Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) Overview
Overview of Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA)

- District notified of eligibility to apply: July 2022
- Initial Application due: August 9, 2022
- Notification of Award: September 8, 2022
- 59 open spots
- Outreach to families for placement started late August and continued through 9/15/22
- Lottery conducted on 9/22/22
- Program start date 10/3/22
Implementation Review

- Grant Approved 9/8/22 and students entered the program on 10/3/22
- Prior to 10/3, team successfully:
  - Ordered furniture, materials, and supplies for all classrooms
  - Made all necessary improvements to classrooms (e.g., painting, floor replacement, installing cabinets and sinks)
  - On 9/30, all teachers and paras participated in professional development for the district curriculum (Tools of the Mind)
  - District registrar worked quickly to have students registered for the 10/3 start date of the program
- Current Enrollment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Enrolled Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DLC (2 classrooms)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCPK (1 classroom)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishuane (2 classrooms)</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMCA</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Some upcoming activities:
  - Staff will continue to participate in professional development, 1st PLC on 11/17 and next workshop on 12/8.
  - Parent teacher conferences with families in December (as per district calendar)
Additional Resources for Implementation

- NJ DOE has assigned an Early Childhood liaison to guide the district for the full 5-year implementation (and beyond).
- Early Childhood Advisory Council
  - Once established, this group, of more than 20 stakeholders consisting of diverse community members and district staff, will:
    - Assist in the implementation of PreK and oversee its growth to meet the 90% Universe enrollment.
    - Assist in creating supports for transition from preschool to Kindergarten.
    - Participate in the community assessment of specific needs and resources, including facilities, as they pertain to the implementation of high-quality preschool services.
Pending Tasks

- Complete enrollment for pending spots.
  - Families have been contacted for all pending placements. If, after district follow-up, families do not register, the placement will be offered to the next eligible family from the lottery list until all spots are filled.
  - Spots have also been reserved for pending special education students. These will be filled as students are found eligible via the IEP process.

- Approve Preschool Instructional Coach (PIC) consultant through Montclair State University
  - This individual will be working with each teacher/class (including community partners) to ensure implementation of district curriculum.

- Approve and hire Preschool Community Parent Involvement Specialist
  - Once hired, this individual will be responsible for establishing and meeting regularly with the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)

- Establish an enrollment process for 2023-2024 school year that includes consideration for income eligible and ELL families.
Proposed Plan for 2023-2024

- Operational plan for 2023-2024 due to DOE on 11/15/22
- Pending DOE approval:
  - PEA classrooms and partnerships will increase.
  - We are excited to begin partnership with MCDC (Head Start) and Neighborhood Childcare Center.
- We are anticipating the following classrooms:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2022-2023 Classrooms</th>
<th>2023-2024 Classrooms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DLC</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCDC (Head Start)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCPK</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Childcare center</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishuane</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMCA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our PreK Classrooms

Nishuane Cozy Corner (Literacy Center)

Blocks and Cars at DLC
Our PreK Classrooms

YMCA Opening Group

Dramatic Play at MCPK