

**JOINT ASSEMBLY SCHOOL BOARD FACILITY PLANNING COMMITTEE  
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**

MAY 17, 2019 12:15 PM  
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM 224

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**I. ROLL CALL**

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A. Agenda

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. May 7, 2019 Draft Minutes

**IV. STAFF REPORTS**

**V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

(Not to exceed a total of 10 minutes nor more than 2 minutes for any individual).

**VI. AGENDA TOPICS**

A. Review and approve Joint JSD/CBJ Assembly Committee's final Summary of Findings regarding integration of childcare in public school facilities

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 72 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made to have a sign language interpreter present or an audiotape containing the Assembly's agenda made available. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: [city.clerk@juneau.org](mailto:city.clerk@juneau.org)

**Joint Assembly & School Board Facility Planning Committee**  
Childcare Work Session

Friday May 17, 2019  
12:15 PM  
Room 224, City Hall

**Agenda**

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Approval of Agenda**
- III. Approval of Minutes**
  - A. May 7, 2019
- IV. Staff Reports - none**
- V. Public Participation**
- VI. Agenda Topics**
  - A. Review and approve Joint JSD/CBJ Assembly Committee's final Summary of Findings regarding integration of childcare in public school facilities
- VII. Adjournment**



## JSD/CBJ JOINT FACILITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** May 7, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** CHILDCARE FACILITY OPTIONS  
**ATTENDEES:** Mary Becker – CBJ Assembly  
 Bridget Weiss – JSD Superintendent  
 Robert Barr– CBJ Library/Childcare Committee  
 Brian Holst– JSD School Board  
 Wade Bryson – CBJ Assembly  
 Dan DeBartolo – JSD School Board  
 Loren Jones – CBJ Assembly  
 Robert Palmer – CBJ Law  
 Nathan Coffee – CBJ Engineering  
 Carole Triem – CBJ Assembly  
 Steve Whitney – JSD School Board  
 Beth Weldon – CBJ Mayor  
 Mila Cosgrove – CBJ Deputy City Manager

1. Chair MB called meeting to order and draft meeting minutes from April 18, 2019 meeting were approved as amended.
2. REVIEW OF DRAFT SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REPORT

Wade Bryson noted that the chart summarizing JSD Pre-K programs was very helpful. Bridget Weiss noted that she could update each semester.

Steve Whitney noted that live births in Juneau have decreased significantly recently and wondered if Pre-K projections have been updated to address the decline in births. Bridget noted that the school district does not prepare projections for Pre-K student population nor are the able to project the number of special education students that will participate in the Pre-K programs. Steve noted that declining incoming populations may lead to more classroom space being available for Pre-K programs.

The group discussed the different types of Pre-K offerings provided by JSD. Dan DeBartolo noted that one of the SPED-Integrated programs had different hours of operation from the rest. Bridget noted that was a typo and would correct because all SPED-Integrated programs have the same hours of operation except one that is a pilot program.

Bridget noted that she would also update the funding of Kinder Ready to reflect the CBJ contribution.

Wade Bryson questioned whether there are students that should have an IEP but don't have one. Wade thought that if this was the case then JSD may be missing out on some additional funding. Bridget clarified that JSD has a detailed process for identification and determining eligibility of students that could have an IEP. Bridget noted that parents have the right to refuse an IEP. Steve Whitney noted that not all students with an IEP receive additional funds. Mary Becker noted that JSD had legal issues for potential issuing too many IEPs, so there is a very comprehensive IEP evaluation and eligibility process in place now.

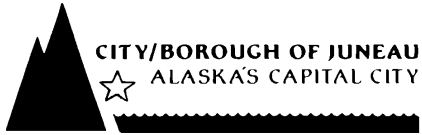
Brian Holst shared his research at FDMS where the principal thought that if they repurposed some of their classrooms from storage or in-school suspension, then they might be able to free up a couple classrooms for child care programs. Brian felt that while there are currently any empty classrooms in the JSD, that with some shifting of programs or uses that some space could be created and that the report needed to reflect this distinction. Bridget noted that this is likely true of any school and agreed that the report should clarify the distinction between absolutely no empty space classroom and the ability to create vacant classroom space by altering the use of some classrooms.

Carole Triem and Wade Bryson commented on the distinction between child care and Pre-K noting that the report was confusing because the term child care is used to discuss all students from age zero to five but is also used to describe a subset of that population from zero to three. Discussion ensued on the memo provided by Robert Palmer that summarized the regulatory differences between an educational program and a child care program. It was agreed that the report should use different terminology to differentiate between children ages zero to three and those ages three to five. Mary Becker thanked Robert Palmer for the memo.

Carole Triem and Wade Bryson commented that the title of the section of the report that summarized different avenues that the committee investigated integrating or expanding child care in JSD facilities was confusing and should be revised to AVAILABLE SPACE IN JSD.

Dan DeBartolo noted that the second sentence in the report should be simplified to define Pre-K student ages to be between 3 and 5 years of age.

Mary Becker summarized the edits needed and noted that the report also needs: the Mayor's charge, a list of participants, and a conclusion. Mary set the next meeting for Friday May 17 at 12:15pm at City Hall Room 224. Mary adjourned the meeting.



CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU  
Engineering Department  
155 South Seward Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

# **JSD/CBJ JOINT FACILITY COMMITTEE**

## **CHILDCARE IN JSD FACILITIES – SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

### **PURPOSE**

On May 1, 2019, Mayor Beth Weldon requested that the Joint Facility Committee identify potential classrooms or others school space available for childcare in each individual school facility, including all elementary, middle schools, high schools, and Marie Drake. The intent of this request was not to identify sufficient space capacity to house all of Juneau’s population in need of childcare in the school facilities, but determine how much additional school space could be realistically dedicated to childcare. The committee need not address how the space is used or challenges associated with integrating childcare into the school facilities as these issues will be addressed at a later date. For the purposes of this paper Child Care has been divided into two groups as follows: Infant Care for children ages zero to three (0-3) and Pre-K for children ages three to five (3-5).

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The following individuals participated in the development of the findings and conclusion of this paper:

Mary Becker	Chair, CBJ Assembly
Brian Holst	President, JSD Board
Dan Debartolo	Vice President, JSD Board
Wade Bryson	CBJ Assembly
Carole Triem	CBJ Assembly
Steve Whitney	JSD Board
Bridget Weiss	JSD Superintendent
Nathan Coffee	CBJ City Architect

## CURRENT CHILDCARE PROGRAMS

The Juneau School District (JSD) currently houses Pre-K programs in their elementary schools. The Pre-K programs serve children between the ages of three to five years old. JSD does not provide any Infant Care programs for children between the ages of zero to three years old. There is currently a wait list to enroll in JSD Pre-K programs. A summary of current Pre-K programs is provided below:

School	Pre-K Type	Room #	Seats Available	Total # of Students	# of Staff	Hours
MRCS	Kinder Ready	358	16-20	21	1 teacher 2.5 paras	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 11:00 11:30 - 2:30 Tues-Friday
HBVW	Kinder Ready	108	16-20	20	1 teacher 1 para	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 11:00 11:30 - 2:30 Tues-Friday
GV	Kinder Ready	110	16 -20	22	1 teacher 1.5 para	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 11:00 11:30 - 2:30 *next year will be 8:00 - 1:30 one session and M-F
MRCS	SPED-Integrated	356	8 IEP 5-8 Peers x 2	29	1 teacher 2.5 paras	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 10:30 12:00 - 2:30 Tues-Friday
MRCS	SPED-Integrated	357	10 IEP 3-5 Peers	17	1 teacher 2.5 paras	One Session: 8:00 - 12:00 (intensive population) Tues-Friday
HBVW	SPED-Integrated	109	8 IEP 5-8 Peers x 2	21	1 teacher 2.5 paras	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 10:30 12:00 - 2:30 Tues-Friday
GV	SPED-Integrated	112	8 IEP 5-8 Peers x2	25	1 teacher 2.5 paras	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 10:30 12:00 - 2:30 Tues-Friday
GAST	SPED-Integrated	124	8 IEP 5-8 Peers x 2	22	1 teacher 2.5 paras	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 10:30 11:30 - 2:30 Tues-Friday

RVBD	SPED-Integrated	23	8 IEP 5-8 Peers x 2	22	1 teacher 2.5 paras	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 10:30 12:00 - 2:30 Tues-Friday
AB	SPED-Integrated	212	8 IEP 5-8 Peers	23	1 teacher 2.5 paras	Two Sessions: 8:00 - 10:30 12:00 - 2:30 Tues-Friday
MB	Children's House (PK/K)	320/321	7 PK students (with 7 Ks)	7	1 teacher 3 paras	7:00 - 5:00 option for care Class is 8:00 - 2:30 M-F
MRCS	Head Start	169	20	20	1 teacher 2 paras	One session 8-12
GAST	Head Start	129	19	19	1 teacher 2 paras	One session 8:30-12:30

#### **POTENTIAL EXPANSION OF CHILD CARE PROGRAMS in JSD**

**AVAILABLE SPACE:** Currently, the only *unused* space available for childcare programs in JSD facilities are two modular classrooms at Floyd Dryden Middle School. These portable classrooms are detached from the main school building but lack water and sewer service. Each portable classroom is approximately 960 square feet. Facility improvements to add water and sewer service would be required if these portables were to be utilized for childcare programs. Future space availability in the elementary schools is dependent on future enrollment fluctuation and repurposing of some currently used spaces. *There are classrooms that could be made available for additional Pre-K programming in some schools with relocation of existing uses.*

**MAXIMIZING CURRENT SPACE:** JSD is investigating expanding the hours of operation of some of their Pre-K programs to provide full school day programs and even after-school care for working parents. This is one way that the JSD could increase the number of children who participate in their Pre-K programs. *In addition, JSD has utilized all current funding sources to expand in the past year from 11 programs to 13 programs. JSD is poised to add more programs as funding and concurrent space is made available.*

**INFANT CARE (0-3):** JSD has not previously provided childcare programs for children younger than three years old. Childcare requirements for younger children are different than those applied to Pre-K children, Without an extensive effort and resources that are not readily available, expanding the JSD's programs to address infant care (0-3) would likely be a time-consuming process that would require significant legal and administrative review of procedures and policies. *For this reason the Joint Facilities Committee found it more appropriate for JSD to focus on expansion of current Pre-K programs.*

PRIVATE OPERATORS IN JSD FACILITIES: JSD currently has two Head Start Pre-K programs that operate within their school facilities. This model of delivery has been sustainable. However, additional legal guidelines to delineate the responsibilities of each party are required making it a more cumbersome delivery model when compared to a JSD operated Pre-K. In addition, the agreement with Head Start is plausible as Head Start is a non-profit agency. In either case (privately operated versus JSD operated), the Pre-K instructors must be certified staff if the program is deemed an educational program and is housed in a school. *JSD will continue to evaluate private operator requests on a case-by-case basis.*

## **CHILDCARE FUNDING**

Current JSD Pre-K programs are funded in a variety of ways;

- Special Education Integrated Program – Federal pass-through funding and peer group tuition
- Kinder-Ready Program – CBJ, STEPS grant funding, tuition fees and Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) grant funding (the DEED grant funding is declining and will likely not exist next year).
- Head Start Program – Federal funding to a private operator.
- Montessori Pre-K Program – Tuition

All JSD programs benefit from State of Alaska funding and local City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ) contribution for school operations as the Pre-K programs are housed in school facilities whose operations are funded by these two sources. In order to maintain current programs and expand Pre-K programs, JSD will need additional funding. *The CBJ is the most likely source to fill this funding shortfall.*

## **CONCLUSION**

JSD is currently utilizing thirteen classrooms to support Early Childhood Learning (Pre-K 3-5). Upon review of current JSD facility use, current JSD programs, and the regulatory requirements for Infant Care, the JSD/CBJ Joint Facility Committee finds that it is more appropriate for JSD to focus on expansion of the existing JSD Pre-K programs rather than introduce Infant Care programs into JSD facilities at this time. The committee recommends that the CBJ Assembly continue to support Pre-K programs at JSD facilities.