



# *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. Please bring completed forms to:

### **Multnomah Early Childhood Preschool Program**

5208 NE 122nd Ave.

Portland, Oregon 97230

Phone: (503) 261-5535 Fax: (503) 894-8229

Learning in a nurturing environment is important for a young child's development. In our imaginative and lively classes, young children make friends while playing, painting, learning and laughing alongside children with special needs. Peers will learn diversity, tolerance, and to appreciate the differences in every child. 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 interventionist, 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.

Thank you again for your interest in our program.

Sincerely,

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

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