

## **Berlin Area School District Believes:**

Parents are children's primary and most important caregivers and educators.

Families, community and schools are partners in a child's early learning experience.

All children should be offered high quality, developmentally appropriate learning opportunities.

All children need a safe, positive, nurturing and welcoming environment to grow and develop.

Expectations for children must be guided by knowledge of child growth and development.

Children learn through play and the active exploration of their environment.

### Parent Outreach and Involvement

We recognize that all parents are their child's first and most important teachers and partners in the educational process.

There will be numerous opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's 4K program!

## **Registration begins May 11, 2009**

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**BERLIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**WHERE KIDS ARE FIRST**

## **BERLIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT'S 4K PROGRAM**



## Why 4K?

- To provide equal access for all children and families
- To increase school-readiness for all children entering kindergarten
- To create an integrated setting for children with special needs
- To access additional state funding for our district

### RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT CHILDREN WHO GO TO PRESCHOOL ARE:

- More likely to become good readers in elementary school. Preschool kids get ready to read.
- Less likely to be placed in special education or held back a grade. Preschool kids get ready to learn.
- More likely to graduate from high school and attend college.
- Less likely to need public assistance as adults.

## WHAT WILL MY CHILD'S CLASSROOM ENCOURAGE?

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- ❖ **Health and Physical Development:** Will provide complex and diverse opportunities for children to understand and care for their physical well being, develop small and gross motor skills, and use senses.
- ❖ **Social and Emotional Development:** Will provide the environment, context, and opportunities for children to develop emotional and social competence and strengthen their sense of personal well being.
- ❖ **Language Development and Communication:** Will provide opportunities for children to develop literacy concepts and skills, as well as, their abilities to listen, understand, speak and communicate.
- ❖ **Approaches to Learning:** Will provide opportunities for children to extend their learning through curiosity, engagement, persistence and the use of cognitive skills as a tool to acquire knowledge and skills.
- ❖ **Cognition and General Knowledge:** Will provide opportunities for children to extend their learning through the use of mathematical and logical thinking, scientific reasoning and problem solving, and understanding of the characteristics of structures of social systems.

## IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT 4K:

- Bussing will be provided to and from 4K sites
- Possible sites throughout the community include: St. John School, All Saints School, Berlin Community Day Care, Gentle Heart Academy, Prairie View Head Start and Clay Lamberton Elementary
- Children will attend a half day session (am or pm) Monday-Friday and follow the BASD calendar. There will be some additional days when classes will not meet to allow 4K teachers common planning time.
- Classes will be taught by a Department of Public Instruction Licensed Teacher
- Each classroom will have an instructional aide and class sizes will be approximately 15-18.
- There is no cost to parents for the program
- The program is available for all children in the Berlin Area School District who will be four by September 1st