

If you have further questions, please contact:

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# Young Fives Program

At Jackson Public Schools



*A Gift of Time*



### **What is the Young Fives program?**

Our Young Fives program is a bridge between 4-year old preschool and kindergarten, offering a developmentally appropriate curriculum designed to meet the needs of a child who may need one more year of social, emotional or academic development. It benefits students by providing an extra year to gain independence, self-esteem, problem solving skills, fine and gross motor development, and social skills to prepare children for their kindergarten experience. In other words, our Young Fives program is a *gift of time*, an opportunity to empower your child to enter kindergarten with confidence and an eagerness for learning.

### **How does a child qualify for the Young Fives program?**

Children who turn five between April 1 and December 1, 2019 can qualify based on the results of the Brigance test administered to all entering kindergarten students, or through parent request. Parents of students who are not five years old by September 1, 2019 will need to complete a Kindergarten Waiver Request form, available at [www.jpsk12.org](http://www.jpsk12.org).

### **Where is the program located?**

Young Fives classrooms are located at Bennett Elementary, Cascades Elementary, Hunt Elementary and Sharp Park Academy.

### **What happens after the Young Fives program?**

Students in the Young Fives program will move to the grade most appropriate for them based on their academic scores and level of social/emotional development in the spring. In order to be considered for first grade placement, scores must demonstrate that the child is on target to meet year end reading, writing and math expectations for kindergarten AND is ready socially and emotionally for first grade.

## **Young Fives Curriculum at a Glance Students will be able to...**

### **Social / Emotional**

- Participate in a small group setting
- Demonstrate self-control and express emotions appropriately
- Respect the personal space of others
- Adjust to transitions and follow classroom rules
- Organize self and belongings independently

### **Fine Motor / Hand Writing / Visual Spatial Awareness**

- Hold a pencil with dominant hand
- Pick up and manipulate small objects
- Write first and last name
- Learn to use scissors

### **Language Arts**

- Develop listening, speaking, pre-reading and pre-writing skills
- Learn to recognize letters, learn letter sounds
- Communicate a message on paper using pictures and/or print

### **Math**

- Learn number concepts, operations, measurement, shapes, patterns, counting and sorting
- Recognize and write numbers

### **Science**

- Ask questions, and make predictions and observations while exploring the natural world

### **Social Studies**

- Develop a basic awareness of themselves as part of a family and community
- Develop an awareness and appreciation of his/her own culture, as well as that of others