



Early Childhood Education FACT SHEET

The Early Childhood Education program provides preschool services to the Aurora Public School district students. The program exists as a result of financial support received from the following resources: Colorado Preschool Program, Special Education and Title I.

- The ECE program has been in existence serving students for more than 20 years. The program will increase in student capacity from 1500 to 1700 in August 2009.
- Three and four year old preschool students who may not have had the opportunity to attend preschool due to private program and center costs are eligible for the ECE program. Quality early childhood programs produce beneficial outcomes for children and the community in which we live.
- **The Colorado Preschool Program** provides strong early learning that leads to more successful, better educated students. Students who attend high-quality preschools require less remediation throughout the educational system.
- **The APS ECE staff** participates in on-going professional development throughout the school year. As a result, Aurora Public Schools maintains highly qualified employees in our preschool classrooms.
- **During the 2008-09 school year**, APS maintained more than 600 students on the preschool program waiting list. As the ECE program continues to expand, more students and families will be served. Families benefit from preschool opportunities by becoming familiar with school settings and their child's learning at an early age.
- **The 2008 CSAP reading assessment data** indicates that students who attended the CPP program scored higher than students without a preschool experience. Students who attend quality preschool programs have higher oral language development and higher graduation rates from high school.
- **Tuition-Based Preschool (TBP):** Due to the limited amount of space for TBP, starting in the 2010-2011 school year, tuition will be offered only to students who do not qualify for CPP or Special Education preschool services. Children must be 3 or 4 years old on or before Oct. 1 to be eligible for TBP. TBP is offered to

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children living within the Aurora Public School District. Parent or legal guardian must complete the preschool screening process to be identified for Tuition Based Preschool. A non-refundable application fee of \$60.00 will be collected at time of student registration. All classrooms are inclusive with Special Education and Colorado Preschool Program students. Monthly tuition charge is \$350 per month. Tuition students attend am or pm session for 2:45 minutes 4 days a week. The tuition program follows the tradition school calendar. Tuition qualified students are selected by a computerized lottery system.