

Early Childhood Facilities

Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force

October 25, 2021

Presenters:

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New Mexico Public School Facilities Authority



New Mexico Public School Facilities Authority

Partnering with New Mexico's communities to provide quality, sustainable school facilities for our students and educators.

Public School Capital Outlay Pre-K Awards

Year	Number of Awards	State Funding	Total Estimated Project Cost
2017-2018	14	\$5,000,000	\$6,851,053
2020-2021	3	\$5,455,610	\$8,493,908
Total Applications	17	\$10,455,610	\$15,344,961

2021 Pre-K Funding Program Timeline

- First Round Application Cycle (February – May)
 - 4 received, but all withdrew
 - Due to COVID, funding restrictions, ineligibility and re-prioritization

- Second Round Application Cycle (October – December)
 - 7 received

Pre-K Program Eligibility

- Funds classroom space and restrooms
 - New construction
 - Renovated of existing
- Funds existing or planned Pre-K programs
- Does not apply to furniture fixtures and equipment
- State/Local match required
- Funds must be expended within three years
- \$5M for FY22

Pre-K in Existing Public Elementary Schools

Elementary schools are typically the preferred location for Pre-K programs due to the following:

- Similar age range of student population
- Access to site areas for playgrounds and parking
- Developmental delayed (DD) student Pre-K programs already exist in many public elementary schools
- Co-location of shared ancillary services
- Shared security processes and protocols
- Wider geographic distribution of neighborhood centers elementary schools
- Continuity of student teacher relationships

Pre-K Exclusive Facilities

- Some districts are moving toward moving Pre-K classrooms and services to one location.
 - Shared services
 - Shared resources
 - Increased collaboration
 - Facility designed specifically for Pre-K students
 - Appropriately sized restroom fixtures
 - Appropriately sized classrooms
 - Appropriately sized playground fixtures

NM Statewide Adequacy Standards Amended to Include Pre-K

- The NM Statewide Adequacy Standards (AS) were amended in 2019 to include Pre-K. Originally the AS addressed K through 12.
- NM Statewide Adequacy Standards, PED and CYFD recommend 50 SF per child.
 - Adequacy Standards are a minimum measuring tool designed to capture facility and educational deficiencies. This means if a Pre-K classroom has less than 50 SF per child it is insufficient.

NM Statewide Adequacy Standards Amended to Include Pre-K

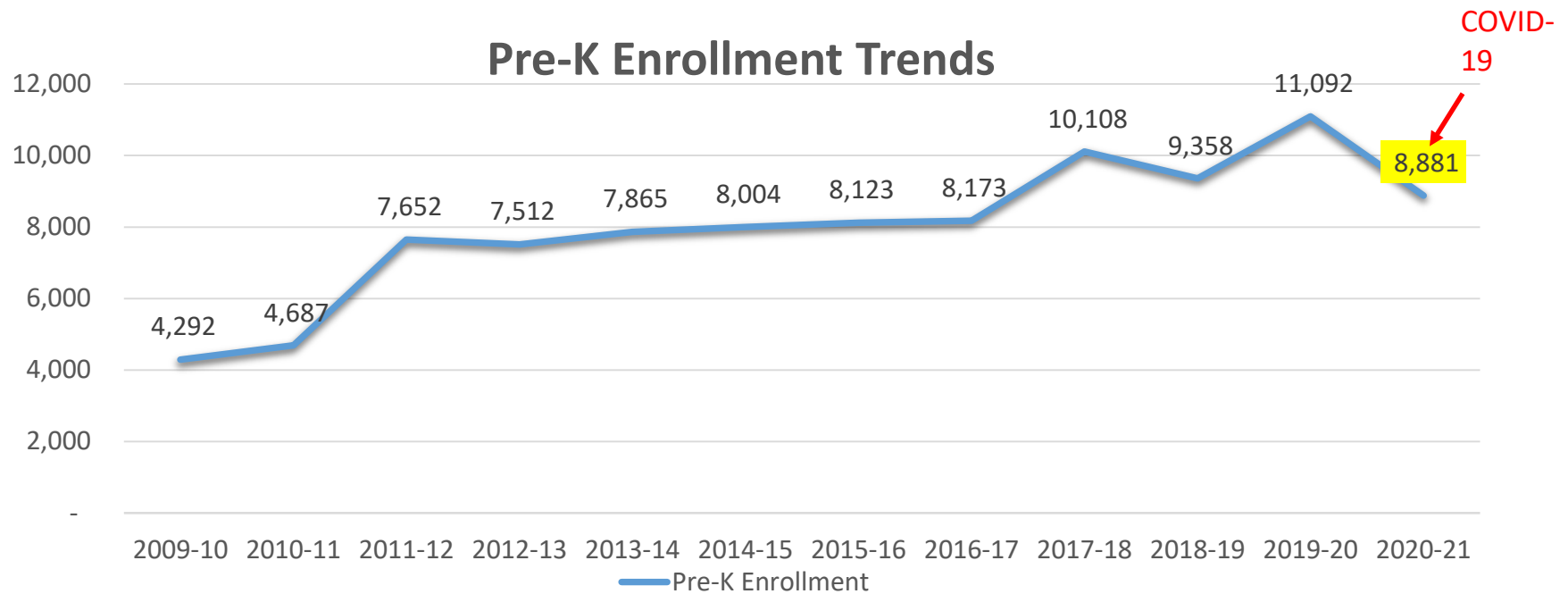
- New Mexico Statute 6.27.30.1 [6.27.30.1 NMAC – N, 9/1/2002]
- 6.27.30.11 SITE RECREATION AND OUTDOOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION
 - Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students will require a fenced or walled playground area convenient to the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classrooms, with age-appropriate playground equipment.
- 6.27.30.13 GENERAL USE CLASSROOMS
 - Pre-kindergarten – Kindergarten: 50 net sf/student
 - All pre-kindergarten classrooms shall have a sink.



Pre-K Enrollment and Facilities

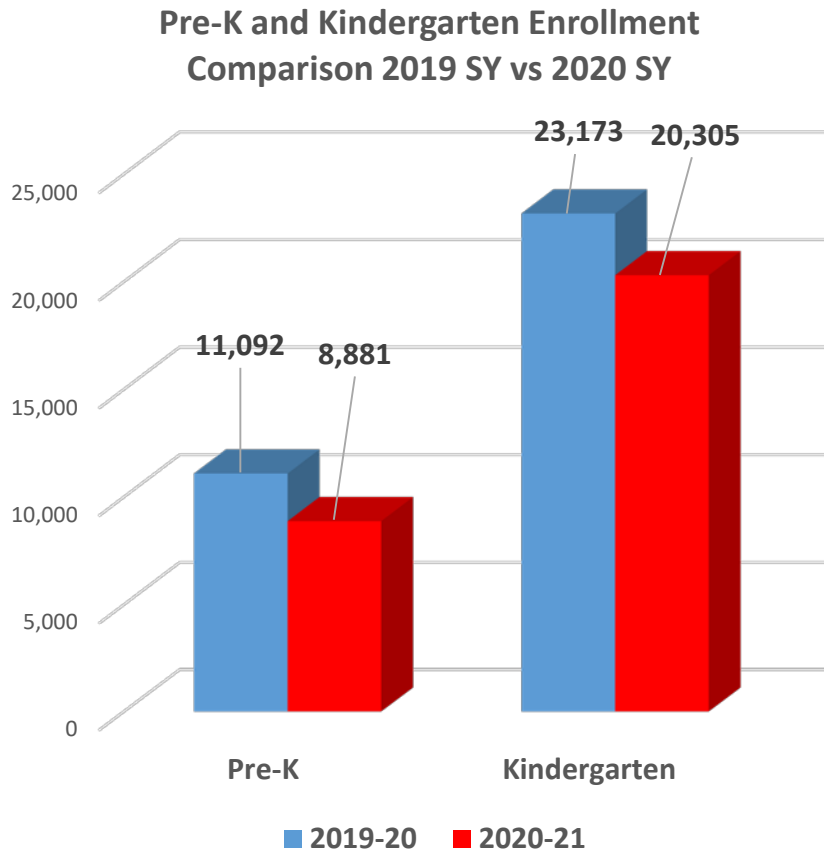
- 2020-21 Pre-K Enrollment (PED 40-Day Certified Enrollment)
 - 8,881 Students (3 & 4 year olds across all programs in schools)
- 256 Public School Facilities Housing Pre-K Students (2020-21 School Year)
 - 22 Pre-K/Early Childhood Centers
 - 205 Elementary Schools with other Grade Levels (Pre-K-5th)
 - 15 in Combination Schools (Pre-K-12th)
 - 12 in Charter Schools
 - 2 in Constitutional Schools (NMSBVI & NMSD)
- Approximately 615 Pre-K Classrooms (Based on Facilities Master Plan Data) encompassing all Pre-K programs

Pre-K Enrollment 40-Day Enrollment Trends



Source: NM PED Certified 40 day enrollment counts

COVID Impacts on Early Childhood Enrollment

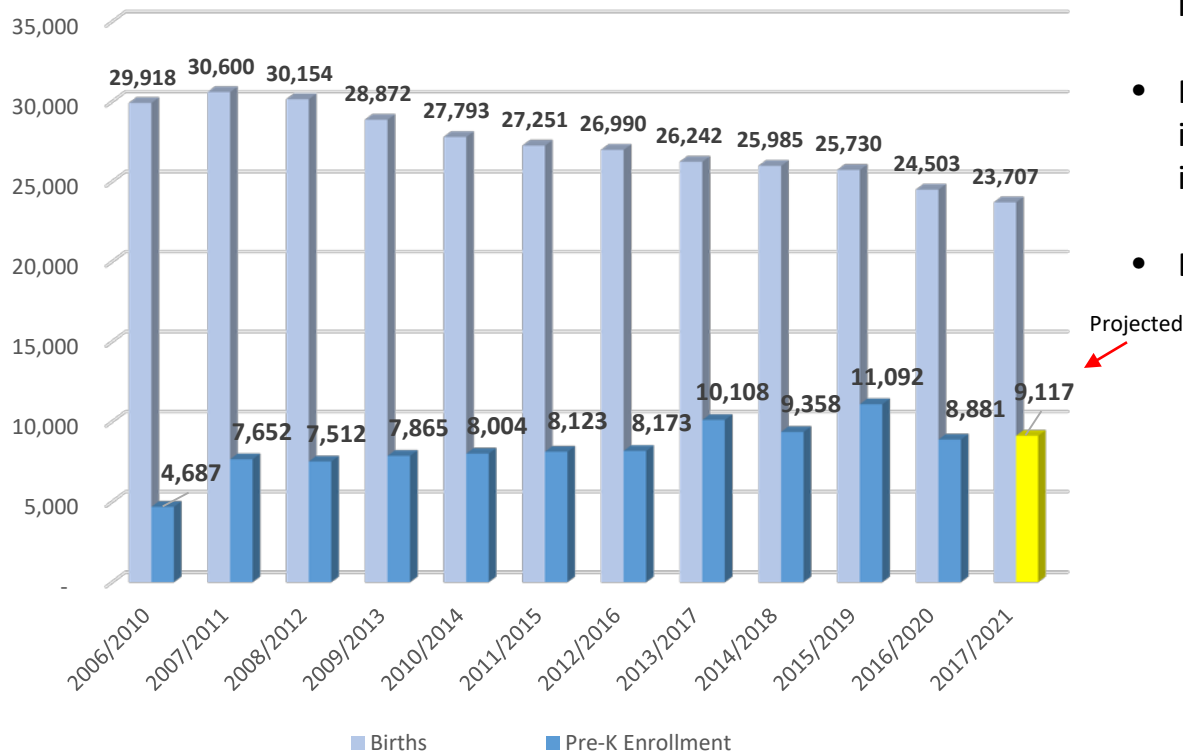


- Parents found online education challenging and kept students out of public schools or found alternative methods of instruction
- Most districts experienced some level of Pre-K enrollment loss
- Question: Will enrollment recover and what will recovery look like?
- Potential for larger Pre-K and Kindergarten classes this year due to students rejoining in person education

Source: NM PED Certified 40 day enrollment counts

Pre-K Enrollment Births and Enrollment

Number of State Wide Enrollment Compared to Pre-K Enrollment Four Years after Birth



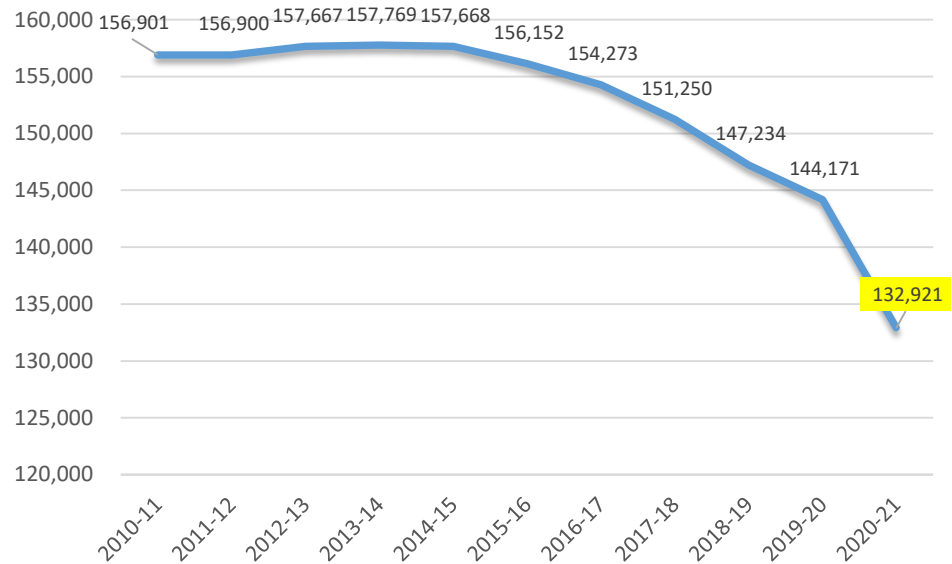
- Statewide K-12 enrollment declining, largely due to decreasing births
- Pre-K Enrollment has increased due to the increase in Pre-K Programs and identification
- Births are key in projecting enrollment
 - 38% of births enter public school Pre-K programs
 - 90% of births in the state become kindergartners five years later

Source: NM PED Certified 40 day enrollment counts

Factors Influencing Pre-K Space Needs

- Will Pre-K enrollment rebound from COVID?
- Half-day programs becoming full-day
- In some districts, parents have more options for Pre-K services (private providers, other educational services/programs, family care)
- In other districts, there are no day care providers (39 districts)
- Declining K-5th enrollment statewide. Will it create surplus classroom space?
- While some elementary schools have capacity, this does not always mean they have vacant rooms.
- If they have available rooms, more analysis needed to determine appropriateness for Pre-K (size, ability to remodel).
- School district funding availability and staffing

K-5 Enrollment Trends (Statewide)



Source: NM PED Certified 40 day enrollment counts

Space Requirements for Pre-K Classrooms

Pre-K Classroom Size Requirements

- 20 students per classroom (maximum)
 - for 4 year olds only
- 50 Square Feet per student (ideal)
 - 20 students x 50 = 1,000 SF
- 80 Square Feet for a restroom

Total classroom size = 1,080 SF

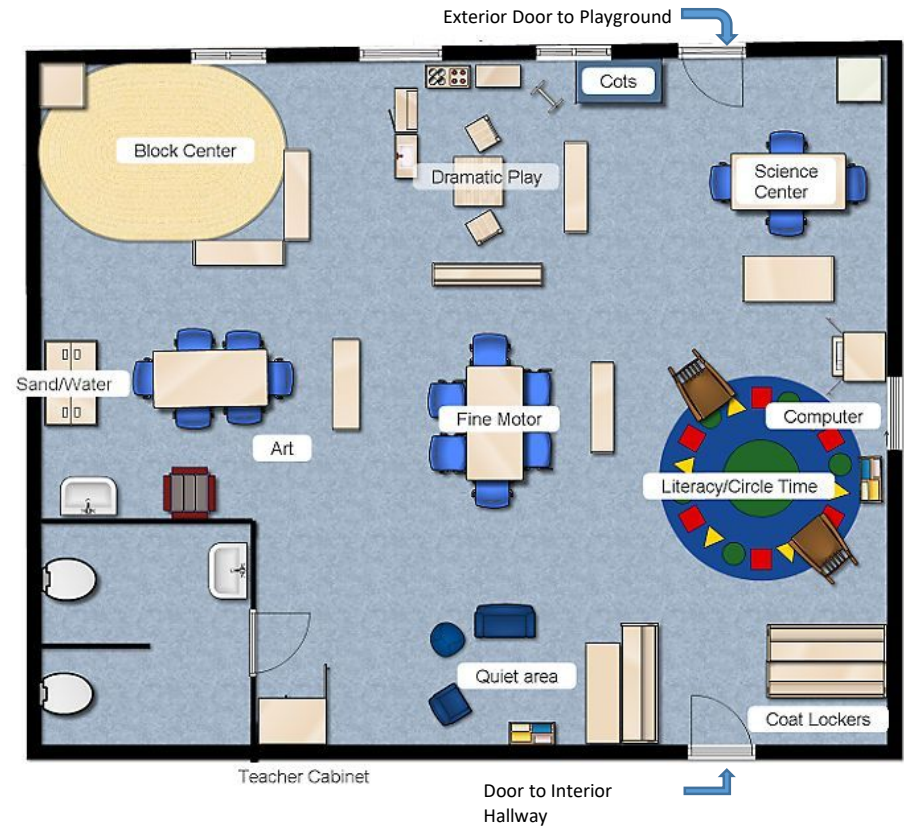
- 1,080 Square Feet allows year-to-year reassignment between Pre-K and Kindergarten



Typical Pre-K Classroom Floor Plan

Centers in Pre-K Classrooms

- Block Play
- Literacy/Reading/Writing
- Math and Manipulatives
- Sand and Water
- Music and Movement
- Art
- Science and Sensory
- Dramatic Play
- Technology Center
- Exterior Door to Playground



* Similar to Vocational Ed, there is a functional minimum size for Pre K classrooms to accommodate the space requirements of these centers

Site Requirements for Pre-K Programs

In addition to classroom space, Pre-K programs need the following:

- Playground or play area
 - Fenced or enclosed/ near or attached to classroom space
- Secure building entry area
 - Monitored and controlled check-in/check-out
- Parent parking area
 - Typically parents are required to park and walk their children into the facility



Questions

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