

Start the Learning Early!

There is a growing educational movement, both nationally and within the state of Michigan, of promoting the merits of preschool. Even our own Governor has advocated for funding to provide structured programs for pre-kindergarten students to ensure all children are academically and developmentally ready for kindergarten. While this attention on early childhood education is a recent trend, HSPS has been dedicated to offering a quality preschool program for our community's children for over twenty-five years. Under the direction of current director Lesley Fischer, our preschool program is an essential component of our Blackbird Elementary building and focuses on preparing our four and five year olds for future success. Listed below are essential reasons why we believe preschool programming is important:

- Students will be exposed to similar thinking processes that are required of them in kindergarten.
- Students will acquire the foundational reading concepts, ensuring quicker acquisition of literacy skills.
- Students will be less likely to be placed in special education or held back a grade.
- Students will be more likely to attend college.
- Students will be more socially balanced due to the exposure of early social skills.

Our popular preschool program is seamlessly integrated as an important component into our outstanding K-2 Blackbird Elementary School. These young learners can check out books from our wonderful library, enjoy age-appropriate gym activities, create masterpieces in our art lab and eat a great lunch in our cafeteria.

The community is invited to learn more about our preschool and other outstanding programs at Blackbird Elementary next **Tuesday, March 6th from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** for the second annual **“When Will It Be Spring?” Literacy Night**. Come and enjoy a fun-filled evening of stories, activities and dinner. All participants will have a free book to take home. Come start the learning early!