

40. Contracts with Various Qualified Vendors - Preschool Programs (\$82,632,000)

## **Action Item - 40**

**Title:** Contracts with Various Qualified Vendors - Preschool Programs (\$82,632,000)

**Board of Education Meeting Date:** 5/29/2025

### **Action Under Consideration:**

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education authorize The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute and perform a contract, subject to funding, as follows:

#### **With:**

A Step Ahead Day Care, Inc.  
Ann Kids Inc  
Asociación de Puertorriqueños en Marcha, Inc.  
ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania  
Bambi Day Care, Inc.  
Bright Horizons Children's Centers LLC  
Brightside Academy Philadelphia LLC  
Caring People Alliance  
Children's Village  
Childspace Day Care Center, Inc.  
Community Concern #13 Multi-Purpose Learning Center, Inc.  
Community Education Alliance of West Philadelphia  
CORA Services, Inc.  
Creative Learning Environments, Inc.  
Early Childhood Environments, LLC  
Federation Day Care Services, Inc.  
Grace Neighborhood Development Corporation  
Grace-Trinity United Church of Christ  
Grays Ferry Early Learning Academy LLC  
Greater Philadelphia Community Alliance  
Greater Philadelphia Young Men's Christian Association  
Just Children N.E., Inc.  
KenCrest Services  
Kinder Academy, Inc.  
Korean Community Development Services Center  
Little People's Village 2  
Mercy Neighborhood Ministries of Philadelphia, Inc.  
Methodist Services  
New Dynasty, Ltd.  
Porter's Day Care & Educational Center, Incorporated  
Pratt Street Learning Center Inc  
Precious Angels, Inc.  
Scholarly Minds Academy LLC

Settlement Music School of Philadelphia  
Somerset Academy Early Learning Center  
Special People in Northeast, Inc.  
The Children's Playhouse Early Learning Center, LLC  
The Green/Byrne Child Care Center, Inc.  
The Olde City Day School, LLC  
The Parent-Infant Center  
Today's Child Learning Centers, Inc.  
Total Child Care Systems, Inc.  
Wonderspring  
Xiente, Inc.  
Young World Early Learning Center, Inc.  
Your Child's World Learning Center  
Youth Enrichment Programs, Inc.

**Purpose:**

To continue providing high-quality, comprehensive preschool ("preK") programming to age- and income-eligible children and their families throughout the City of Philadelphia

**Start date:** 7/1/2025

**End Date:** 6/30/2026

**Compensation not to exceed:**

\$82,632,000

**Separate Compensation by Contractor:**

A Step Ahead Day Care, Inc., \$440,000;  
Ann Kids Inc, \$2,200,000;  
Asociación de Puertorriqueños en Marcha, Inc., \$6,468,000;  
ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania, \$4,631,000;  
Bambi Day Care, Inc., \$660,000;  
Bright Horizons Children's Centers LLC, \$440,000;  
Brightside Academy Philadelphia LLC, \$5,841,000;  
Caring People Alliance, \$1,034,000;  
Children's Village, \$2,926,000;  
Childspace Day Care Center, Inc., \$418,000;  
Community Concern #13 Multi-Purpose Learning Center, Inc., \$660,000;  
Community Education Alliance of West Philadelphia, \$1,232,000;  
CORA Services, Inc., \$1,507,000;  
Creative Learning Environments, Inc., \$1,485,000;  
Early Childhood Environments, LLC, \$440,000;  
Federation Day Care Services, Inc., \$1,529,000;  
Grace Neighborhood Development Corporation, \$4,455,000;  
Grace-Trinity United Church of Christ, \$682,000;

Grays Ferry Early Learning Academy LLC, \$220,000;  
Greater Philadelphia Community Alliance, \$1,276,000;  
Greater Philadelphia Young Men's Christian Association, \$1,177,000;  
Just Children N.E., Inc., \$374,000;  
KenCrest Services, \$8,910,000;  
Kinder Academy, Inc., \$4,279,000;  
Korean Community Development Services Center, \$440,000;  
Little People's Village 2, \$1,980,000;  
Mercy Neighborhood Ministries of Philadelphia, Inc., \$2,123,000;  
Methodist Services, \$880,000;  
New Dynasty, Ltd., \$330,000;  
Porter's Day Care & Educational Center, Incorporated, \$2,156,000;  
Pratt Street Learning Center Inc, \$1,782,000;  
Precious Angels, Inc., \$880,000;  
Scholarly Minds Academy LLC, \$176,000;  
Settlement Music School of Philadelphia, \$1,089,000;  
Somerset Academy Early Learning Center, \$440,000;  
Special People in Northeast, Inc., \$3,267,000;  
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Total Child Care Systems, Inc., \$880,000;  
Wonderspring, \$1,320,000;  
Xiente, Inc., \$2,673,000;  
Young World Early Learning Center, Inc., \$506,000;  
Your Child's World Learning Center, \$3,058,000; and  
Youth Enrichment Programs, Inc., \$638,000

**Location:**

Pre-K Partnership Support

**Renewal Option:**

N/A

**Description:**

**Why is this contract needed?**

The District is the single largest provider of quality preK programming for three- and four-year-olds in the City of Philadelphia, currently serving nearly 11,000 children through internally-operated programs within District buildings as well as partner-operated programs located in community-based centers. This action item seeks authorization for the District to contract with the partner-operated preK programs, all of which have qualified for this work through a rigorous and competitive review process that includes evaluation of a comprehensive written response to an RFQ, multiple site visits, and review of prior experience and performance. In addition, all

contracted providers must be licensed as child care sites, and maintain high-quality ratings under the Pennsylvania Department of Education's system for authorizing and monitoring preK, known as the Keystone STARS system.

**How will the success of this contract be measured?**

Performance metrics for all of the District's preK programs are collected across a variety of domains, from student academic and health outcomes to programmatic and fiscal compliance, and are reviewed and analyzed on an annual basis to assess results as well as inform future programming and support needs. Individual contractors are provided with coaching and other supports from the District to help them to continue to meet all licensing and quality standards; contractors that fail to meet required standards are terminated, and their preK slots are reallocated to other qualified providers to enable families to continue receiving services.

**When applicable, is this an evidence-based strategy? If so, what evidence exists to support this approach?**

High quality preK is generally accepted by national researchers and policy makers as an evidence-based strategy that provides substantial short and long-term academic, behavioral, social and health benefits for children, as well as positive social and economic impacts for the larger community. For two recent and widely published studies documenting this evidence, see the National Bureau of Economic Research's The Long-Term Effects of Universal Preschool in Boston (May 2021, by Guthrie Gray-Lobe, Parag A. Pathak and Christopher R. Walters) and The Lifecycle Benefits of a Prototypical Early Childhood Program (2019, by James Heckman, Jorge Luis García, Duncan Ermini Leaf, and María José Prados).

**When applicable, was a larger array of District community members and/or stakeholders involved in this selection process? If so, what groups and how?**

All of the District's preK providers are identified and selected under a competitive procurement process, described earlier, that is conducted by a committee of District staff with relevant programmatic and fiscal expertise who review written RFQ responses, consider performance data, and conduct site visits.

**Which Goal and/or Guardrail does this Action Item support? Has this investment been discussed during a progress monitoring session?**

This action item supports Goals 1-3. Previous progress monitoring sessions for Goals 1-3 have referred to the District's substantial investments in preK.

**Does this Action Item support a specific strategy/intervention identified in the Strategic Plan?**

The District's preK programming directly supports Strategic Action 3.1 about improving access to high quality preK for underserved populations.

**Related resolution(s)/action item(s)**

April 25, 2024; No. 35  
March 27, 2025; No. 20

**Funding Source(s)**

FY25-26 Federal Head Start Program Grant;  
FY25-26 PA Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program Grant;  
FY25-26 PA Pre-K Counts Program Grant; and  
FY25-26 City PHLPReK Program Initiative.

**Office Originating Request:**

School Performance

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