

Dear Preschool and Pre-K Parents.

I am writing with a quick update about our Pre-K classrooms for the fall of 2025. At the end of last school year, we made the decision to move forward with having only one Pre-K classroom open this fall because of our lower enrollment numbers. Over the last few weeks we have had a slight increase in interest in our Pre-K which has resulted in a few more students enrolling. After much prayer and discussion with Mr. Kieffer, we have decided to utilize both Pre-K classrooms this fall. This will allow us to have more physical space available for our Pre-K students and teachers, it will also provide a smaller student to teacher ratio within the Pre-K. We will be able to do this with the same number of personnel that we would have needed for one classroom of 26 Pre-K students. We will be using the second Pre-K classroom on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Our first Pre-K classroom will have Ms. Megan Waldorf as a teacher. She has been lead teaching in this classroom for 3 years. The second PreK classroom will have Erin Hage as the lead teacher. Mrs. Hage has already been a part of our staff for 2 years and she is fully qualified as an Early Childhood teacher by DCYF regulations. Erin has been working at St. Charles as a substitute teacher, an ELL teacher (English Language Learners) and assistant teacher. She was scheduled to be an assistant teacher in Ms. Waldorf's classroom again this year. Mrs. Hage is very excited about the opportunity to lead teach this year. I am also very excited about this step on her journey as a teacher.

This means we will have one Pre-K classroom open 5 days a week, and our second classroom will be open 3 days a week. Ms. Waldorf will continue to be the lead teacher of the Pre-K classroom that is open 5 days a week. Mrs. Hage will teach on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. On Thursdays, Ms. Waldorf and Mrs. Hage will combine their classrooms and co-teach together!

Our Pre-K numbers remain low this year even with the additional students that enrolled in late July and August. As stated in the spring, we do not see this decrease in Pre-K enrollment as a trend and are optimistic that in the fall of 2026 we will have two Pre-K classrooms open at full capacity again (which has been the pattern for the past 9 consecutive years after our expansion).

Thank you for your continued support of our preschool program and school. God Bless,

Ms. Carlson