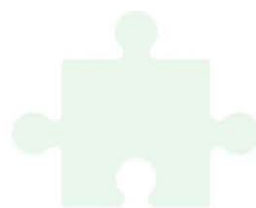
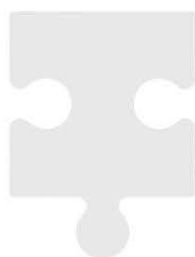
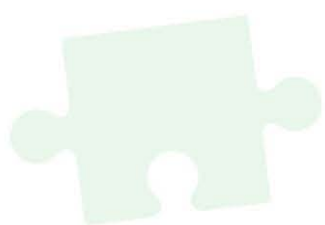




Olathe Head Start

Annual Report 2021-2022



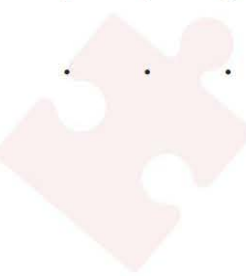


DESIGNED BY BRITNIE JENKINS



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Letter from the Director

2021-2022



As the Director of Olathe Head Start, I take great pride in sharing the 2021-2022 Annual Report with our Head Start families and stakeholders. The pandemic presented many challenges for our program and community, and I would like to thank the staff and the Head Start families for your ability to adapt through these times.

As we continue to face the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we remain committed to the core values that guide our decisions and expectations for the services we provide to our children and families.

Our priorities are to promote teaching and learning, address concerns that have arisen because of academic and social gaps in these unprecedented times and meet the diverse needs of all the families that we serve. The program has been able to provide services through multiple platforms and continues to meet the needs of our vulnerable population. I greatly appreciate the fortitude of the staff and the support of the community.

I am privileged to have a team of dedicated and outstanding staff that have helped to make Head Start services as smooth and seamless as possible. Olathe Head Start has continued to meet our mission of providing children with the foundation of skills and knowledge they need to be successful in school and life and fostering self-reliant families and communities.

Our teaching team worked diligently, despite the many changes, to provide results-oriented planning and instruction that focused on helping children succeed and build skills to achieve great things in their lives.

The staff's ongoing dedication to maintain a safe and positive learning environment will help to ensure our children will gain the necessary knowledge and skills essential for meeting school readiness expectations.

Thank you to all the Head Start families for your support and cooperation over the past school year. Partnering with you, our Head Start families, has been crucial to our program's success especially as we faced the obstacles presented by the pandemic.

I will stay committed to working collaboratively with you and will provide resources, strategies, and information to help our children succeed in the coming years.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside not only a team of dedicated staff and teachers, but parents, family members, Policy Council, and Board Members. Our Head Start community is deeply committed to the safety and well-being of our children and strongly believe that it takes a village to raise a child.

Kimberly D. Sill

Head Start Director

Board of Education



Celebrating
57



Years of Excellence
in Olathe, Kansas!



Policy Council

Our 2022-2023 Presidency

Our Head Start 2022-2023 President is **Sherisa Strother** from our Heartland center. Our Vice President is **Cherri Sanchez** from our Heartland center. And our Secretary is **Brittany Dean** from our Harmony center. Thank you for serving!

Black Bob Representatives

Our Black Bob location offers two full day classrooms for our Head Start children. The parent of our Head Start child who is involved in Policy Council from this center is **Miquela Dawkins**.

Harmony Representatives

Our Harmony location offers one full day classroom, one AM classroom, and one PM classroom for our Head Start children. The parents of our Head Start children who are involved in Policy Council from this center are **Maureen Werner, Jenn Reilly, Audra Alverado**, and **Jessica Garcia**.

Heartland Representatives

Our Heartland location offers three full day classrooms, three AM classrooms, and three PM classrooms for our Head Start children. The parents of our Head Start children who are involved in Policy Council from this center are **Laura Pierce, Andrea Navarrete, Sidney Kurtz, Heather Newton, Ronisha Dennis**, and **April Fritz**.

Community Representatives

Our Community Representatives are **Brian Connell, Sendy Romero, Rachel Perez, Monica Gutierrez, Tracey Hubbard, Carol Vawter, Emily Diehl**, and **Peggy Newton**.

Governing Body

Policy Council meetings are scheduled monthly, to empower parents to make decisions about program policies that may enhance services to children and families. Olathe School District Board representatives are actively involved with the Policy Council, to assure that the program staff, parents and governing body fulfill their responsibilities.

The Olathe Public Schools Head Start Program has established and maintains a formal structure of shared governance through which parents can participate in policy making or in other decisions about the program.

Required Structure Groups:

- Governing Body- The Olathe School Board
- Policy Council- made up of parents and community representatives
- Parent Committee- Established at each school where Head Start services are offered

Since its inception in 1965, Head Start has recognized the value of including parents as FULL PARTNERS in making decisions that concern them, their children, and the program. Shared governance of the program may, in fact, be one of Head Start's most unique contributions. The practice of shared decision-making in Olathe School District's Head Start program promotes shared responsibilities.

It gives a voice to all concerned with the health, education and well-being of the children served. Shared decision making allows everyone's opinions to be heard and considered. During the Covid-19 Pandemic the program utilized technology to conduct virtual meetings each month. The program experienced improved attendance at the policy council meetings due to implementation of virtual meetings.





Head Start Mission

The mission of Olathe Head Start is to enhance the quality of life for families through education and support services in a safe, caring environment. We are a federally funded, center-based program that provides services to children and families 3-5 years of age who are from low income families. The Olathe School District is the grantee for Olathe Head Start and serves Olathe, Blue Valley, Spring Hill, De Soto, and Gardner/Edgerton School Districts.

Our objective is to provide children and their families with comprehensive services that will allow them to succeed in school and in life. Our program works with 3-5 year old children in an effort to equip them with school readiness skills. We assist our children and their families by helping them set and achieve goals.

The fundamental goal of Head Start is to increase social competence in children from low income families. Social competence means the child's everyday effectiveness in dealing with both the present environment and later responsibilities in school and life. The Head Start experience provides an active learning environment that allows children to cultivate their interests while developing knowledge about their surroundings and social skills relating with each other and adults.



Program Information

163

Children with
Current Vaccinations

155

Children with
Dental Care

188

Total Enrolled
Families

170

Children with
Health Insurance

108

Total Program
Volunteers

40

Children with
an IEP

100

Dual Language
Learners

44

Total Parents as
Volunteers

122

Healthy Weight
Children

136

Families with 1+
Employed Parent

105

Single-Parent
Families

154

Families getting
Family Services

Early Learning Framework

The program utilizes the Frog Street Curriculum, a play based curriculum which is aligned with the Kansas Early Learning Standards and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework. Frog Street Pre-K (FSPK) is a high quality, research-based curriculum organized into domains that support integration of curriculum and builds connections between and among all disciplines.

Curriculum Cornerstones:

- Integrated lessons with a defined scope and sequence of instruction
- Social-emotional development using Conscious Discipline® strategies
- Differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all learners including English Language Learners and children with special needs
- A joyful approach to learn

The Family Engagement:

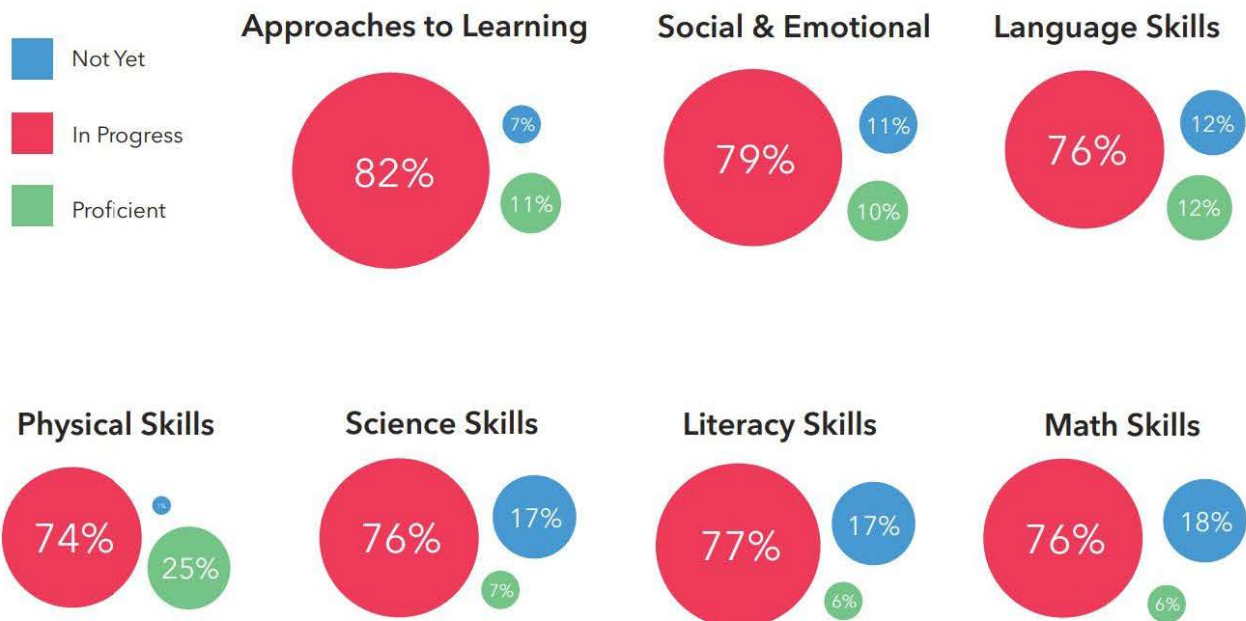
Frog Street's Empowering Families program seeks to educate and inspire parents to embrace the learning that starts in the classroom and continue it at home. This program consists of actual curriculum content for parents to reinforce learning after school hours and Professional Learning courses designed for educators on how to engage families.

The Early Literacy Take-Home Books offer an easy-to-use first step toward empowering families with the tools they need to influence positive academic growth at home. Frog Street's Empowering Families Professional Learning Courses help integrate family involvement into Head Start's overall mission.

Charts and Stats

The Olathe Head Start children are assessed using the research-based, ongoing child assessment tool Work Sampling. Work Sampling helps teachers use actual classroom experiences, activities, and materials to document and evaluate children's skills, knowledge and behaviors. Portfolio samples are gathered throughout the year and help demonstrate progress through concrete illustrations of children's thinking.

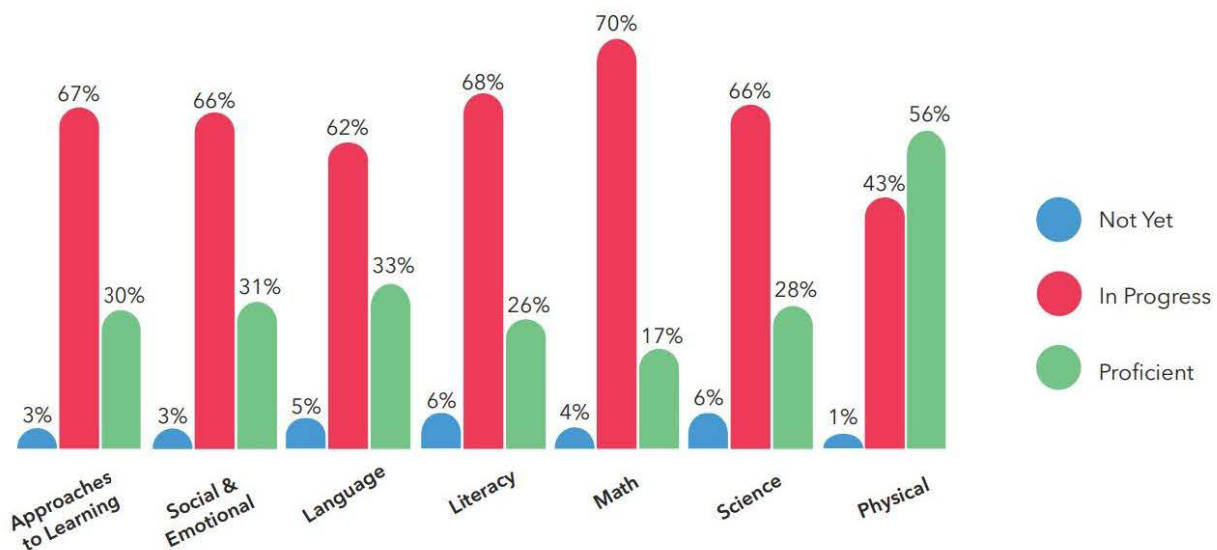
Developmental Guidelines cover seven major curriculum areas: approaches to learning, social/emotional development, language development, literacy knowledge, mathematical development, scientific thinking, and physical development. Our teaching staff is dedicated to helping each and every child learn and become better. They work hard to make sure there are beneficial activities and projects for the children and families they serve.



Charts and Stats

Below is Olathe Head Start's data collected and assessed for Period 2, Winter school year 2021-2022. All domains have only six percent (6%) or less of students in not yet. Teachers have seen tremendous growth over period two. Students are going from in process to proficient with the physical domain and language domain showing the highest percentage of proficient students. The most growth is seen in physical which is to be expected and the lowest growth in math which is also to be expected due to both math and science being introduced later in the academic school year.

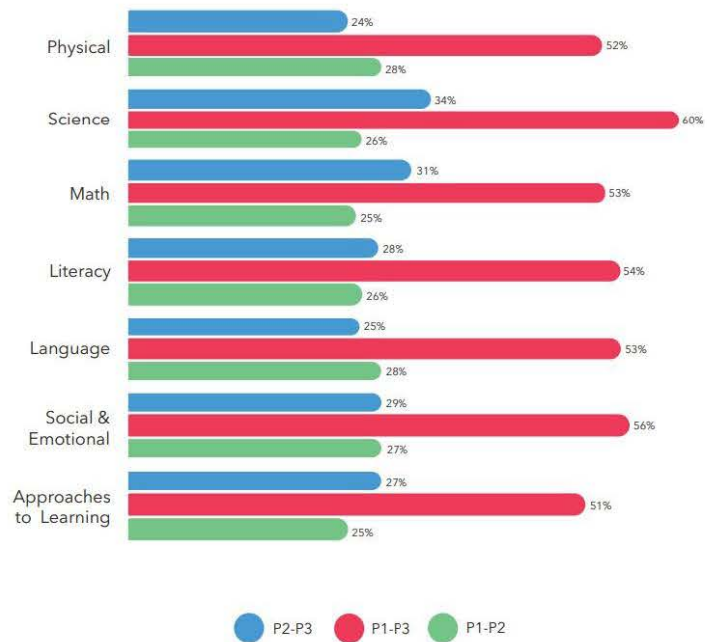
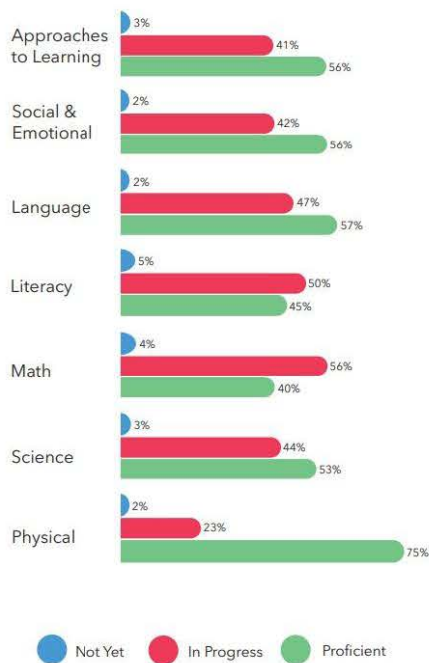
Language is showing the highest percentage of proficient students and has also gained the highest growth at twenty-one percent (21%) along with the social and emotional domain at twenty-one percent (21%). Language is one of the most important domains helping students succeed in many other areas and these two domains combined are essential to building a foundation of students succeeding and being ready to learn. Olathe Head Start students are making strides and teachers are seeing continued growth. Gains have risen at a slower pace this year due to residual effects of COVID, but gains none the less.



Charts and Stats

The left chart represents where Olathe Head Start students ended the 2021-22 school year. This school year brought many challenges as the program navigated the results of the Covid 19 pandemic. Some of the challenges included staff/student extended illnesses, delays in social skills, lack of exposure to academic and social experiences. The data shows that despite all the challenges of this school year, children have made gains in all the developmental domains.

The right chart shows the largest gains between period 1 and period 3 were in the areas of Social and Emotional, Literacy and making and Science and Scientific Reasoning. Olathe Head Start's primary goal is to always move students forward in the domain of Social and Emotional Development. Through ongoing observations, conversations with children and information from family members, teachers can develop students social and emotional skills such as social relationships, self-concept and self-efficacy, self-regulation and emotional and behavioral health.



Parent Involvement

Head Start staff connects parents with social service assistance, job training and employment assistance, medical and dental services, vision and hearing screenings, nutrition assistance and counseling, and supports children with special needs.

Head Start's parent and family engagement builds relationships that support family well-being, support bonds between parents and their children, and promote learning for parents, children and families. Olathe Head Start engages parents with a rich variety of educational opportunities and cultural/social activities. One of Olathe Head Start's goals is to help parents positively impact their child's school readiness. The program collaborates with multiple community partners to provide education that fosters stronger families and a healthy community. Programs include parenting, child development, nutrition, health, mental health, budgeting, community advocacy, and meeting the needs of children with developmental disabilities and literacy.

Our hope as a program is that children and their families will become capable of living their best life. A life where they are self-reliant and hard working. Where they can apply the skills they learned while their children attended Head Start to improve their relationships and their homes. We know that this program works and that lives are changed because of Head Start.

Parent Involvement Activities:

- Parent Committees
- Father Involvement
- Policy Council
- Family Fun Night
- Parent Training Opportunities
 - Conscious Discipline
 - Stress Management
 - Reading Nights
 - Health Fair



Parent Gauge Comments

“ During the home visits, they asked questions to get to know the children’s needs or concerns. Also, if we needed any resources. Good communication. ”

“ Phenomenal. I love Heartland, and you guys have helped me tremendously moving forward and getting a new job. ”

“ My child likes to share about her day with me, so we talk about colors, shapes, numbers, and practicing to learn more English at home. ”

“ I have found all Head Start people to be very helpful, kind, concerned, and caring. ”

“ The program has supported me in taking care of myself first then taking care of my kids. We focus on conscious discipline, eating healthy, and family time. ”

“ Great listeners! Very friendly and concerned about the family’s welfare. It wasn’t just a contact and it ended there, I was helped along the way. Love the program. ”

Federal Review

FY 2015	Environmental Health & Safety Review Fiscal Integrity/ERSEA Review	COMPLIANT COMPLIANT
	CLSS Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emotional Support Score Classroom Organization Score Instructional Support Score 	6.4318 6.1515 3.9242
FY 2016	Leadership, Governance, Management Systems Comprehensive Services & School Readiness	COMPLIANT COMPLIANT
FY 2017	Evaluation & Determination	COMPLIANT
FY 2018	FOCUS AREA 1	COMPLIANT



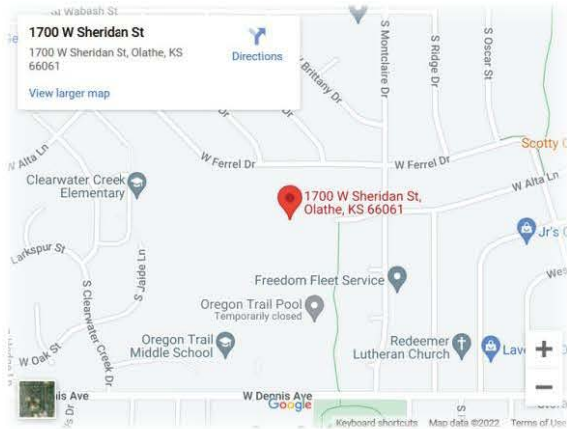


Community Partnerships

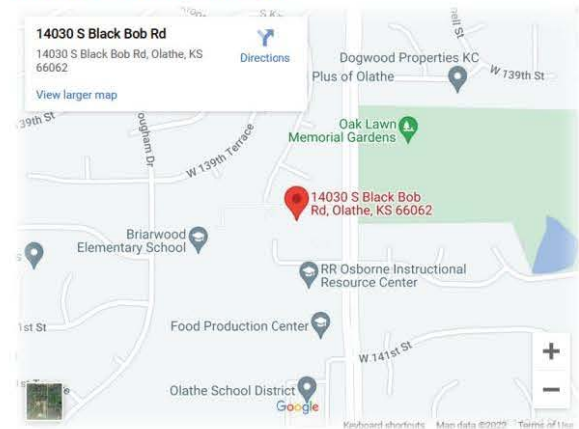
- **Olathe District Schools Special Education Services**
- **Johnson County Community College**
- **Johnson County Mental Health**
- **Farmers Insurance**
- **Students from Local High Schools (Olathe, Blue Valley, Gardner)**
- **Mid America Nazarene Interns**
- **Head Start Parents/Grandparents**
- **Community Residents**
- **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)**
- **Olathe Police Department**
- **Olathe Lion's Club**

Our Program Locations

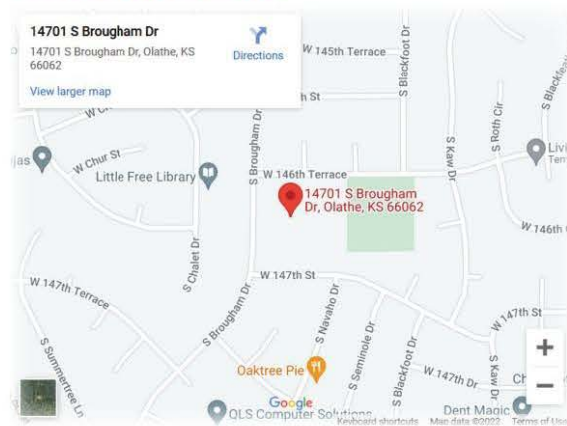
Head Start at Heartland



Head Start at Harmony



Head Start at Black Bob



Olathe District Office Buildings



