



Fulton Schools

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Fulton Pirate Preschool Early Learning Center

Overview

Within our Early Learning Center, there are three separate programs that students can enroll in – as well as before / after school care. [CLICK HERE](#) to view our 2026-27 Pirate Preschool ELC Calendar.



Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

Michigan's Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a state-funded, free preschool program primarily for eligible 4-year-olds – designed to build social, emotional, early literacy, math, and other skills needed for kindergarten. It is offered through public schools and community-based providers and is part of Michigan's broader "PreK for All" initiative. Eligibility is primarily based on the following factors:



Age: Students must turn 4yo on or before September 1, 2026. Children who turn 4yo between September 2 and December 1 may be eligible if there is space and the parent / guardian requests a waiver.



Income: Michigan has expanded GSRP access significantly. For 2026–27, the published income guidelines extend through 400% of the federal poverty level (\$128,640 / Household of 4) – with additional prioritization categories above that level. With Michigan's goal being free universal pre-k education for 4yo children, families above the traditional income limits may still have access depending on local enrollment and available slots.

GSRP looks much like a preschool classroom rather than a traditional elementary classroom. Children typically spend the day learning through play, hands-on activities, books, music / movement, small groups, outdoor play, and teacher-guided activities focused on social-emotional development, early literacy, math, problem-solving, and kindergarten readiness.



Strong Beginnings (SB)

Michigan's Strong Beginnings platform is a state-funded preschool program for eligible 3-year-olds – providing an additional year of high-quality early learning before kindergarten. Strong Beginnings provides 3-year-olds with a play-based preschool day that includes hands-on activities, stories, music, movement, social interaction, outdoor play, and teacher-guided small-group learning. The program helps children develop social-emotional, language, early literacy, math, and problem-solving skills while building the independence and classroom routines they need for future preschool and kindergarten.



Age: Students must be under 4yo on September 1, but turn 3yo by December 1, 2026.



Income: Like GSRP, the published income guidelines extend through 250% of the federal poverty level (\$82,500 / Household of 4) – with additional prioritization categories above that level.



Tuition-Based Preschool (TB)

Our Little Pirates Preschool platform provides a developmentally appropriate program in a safe and nurturing environment – promoting social, emotional, physical, and cognitive growth. Our goals foster a positive self-concept and develop socialization and school readiness skills. Various experiences, geared to the age group, as well as individual needs of each child are provided. Long-lasting partnerships between school, family, and community are initiated.



Age: Students must be at least 2 years and 6 months old on start date.



Income: Should a family not qualify for either GSRP or SB programming, Fulton Schools offers a tuition-based classroom. There is no “floor” or “ceiling” for families seeking to enroll within this educational setting. [CLICK HERE](#) to view enrollment options and rates.



Fulton After-School Time (FAST)

Operating before-school (7-7:45a) and after-school (2:45-5:30p) on scheduled preschool days and from 7a-5:30p almost every other non-holiday weekday of the year (including Snow Days), our FAST program provides a developmentally appropriate program in a safe and nurturing environment, which promotes social, emotional, physical, and cognitive growth. Our goals foster a positive self-concept and develop socialization and school readiness skills. Various experiences, geared to the age group, as well as individual needs of each child are provided. Long-lasting partnerships between school, family, and community are initiated.



Cost: [CLICK HERE](#) to view enrollment options and rates.



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