# NYS Universal Pre-Kindergarten Expansion Grant



Bedford Central School District Inspiring and Challenging Our Students

CIA Board Subcommittee Meeting March 7, 2022



## Why Universal Pre-K?

#### Research suggests...

- 1. Children who participate in high-quality early education programs are far more likely to read at grade level and graduate from high school.
- 2. High-quality full-day prekindergarten programs are particularly credited with:
  - a. producing significant increases in student performance in math and reading by 2nd grade
  - b. having a positive long-term impact on children's life outcomes
  - c. narrowing the achievement gap between adequately served and underserved youth
  - d. providing benefits to children and taxpayers that outweigh their cost.
  - e. Helping students stay on track to graduate from high school
  - f. significantly reduce costs for remedial education, social services, health and criminal justice programs
  - g. early, high-quality exposure to multiple languages results in enhanced child language and academic outcomes across all languages.
- 3. As much as one-half of the achievement gap is already established before students enter kindergarten.



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## **Purpose of NYS Expansion Grant**

The purpose of the Universal Prekindergarten Expansion Grant for **New Full-Day Placements** for **Four-Year-Old Students** is for New York State school districts to increase the availability of directly and collaboratively implemented prekindergarten programming aligned with applicable New York State Learning Standards. In addition to addressing student and community need, **proposals must demonstrate innovation and high quality**.

Awarded school districts will have the option to operate a full-day four-year-old prekindergarten program for a minimum of 90 days. Otherwise, **awarded school districts** will be able to operate a **180-day program** during the **2022-2023 school year**. [UPK grants are recurring grants.]



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## Funding and Class Size



Our Students

**Bedford Central School District** 

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• Grant awards shall equal **\$10,000 per student** served by a teacher of record with New York State teacher certification valid for service in the early childhood grades.

#### • Maximum Class Size:

- The maximum class size for a prekindergarten class is 20 four-year old students.
- For classes of up to 18 students, there must be one teacher and one paraprofessional assigned to each class.
- For classes of 19 or 20 students, there must be one teacher and two paraprofessionals assigned to each class.



## BCSD Program Proposal

#### NYS UPK Expansion Grant Application

- Two Pre-K classrooms
- 36 students (18 in each classroom)
- Two full time Pre-K teachers (one for each classroom)
- Two full time teacher aides (one for each classroom)
- Curriculum materials to support a standards-based full-day pre-kindergarten program
- Bilingual Education component
- Inclusive Practices

## BCSD UPK Pre-K Budget

Budget Item	Cost
2.0 FTE Certified Bilingual Preschool Teachers w/ benefits	\$272,000
2.0 FTE Dedicated Teacher Aides	\$44,000
<b>Tuition for 4 students to attend a local CBO:</b> We are required to allocation a minimum of 10% of the grant for a partnership with a local Community-Based Organization (CBO). These funds would be used to subsidize tuition of 4 prekindergarten students to attend a prekindergarten program in a local CBO selected as our collaborative agency.	\$36,000
Furniture for 2 Preschool Classrooms	\$2,000
<b>Instructional Supplies</b> for 2 Preschool Classrooms (rugs, bookshelves, building blocks, math tools, books, art supplies, water/sand table, curriculum materials)	\$6,000
TOTAL =	\$360,000



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> NYSED awarded BCSD **\$360,000** for UPK program.

Title I funds would provide \$50,000 to complete the total costs of program.



## **Eligibility and Selection Process**

- A child eligible for such a placement is a child who **resides** within the school district and who is four years of age on or before December 1st of the year in which he or she will be enrolled or who will otherwise be first eligible to attend public school kindergarten the following school year in their school district of residence.
- In the event that there are more eligible children than new full-day prekindergarten program placements provided by this grant, the school district must establish a random method of selection (lottery system) to determine which eligible students the prekindergarten program can immediately serve, and which students will be placed on a waiting list.



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