



## 1. What is Child Find?

Under a federal program called "Child Find," school districts are required to offer screenings and evaluations to help identify children who need specialized instruction in motor, social, communication, self-help and/or learning skills. Children who are found to have a qualifying disability can receive Early Childhood Special Education Services (ECSE). Child Find is also a continuous process of public awareness activities, provided by the Wisconsin Heights School District. **WHSD Child Find 2017** will be adding a new public awareness activity to our already ongoing screening process.



### Wisconsin Heights Child Development Fair (CDF)

March 8, 2017



The purpose is to provide families within the WHSD a venue to learn more about resources within our community to support their child's early development while being able to access a variety of developmental screening tools for their children. Children will have an opportunity to have all areas of their development screened, including a vision and hearing screening. Parents will have a variety of local community resources to explore.

## What programs does the WHSD offer for children between the ages of 3 and 5?

Wisconsin Heights school district offers three educational programs for young children, the Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Program, 4-year-old Kindergarten, and Kindergarten.

- **ECSE** program is for children who **qualify for special services** due to a qualifying disability. Children may be between the ages of 3-5 to qualify for special services. Services may include Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and cognitive and social-emotional/adaptive provided by an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher. These services can be provided within a range of environments: inclusion into a 4K or Kindergarten class, a separate three-year-old ECSE class, a home or daycare setting. Placement is determined by the age and needs of each individual child. Any child who turns three prior to or within the 2017-18 school year and has a documented disability will be eligible for ECSE services for the 2017-18 school year.
- **4K** program is for any child who will be four prior to September 1st, 2017. 4K is universal and open to all children within the Wisconsin Heights School District. Our curriculum is developmentally appropriate, with child and teacher directed activities. The emphasis is on active learning, and all developmental areas are addressed.
- **Kindergarten** program is for any child who will be five prior to September 1st, 2017 .

## Age Eligibility at a Glance for the 2017-18 School year

- Children 5 years of age by September 1st, 2017 are eligible for Kindergarten
- Children 4 years of age by September 1st, 2017 are eligible for 4K
- Children 3 years of age at any time during the 2017-18 school year *may be eligible for ECSE with a documented disability. WHSD is responsible for screening, referring, and evaluating children suspected of having a disability.*

## Why is your Child's Developmental Health important?

Research shows that recognizing and addressing delays early in a child's development increases their success in learning later in their schooling. Find out now to ensure your child is on the right track for success.

## Looking ahead!



### Important dates!

- **ECSE (All 3-5-year-old children)** The Wisconsin Heights School District recognizes our responsibility to identify children three years of age and older who may have special educational or developmental needs. In an effort to accomplish this, we will be contacting parents of all children who will be three through five years old during the 2017-18 school year. Please return your child's questionnaire via mail or drop it off at the district office. *Remember to call Courtney Warren at the Wisconsin Heights District Office (608)767-2595, ext. 1005 and sign-up for a time slot for the Child Development Fair. Any child who will be two years old by March 1, 2017 is invited to attend.*
- **4K Pre-Registration:** Tuesday, February 7th from 3:30-6:00 pm. This is only for 4K parents interested in enrolling their child in the 4K program. Parents/caregivers are strongly encouraged to come to Black Earth Elementary and fill out pre-registration paperwork. At the same time, parents will be able to sign-up for the **Child Development Fair (CDF)** and will be given a Parent Interview to complete.
- **Child Development Fair Pre-Registration:** Tuesday, February 7th. 2-5-year-old children. (This includes those 4-year-old's signing up for 4K.) During our CDF, specialists and staff members will be conducting developmental assessments. Please call and sign your child up for a spot. Limited times are available. *Please call Courtney Warren at the Wisconsin Heights District Office to reserve your spot (608) 767-2595, ext 1005.*

## Save the Date

- District Child Find mailing: **January, 2017**
- 4K Pre-registration: **Tuesday, February 7th, 2017**
- Child Development Fair: **March 8, 2017**