

HEAD START

Kenosha Unified School District
2011-2012 Annual Report



Introduction

The Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) Head Start Program has been involved in the Kenosha community since 1965 serving children and families within the boundaries of Kenosha Unified School District, which encompasses the City of Kenosha, Village of Pleasant Prairie and the Town of Somers. A total of 389 children were funded through the Federal Head Start grant and the State Supplemental Head Start grant for the 2011-2012 program year. Children attend half-day center based classrooms, 4 days a week at various locations throughout the community.

The Kenosha Head Start program promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. Parents and community members are encouraged to volunteer their support in classrooms or in providing after school opportunities for parents.

In providing and expanding preschool services to all children within KUSD boundaries, preschool programs were realigned and integrated. KUSD integrated Head Start, Early Childhood Special Education, and 4 year old kindergarten under one umbrella called Early Education. This has resulted in a collaborative model that shares resources and staff while expanding opportunities for Head Start children to attend their neighborhood school where they will also attend kindergarten. This realignment also provided the opportunity to strengthen the services that Head Start provides to children and families.

Kenosha Unified School Districts vision is "Maximizing the Brilliance of Children", while the Mission is "To assure every child experiences high quality, personalized learning success." The Head Start program goals are to improve student achievement by meeting or exceeding identified early learning standards, expand collaborative partnerships with families, community, and industry by expanding community based locations and secure resources by collaborating with all KUSD preschool programs and community child care centers.

KUSD Head Start Budget 2011-2012 Funding Sources

- › Department of Health & Human Services (DHH), The Administration for Children & Families (July 1, 2011- June 30, 2012) Federal Funds **\$1,999,031**
 - › Training/Technical Assistance Federal Funds **\$31,315**
 - › Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Head Start State Supplemental Funds **\$340,725**
- Total Kenosha Head Start Program Budget \$2,371,071**

2011-2012 Expenditures from DHH Funding Source

Personnel and Benefits	\$1,564,371
Supplies	\$35,950
Contracted Services.....	\$101,529
Equipment.....	\$4,386
Other.....	\$231,825
Administration of Program	\$60,970
Total	\$1,999,031

Proposed KUSD Head Start Budget 2012-2013 Funding Sources

- › Department of Health & Human Services (DHH), The Administration for Children & Families (July 1, 2011- June 30, 2012) Federal Funds **\$1,999,031**
 - › Training/Technical Assistance Federal Funds **\$31,315**
 - › Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Head Start State Supplemental Funds **\$340,725**
- Total Kenosha Head Start Program Budget \$2,371,071**

Proposed 2012-2013 Expenditures from DHH Funding Source

Personnel and Benefits	\$1,645,693
Equipment.....	\$10,000
Supplies	\$55,000
Contractual	\$2,000
Other.....	\$210,775
Administration of Program	\$75,563
Total	\$1,999,031

KUSD Financial Audit and The Department of Health and Human (DHH) Services Monitoring Review

Kenosha Unified School District policy and state law requires an annual audit of the financial statement of the District by an independent certified public accountant. Compliance with this request has occurred and a detailed report dated November 21, 2012 can be found at <http://www.kusd.edu/departments/budget/cafr.pdf>. The report on basic financial statements found that the information is stated fairly in all material respects. The Office of Head Start conducts on-site reviews every three years. The purpose of this Review is to ensure that the Head Start Performance Standards are being followed and consistently implemented. The most recent review and financial audit of the Kenosha Head Start Program was conducted in May of 2012. Head Start Federal Review occurred the week of May 14, 2012. On August 28, 2012, a written report from the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, was received. The letter indicated the following:

IDENTIFIED AREAS OF STRENGTHS:

1. Collaborations with community agencies and resources including the KUSD Early Education program.
2. Head Start classrooms staffed with full time special education teachers.
3. The level of technology available to Head Start children.

AREAS OF NONCOMPLIANCE:

1. The grantee (KUSD) did not ensure each employee had an initial health examination and screening for tuberculosis.
2. The grantee (KUSD) entered into an agreement under which costs of a capital lease were charged to Head Start without prior approval of the purchase of the Chavez Learning Station.
3. The grantee (KUSD) did not make available to the public a report disclosing all required information.

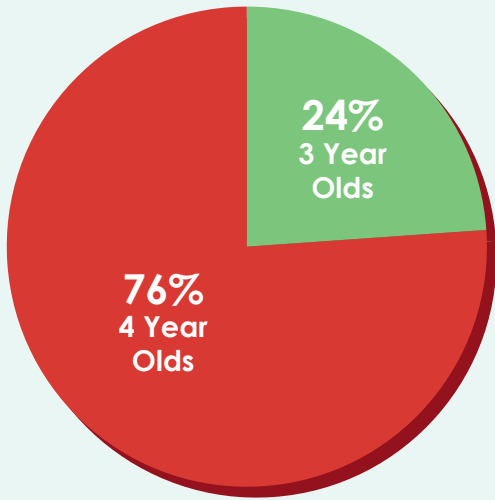
The follow up review is scheduled for March 14-15, 2013. For more information regarding the review and/or correction process, please contact kkurklis@kusd.edu.

Enrollment and Attendance Information

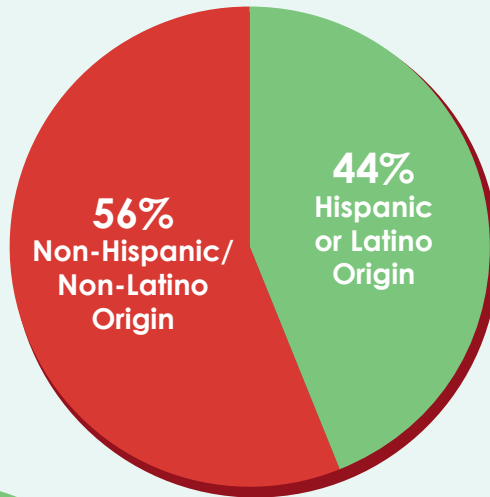
The Kenosha Head Start program provides high quality educational and family services at no-cost for low-income children and families within the Kenosha Unified School District #1 boundaries. The program is funded to provide services to 389 children at 15 locations in half day sessions, 4 days per week. Services throughout the year were provided to a cumulative 426 children. Of these enrolled children, 342 were at or below the Federal poverty line, 59 were identified as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or Social Security Income (SSI) eligible, 22 children were enrolled as Foster Care eligible, and 12 were identified as being homeless. There were 192 children on the active list that who were not able to be served. Transportation was provided to 17 Head Start children with special needs as determined by their Individual Education Plan.

The program schedule follows the KUSD school calendar. Children attend for 3 hours and 12 minutes for 140 days each year. One program location at a community child care center provided full day wrap around care for children and their families.

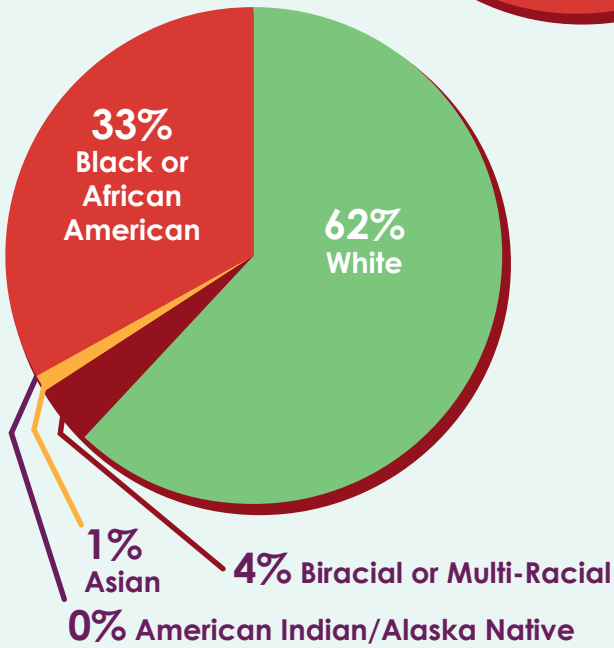
Ages served throughout the 2011-2012 program year:



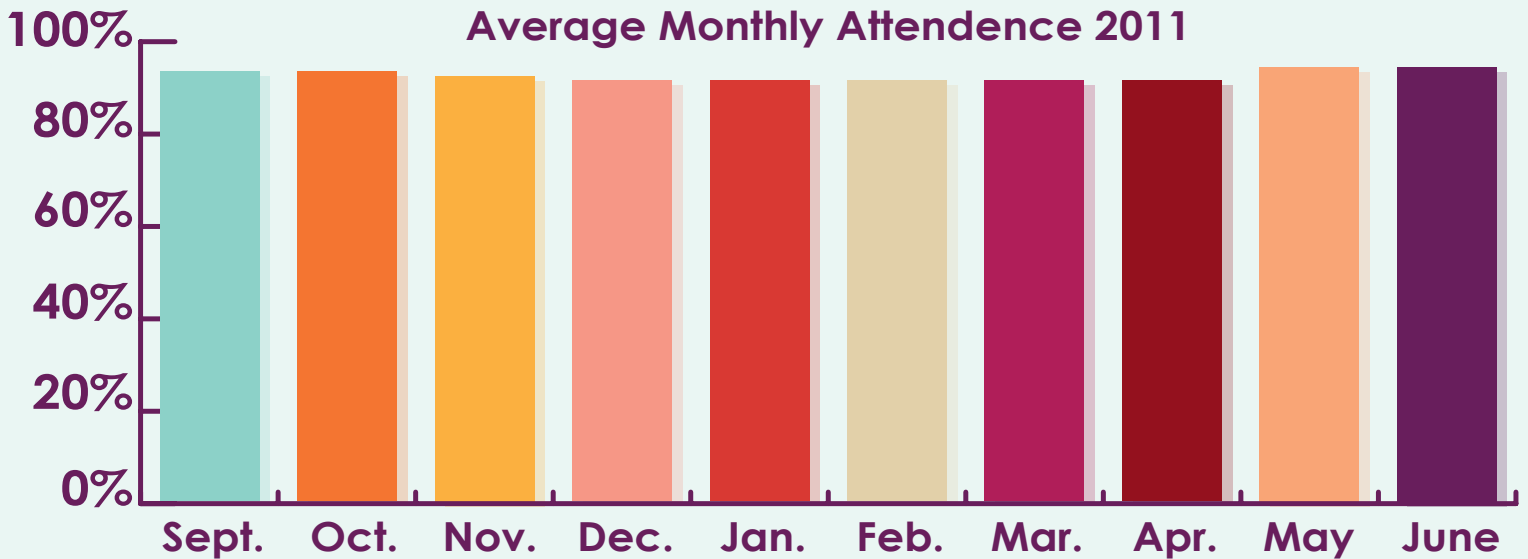
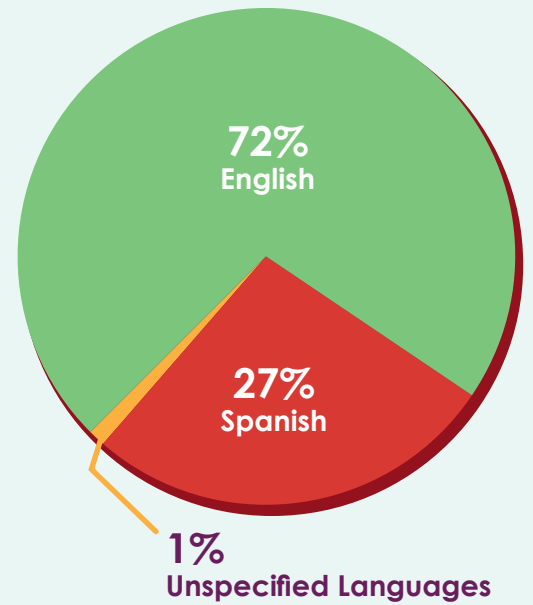
Ethnicity



Race



Primary Language of Family at Home





Family Services

Outreach to families and the involvement of home and community are one of the most unique features of Head Start Family Services staff.

Family Service Providers work with families to develop individualized family partnership plans so families can achieve their goals. The Kenosha Head Start Policy Council involves parents in the decision making process and training opportunities to improve the overall Kenosha Head Start Program design and management.

Parent education and activities are provided per site and at the program level. Opportunities provided at the site level included: Open House, Fire House Safety, Transition to Kindergarten Informational Meetings, Dr. Seuss Night, Family Fun Day, Family Game Night, Visits to Kenosha Museum, Libraries, Pumpkin Farm and local parks.

Health Services

Healthy children are children who are ready to learn. At Kenosha Head Start, our staff supports families to ensure that children are up-to-date on immunizations, health check-ups and dental screenings.

Health Services also provides children and families opportunities to learn about exercise and healthy food choices.

At the time of enrollment in the Head Start program year, 77% of children had continuous access to health care, 55% had the same type of access to dental care. At the end of the enrollment year, the percentage of children who had continuous access to health care was 95%, dental care was 92%. A strong collaborative relationship with community agencies in offering programs and services contributed to this increase.

85%

of enrolled children received
a medical exam

83%

of enrolled children received
a dental exam



Health Services

Kenosha Community Health Center (KCHC)

is a nonprofit organization offering the underserved citizens of Kenosha County comprehensive healthcare and dental care which enables our families to maintain their well-being by addressing health disparities and providing access for all. A point of contact was established between KCHC and the Head Start program in order to effectively assist parents in scheduling health exams for children. KCHS also provided direct access in scheduling dental exams for 31 Head Start children per month.

Health Services Advisory

consists of representatives from the Kenosha Health Department, Kenosha Community Health Center, Kenosha Head Start, UW-Extension, Wisconsin Infants and Children, a local Pediatric Dentist, Pediatrician, Optometrist, and Audiologist. Members of this committee advocate for the children and families of the community by connecting their resources and programs.

Kenosha County Health Department

assures the delivery of health services to prevent disease, maintain and promote health, and to protect and preserve a healthy environment for all citizens of Kenosha County. Semi-annual Car Seat Giveaways are conducted for Head Start families. This included a free check and installation of each car seat. Head Start families are encouraged to contact the Health Department for lead poison screenings.

University of Wisconsin- Parkside

provided a physician assistant student to assist the Head Start program in providing vision, hearing, and blood pressure screening for the Head Start students.

University of Wisconsin - Extension

provided training and education about the importance of proper hygiene, healthy eating habits, physical activity, and preparing nutritional meals. Six classroom sessions allowed children to increase their awareness of a variety of healthy foods consistent with *2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPyramid for Kids*. They also learned the importance of physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle. Parents were offered a 6 week class called *Eating Smart – Being Active*. Cooking demonstrations, recipes, fun ways to keep children active, and ideas for healthy low-cost meals and snacks were given.

Education and Development Services

The Kenosha Unified Head Start program provides all children with a safe, nurturing, engaging, enjoyable, and secure learning environment.

All staff in the Kenosha Unified Head Start program follow The Creative Curriculum System for Preschool. The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is based on five fundamental principles. They guide practice and help us understand the reasons for intentionally setting up and operating preschool programs in particular ways. These are the principles:

- › Positive interactions and relationships with adults provide a critical foundation for successful learning.
- › Social-emotional competence is a significant factor in school success.
- › Constructive, purposeful play supports essential learning.
- › The physical environment affects the type and quality of learning interactions.
- › Teacher-family partnerships promote development and learning.

(From the Creative Curriculum System® for Preschool, Volume One: The Foundation, p. 3)

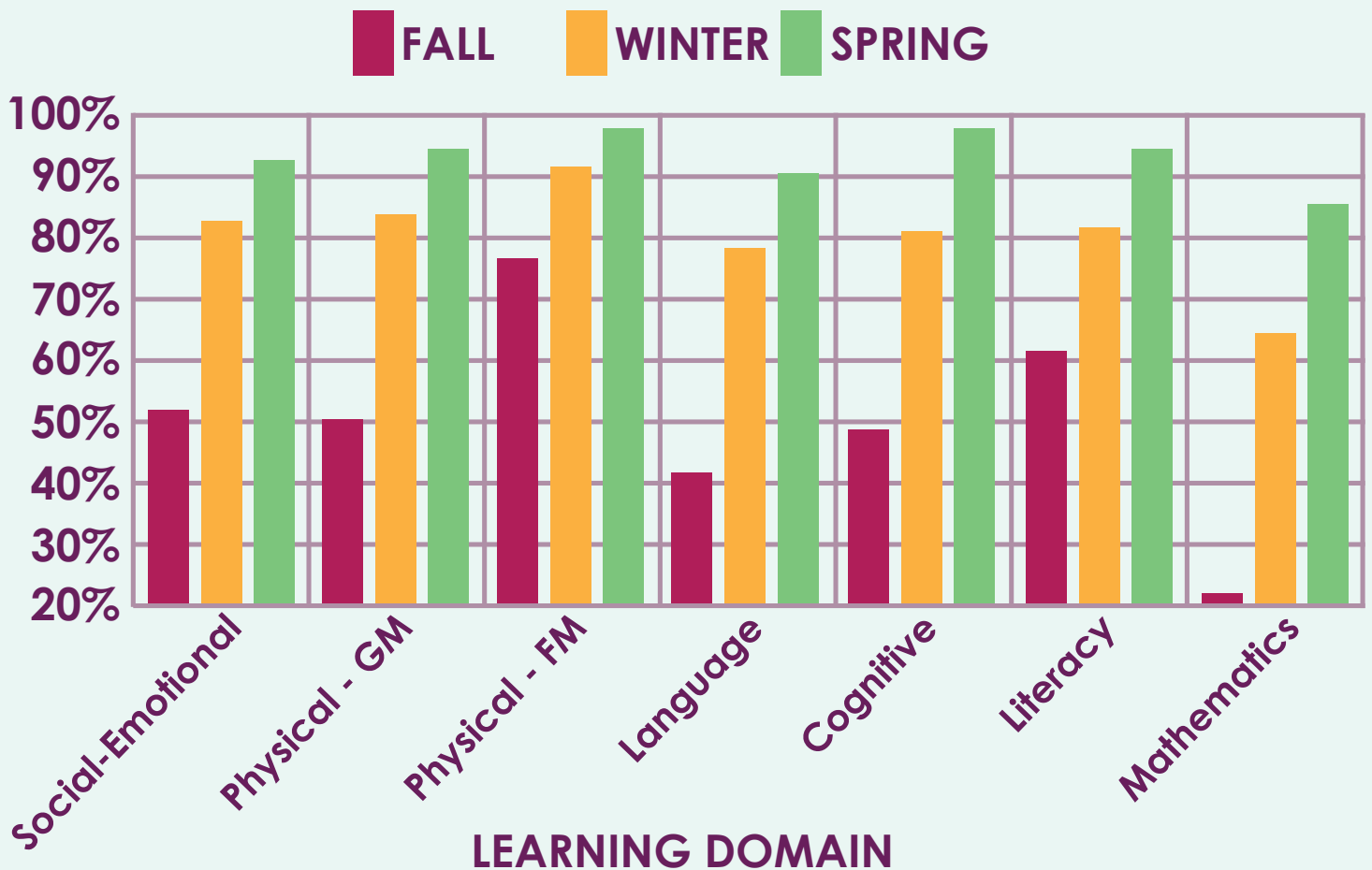
In addition to The Creative Curriculum System for Preschool, the Kenosha Unified Head Start program uses Second Step®: a Violence Prevention Curriculum. Second Step® teaches children the skills of empathy, emotion management, and problem-solving.

Assessment is the process of gathering information about children in order to make decisions and support children's learning. A process of ongoing assessment enables teachers to gather information about each child in order to plan instruction and ensure that every child is making progress. The Kenosha Unified Head Start program uses Teaching Strategies GOLD™ to manage the assessment of children. Teaching Strategies GOLD™ allows teachers to organize information collected on children into domains of development, objectives and dimensions of learning, and indicators of skill level. Each learning objective is arranged into a continuum, or developmental progression, that allows teachers to pinpoint a child's level for each objective.

Education and Development Services

KENOSHA UNIFIED HEAD START

Percentage of Children Meeting or Exceeding Widely Held Expectations 2011-2012



Children are expected to meet or exceed expectations in the following domains: social-emotional, physical, language, cognition, literacy, and math development. These skills are observed daily in the Head Start classroom and are shared with parents three times a year through Family Conference Forms created in Teaching Strategies GOLD™.

Preparing Children for Kindergarten



The Kenosha Unified Head Start Program takes several steps to ensure that our children and families are ready to enter kindergarten when they leave our program. The use of ongoing assessment through Teaching Strategies GOLD ensures that Head Start Teachers are always aware of where their children are developing and how to plan for children who are not meeting widely held expectations. Three times per year, data on Head Start program achievement is shared with all Head Start teachers so they can set goals and make instructional plans to ensure all of their children the Head Start Program ready for kindergarten.

In addition to preparing children for Kindergarten, the Kenosha Unified Head Start program also ensures that Head Start families are ready for kindergarten. In December, Family Service Providers host an informational meeting on the kindergarten registration process for Kenosha Unified. At Parent-Teacher Conferences in February and March, Head Start Teachers remind parents to visit their child's home school to register for kindergarten and give families a handout explaining activities they can do at home to continue to prepare their child for kindergarten. During April and May, Head Start Teachers with classes housed in Elementary Schools are encouraged to take their class to one of the kindergarten classrooms in their building for a visit. At final home visits, parents are given information about Kenosha Unified's "Getting Ready for Kindergarten" summer school program and kindergarten school supply lists. In June, Head Start children's final progress reports are forwarded to the school that they will be attending in the fall.

Disabilities Services

All children are screened within 45 days of entering the Kenosha Unified Head Start program using the Speed DIAL. The screening process provides information in three major developmental areas: visual/motor, language and cognition, and gross motor/body awareness. The results of the screening, along with observation data, parent reports and home visit information, are used to assist teachers in instructing and planning for the needs of each child in the classroom.

The screening process and ongoing assessment allows teachers to monitor children's progress and quickly identify possible concerns in a child's development. During the 2011-2012 school year, 30 children received special education services prior to the start of the program year. Twenty eight children were identified during the school year, through the use of the screening and ongoing assessment information. Of the children receiving special education services, 50 received services to address speech and language impairments, and eight received services to address developmental delays.

Parent and Family Activities

Parent education and activities are provided per site and at the program level. Opportunities provided at the site level included: Open House, Fire House Safety, Kindergarten Informational Meetings, Dr. Seuss Night, Family Fun Day, Family Game Night, Fun in the Sun, and visits to Kenosha Museum, Libraries, Pumpkin Farm and local parks.

2011-2012 Program Level Parent and Family Activities and Training Opportunities:

- › Home Visits – 2 per family
- › Parent-Teacher Conferences – 2 per family
- › Eating Smart – Being Active, 6 sessions
- › Reading to Teach... 3 sessions - Feelings, Problem Solving, and Dealing with Strong Emotions
- › Successful Fathers Program, 6 sessions
- › Fun with Fathers, 6 sessions
- › Second Step: A Violence Prevention Curriculum, 3 sessions
- › Raising Healthy Eaters, 6 sessions
- › Head Start Policy Council, monthly



KUSD Head Start Policy Council

The Policy Council is comprised of community representatives and parent representatives from Head Start. Some of the major responsibilities of the Policy Council include approval of the grant proposal and the development of program policies and procedures. Regular Policy Council meetings are held on a monthly basis. All positions must be filled according to Head Start Regulations in order to be an effective governing body, which is essential to the success of the program.

KUSD Head Start Policy Council Members

CARRIE YOUNG – President

MICHELLE BAIN – Vice-President

ANGELA FUDGE – Secretary

CARMEN CAMACHO – Treasurer

ESMERALDA ALMANZA – Committee Member

MARIA GARCIA – Committee Member

DEBBIE MORAN – Committee Member

LAURA HERRERA – Committee Member

LOURDES NAVA – Committee Member

KAREN SENS – Committee Member

EDITH SANCHEZ-MORALES – Committee Member

MELBA SOLIS – Committee Member

JO ANN TAUBE – Committee and KUSD School Board Member





Kenosha Unified School District

maximizing the brilliance of children

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