

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Policy 5.09 Preschool Typical Peer Program	Effective: 3/24/26
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PRESCHOOL TYPICAL PEER PROGRAM

POLICY

It is the policy of Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities to include up to six typically developing preschool children in each preschool classroom. The intent of the typical peer program is to provide preschoolers with delays with same age role models who will exhibit developmentally appropriate behaviors, especially in the areas of language, social skills and emotional regulation.

Furthermore, it is also the purpose of the typical peer program to help equip these future co-workers and employers with knowledge about the skills and strengths of individuals with developmental disabilities and an understanding that all people have a place in society.

The Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities shall charge a monthly tuition to children attending the integrated preschool program who are considered typically developing. This tuition covers 4 full days of preschool, transportation, and daily snacks and will be charged for the months of September through May. Procedures for considering reduced tuition for typical peers have been developed

Historical Resolution Information	Reviewer(s):								
<table><thead><tr><th>Date</th><th>Resolution Number</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1/28/20</td><td>01-07-20</td></tr><tr><td>2/28/23</td><td>02-11-23</td></tr><tr><td>2/24/26</td><td>02-10-26</td></tr></tbody></table>	Date	Resolution Number	1/28/20	01-07-20	2/28/23	02-11-23	2/24/26	02-10-26	Early Childhood Director Superintendent
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PROCEDURES

- I. A typical peer committee, established under the direction of the Early Childhood Director, shall be responsible for: coordinating publicity for the typical peer program; conducting periodic skill screenings of applicants; delineating screening procedures and assessments; selecting children who meet the developmental levels for their specific age; and referring children to their local school district for further assessment who do not appear to be age appropriate during a screening.
- II. Preschool staff members who have children under consideration for the program must remove themselves from the selection process.
- III. A contract shall be established by the Board's finance department regarding tuition fees and schedules, continuity of attendance, prerogative of contract cancellation, family responsibilities, Board responsibilities and transportation.
- IV. The monthly tuition amount will be reviewed by the chief financial officer prior to the start of each school year.
- V. So that finances do not prevent children who are considered typically developing from having the opportunity to participate in the preschool typical peer program, a reduced tuition sliding scale shall be developed for each school year based on the published Federal Poverty Guidelines. These guidelines are updated annually.
- VI. Proof of gross monthly income and number of people living in the household shall be collected from each family wishing to be considered for reduced tuition.
- VII. Based on information gathered, a determination of free tuition or a percentage of the tuition ranging from 10-40% may be charged to those qualifying. The percentage determinations are based on incomes between 100% to 200% poverty level.
- VIII. Parents will be notified by the Early Childhood Director if they qualify for reduced tuition and, if so, the percentage they will be required to pay. The Early Childhood Director will notify the finance office of the tuition amount for each typical peer at the beginning of the school year and every time additions/revisions are made.
- IX. The Board's finance office will maintain the financial records regarding payments and will send monthly tuition invoices to the parents for each child.
- X. Children who qualify for free meals as part of the National School Lunch Program will automatically be given free tuition.

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- XI. Families who have more than one child enrolled in the typical peer program and who do not qualify for reduced tuition based on income shall pay full price for the first child and receive a 30% discount for each additional child.