typical behavior. Nutritional services assist families in meeting their child's nutritional needs and establishing good eating habits to nurture healthy development and promote life-long well-being. ECASD Head Start partners with WIC to review nutritional information for each child, identify health risks, and work with families to establish healthy nutritional goals.

School Readiness Goals—Child Outcome Data: Percentage of children achieving or exceeding expectations from fall 2018 to spring 2019.



Funding and Budget

Revenue

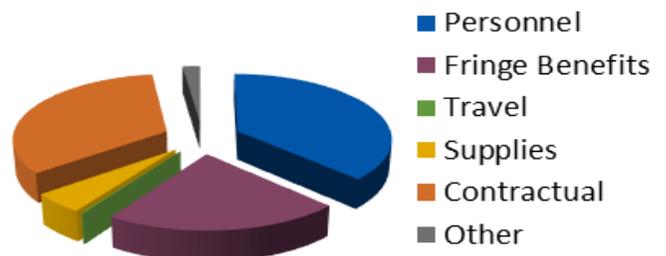
Head Start is a federally funded program. 2017-2018 federal revenues included from May 1, 2018-April 30, 2019.

Program Operations	\$824,932
Training & Technical Assistance	\$10,471
TOTAL Revenues	\$835,403

Head Start children also benefited from the Free Lunch program.

Budget & Expenditures

Personnel	\$308,744
Fringe Benefits	\$180,746
Travel	\$1,609
Supplies	\$40,898
Contractual	\$277,146
Other	\$26,260
Total Expenditures	\$835,403



Financial Audit

A financial audit for ECASD was completed by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP in 2019.

Federal Monitoring Review Results

The Administration for Children and Families conducted an on-site monitoring review in May 2019. Approach to staffing structure, program design, education, health services, family services, fiscal Infrastructure and program governance were monitored. Our program was in full compliance.

Thank You Community Partners!!!

ECASD Head Start program relies on strong community partners to provide the serves and supports to families.

- Brain Team of Eau Claire County
- Child Care Partnership Resource and Referral
- Dental Health Partners
- EC4T- 4 year old kindergarten, Special Education
- Eau Claire City-County Health Birth to Three and WIC
- Eau Claire County Department of Human Services
- Eau Claire Fire and Police Departments
- El Centro de Conexion
- Family Resource Center
- Feed My People Food Bank-Weekend Kids Meals
- Fight Against Hunger Committee
- Hmong Mutual Assistance Association
- L.E. Phillips Public Library
- Leadership Eau Claire
- Literacy Volunteers
- Parent Child Plus Program
- St. John's Church
- United Way Successful Children's Network
- UW-Extension
- UWEC ECLIPSE Program
- Water Safety Task Force
- Western Dairyland



Enrollment

ECASD's Head Start program offers a half-day, center-based program located at Prairie Ridge Early Learning School.

- Funded Enrollment: 140 children
- Average Monthly Enrollment: 99%
- Eligible Children: 100%
- Children with Disabilities: 23%
- 157 total children and 138 total families served in 2018-19

- **Promoting Family Well Being:** The Family Services team assisted families in setting and obtaining goals through the Family Partnership Agreement and Needs Assessment. The Needs Assessment data showed that 100% of our families received at least one service provided by ECASD, these needs included: food assistance, transportation services, housing, child care, parenting, assistance in job seeking/adult education, and meeting medical/dental needs. All families were provided support services based on their individual needs and desires. The on-site resources available to families are a clothing closet and a food pantry. Through a partnership with Feed My People Food Bank, our food pantry distributed over 23,000 pounds of food to families at Prairie Ridge. Weekend Kids Meals were also provided every Thursday for the entire school year.
- **Families as Advocates & Leaders:** Parent Meetings, Policy Committee and Policy Council meetings were great opportunities for parents to participate as leaders.
- **Families as Lifelong Educators:** Opportunities for parents included: volunteers, job seeking & career counseling, financial literacy training, and connections to community resources.
- **Families as Learners:** Over 100 hours of parent involvement opportunities were offered to all families. The events included a monthly Conscious Discipline series that covered the following topics: brain development, attachment, challenging behaviors, building resiliency and strong parent-child connections. Conscious Discipline workshops were well attended. Family Services also taught basic Conscious Discipline skills to families on home visits. Other parent involvement opportunities included: nutrition education, family safety and stress management.
- **Positive Parent-Child Relationships:** Approximately one-third of our funded enrollment participated in the Parent Child Home Program (PCHP) offered by the Eau Claire Area School District. PCHP is a literacy intervention program targeting children with multiple risk factors. During the visits, staff facilitate attachment, play, and early literacy development between child and parent. Staff fostered positive parent-child relationships in many ways: fatherhood events and education, Special Parents Network for Parents of Children with Disabilities, Young Athletes, mental health education, parent teacher conferences, home visits, and literacy events.
- **Family Engagement in Transitions:** ECASD Head Start and the Early Learning Program are an integral part of the PK-12 system in the Eau Claire Area School District. Children and families are supported in the transition to kindergarten through classroom activities, home visits, seamless transition of school records, and coordination of kindergarten information and visit opportunities. ECASD Head Start families are a part of the school district and have access to all services and personnel. Families have opportunities to discuss concerns about their child prior to transitions from Birth to Three to HS and HS to K-12. All staff work to ease transitions for children and families.
- **Family Connections to Peers & Community:** With numerous community partners, ECASD Head Start is able to best serve families multiple and varying needs. Our partners help us promote health, safety, and nutrition to name a few.

We're on the Web!

www.ecasd.us

Click on Schools then
Early Learning

