

# News Release

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

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 Contact: Tom McCarthy, DPI Communications Director, (608) 266-3559

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## Most school districts offering elementary education provide 4K

MADISON – With the addition of three public school districts offering 4-year-old kindergarten (4K) to children and their families for the 2017-18 school year, Wisconsin now has 98.3 percent of communities that provide free public education to 4-year-olds.

The three new districts – Ashland, Brighton #1, and Hudson – will receive 4K start-up grants to offset the lag in funding related to how students

New 4K Districts	
District	Enrollment
Ashland	98
Brighton #1	9
Hudson	293

are counted for state aid purposes. The grants are authorized to provide \$3,000 per student in the first year of a new 4K program and \$1,500 per student in the second year. Funding is estimated to be prorated to about \$1,400 per student at the end of the first year of 4K for these new districts and estimated at the full statutory allocation (\$1,500) at the end of the second year. For the 2017-18 school year, 404 public school districts are offering 4K to 48,905 students, an increase of 141 students from last year’s unaudited figures.

“Research is clear that young children develop important skills and gain a foundation for future learning through 4-year-old kindergarten programs,” said State Superintendent Tony Evers. “Quality 4K offers rich experiences, including play-based learning that helps kids learn to work cooperatively and get along as well as expanding academic knowledge. This truly sets the stage for future success.”

Both Ashland and Hudson are using a [community approach](#) to provide services to children and their families. The

15 Years of 4K Growth		
School Year	Number of Districts	Number of Students
2003-04	189	16,957
2004-05	208	18,652
2005-06	235	21,004
2006-07	257	24,076
2007-08	283	27,759
2008-09	319	33,976
2009-10	333	38,075
2010-11	350	41,176
2011-12	368	46,028
2012-13	375	46,914
2013-14	386	48,590
2014-15	391	47,844
2015-16	399	48,111
2016-17	401	48,764
2017-18	404	48,905

community approach brings together local leaders representing business, schools, child care, Head Start, recreation, and parent education to develop programs that meet community needs.

(more)

Quality 4K programs, whether offered publicly or privately, have some common characteristics. They include highly trained teachers who have expertise in early childhood education, small class sizes, and a program that provides rich learning experiences and time for child-directed exploration. Public 4K programs are encouraged to follow the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards, which are aligned with the academic standards students will encounter as they progress through public schools in the state.

In addition to 4K in public schools and various community approach settings, many 4-year-olds attend state-supported 4K through independent charter and private voucher schools. All 17 independent charter schools in Racine and Milwaukee that serve elementary students offer 4K programs, enrolling 697 students for the 2017-18 school year. For the state's three private school choice programs, 100 schools offer 4K in the Milwaukee Parental Choice program, enrolling 1,964 students; 12 schools offer 4K in the Racine Parental Choice Program, enrolling 192 students; and 69 schools offer 4K in the Wisconsin Parental Choice program, enrolling 248 students.

For state aid purposes, 4K students are counted as 0.5 or 0.6 FTE (full time equivalent), depending on the services the schools provide. Under state law, 4K programs must offer at least 437 hours of direct pupil instruction. Outreach activities totaling 87.5 hours, such as child-parent activities, home visits, or parent education, may be a part of the scheduled hours for the 0.5 FTE student count or in addition to the 437 hours for the 0.6 FTE count.

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**NOTES:** Wisconsin has 422 public school districts: 411 that provide services to elementary age students and 11 that serve high school students only. More information about the [4K Community Approach Impact](https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/kind/4k/4kca) is available online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/kind/4k/4kca>. A list of public school districts offering 4-year-old kindergarten and the district's unaudited 4K enrollment for 2017-18 follows. This news release is available electronically at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2018-06.pdf>.

Unaudited 2017-18 Pupil Count

## Districts Offering 4-Year Old Kindergarten

*Districts with an asterisk (\*) are new for the 2017-18 School Year*

<b>A</b>		Brown Deer	81	Eau Claire Area	815
Abbotsford	40	Bruce	26	Edgar	26
Adams-Friendship Area	95	Burlington Area	180	Edgerton	119
Albany	27	Butternut	7	Elcho	15
Algoma	38	Cadott Community	48	Eleva-Strum	46
Alma	11	Cambria-Friesland	19	Elk Mound Area	66
Alma Center	29	Cambridge	53	Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah	23
Almond-Bancroft	25	Cameron	50	Elkhorn Area	182
Altoona	107	Campbellsport	72	Ellsworth Community	108
Amery	86	Cashton	32	Elmwood	20
Antigo	152	Cassville	19	Erin	15
Appleton Area	899	Cedar Grove-Belgium Area	60	Evansville Community	113
Arcadia	97	Cedarburg	145	Fall Creek	40
Argyle	21	Chequamegon	45	Fall River	26
*Ashland	98	Chetek-Weyerhaeuser Area	86	Fennimore Community	46
Ashwaubenon	136	Chilton	48	Flambeau	37
Athens	26	Chippewa Falls Area	331	Florence	33
Auburndale	65	Clayton	14	Fond du Lac	513
Augusta	43	Clear Lake	43	Fontana J8	15
		Clinton Community	46	Fort Atkinson	168
<b>B-C</b>		Clintonville	70	Fox Point J2	50
Baldwin-Woodville Area	111	Cochrane-Fountain City	38	Frederic	27
Bangor	39	Colby	44	Freedom Area	85
Baraboo	170	Coleman	39	Friess Lake	16
Barneveld	40	Colfax	45		
Barron Area	80	Columbus	88	<b>G-H</b>	
Beaver Dam	192	Cornell	31	Galesville-Ettrick-Trempealeau	97
Beecher-Dunbar-Pembine	10	Crandon	73	Geneva J4	10
Belleville	55	Crivitz	61	Genoa City J2	42
Belmont Community	23	Cuba City	30	Gillett	44
Beloit	464	Cudahy	124	Gilman	24
Beloit Turner	54	Cumberland	57	Gilmanton	15
Benton	19			Gilmanton	15
Berlin Area	115	<b>D-F</b>		Glendale-River Hills	84
Birchwood	12	D C Everest Area	397	Glenwood City	51
Black Hawk	35	Darlington Community	64	Goodman-Armstrong Creek	5
Black River Falls	110	De Forest Area	263	Grafton	102
Blair-Taylor	48	De Pere	218	Granton Area	19
Bloomer	94	De Soto Area	24	Grantsburg	48
Bonduel	41	Deerfield Community	58	Green Bay Area Public	1328
Boscobel Area	62	Delavan-Darien	165	Green Lake	22
Bowler	19	Denmark	79	Greendale	111
Boyceville Community	55	Dodgeland	55	Greenfield	205
*Brighton #1	9	Dodgeville	83	Greenwood	27
Brillion	40	Dover #1	6	Gresham	18
Bristol #1	56	Drummond Area	16	Hamilton	240
Brodhead	55	Durand	80	Hartford J1	154
		East Troy Community	77	Hartland-Lakeside J3	108
				Hayward Community	74

Herman-Rubicon-Neosho	36	Markesan	48	Omro	63
Highland	18	Marshall	47	Onalaska	185
Hilbert	23	Marshfield	221	Oostburg	51
Hillsboro	27	Mauston	85	Oregon	202
Holmen	233	Mayville	70	Osceola	89
Horicon	47	McFarland	133	Oshkosh Area	646
Hortonville	234	Medford Area	117	Osseo-Fairchild	39
Howards Grove	56	Mellen	22	Owen-Withee	32
Howard-Suamico	311	Melrose-Mindoro	49		
*Hudson	293	Menasha	245	<b>P-R</b>	
Hurley	26	Menominee Indian	36	Palmyra-Eagle Area	60
Hustisford	22	Menomonee Falls	233	Pardeeville Area	60
		Menomonie Area	254	Parkview	45
<b>I-L</b>		Mequon-Thiensville	168	Pecatonica Area	31
Independence	31	Mercer	14	Pepin Area	11
Iola-Scandinavia	40	Merrill Area	151	Peshtigo	62
Iowa-Grant	53	Merton Community	49	Pewaukee	177
Ithaca	18	Middleton-Cross Plains Area	389	Phelps	4
Janesville	597	Milton	195	Phillips	50
Jefferson	100	Milwaukee	5080	Pittsville	32
Johnson Creek	37	Mineral Point	36	Platteville	102
Juda	14	Minocqua J1	50	Plum City	24
Kaukauna Area	274	Mishicot	35	Plymouth	135
Kenosha	1100	Mondovi	78	Port Edwards	20
Kettle Moraine	179	Monona Grove	207	Port Washington-Saukville	175
Kewaskum	112	Monroe	169	Portage Community	157
Kewaunee	53	Montello	41	Potosi	14
Kickapoo Area	31	Monticello	22	Poynette	70
Kiel Area	84	Mosinee	127	Prairie du Chien Area	71
Kimberly Area	248	Mount Horeb Area	138	Prairie Farm	21
Kohler	23	Mukwonago	222	Prentice	22
La Crosse	403	Muskego-Norway	198	Prescott	92
La Farge	24			Princeton	16
Lac du Flambeau #1	54	<b>N-O</b>		Pulaski Community	223
Ladysmith	46	Necedah Area	37	Racine	1051
Lake Country	32	Neenah Joint	379	Randall J1	35
Lake Geneva J1	122	Neillsville	58	Randolph	31
Lake Holcombe	17	Nekoosa	63	Random Lake	40
Lake Mills Area	86	New Auburn	14	Raymond #14	33
Lancaster Community	70	New Glarus	57	Reedsburg	181
Laona	20	New Holstein	70	Reedsville	27
Lena	22	New Lisbon	51	Rhineland	142
Linn J4	7	New London	133	Rib Lake	23
Linn J6	7	New Richmond	237	Rice Lake Area	155
Little Chute Area	67	Niagara	27	Richfield J1	24
Lodi	87	North Cape	15	Richland	83
Lomira	76	North Crawford	32	Richmond	28
Loyal	30	North Fond du Lac	90	Rio Community	19
Luck	30	North Lake	24	Ripon Area	88
Luxemburg-Casco	75	North Lakeland	7	River Falls	188
		Northern Ozaukee	50	River Ridge	26
<b>M</b>		Northland Pines	68	River Valley	75
Madison Metropolitan	1794	Northwood	14	Riverdale	46
Manawa	37	Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton	36	Rosendale-Brandon	43
Manitowoc	340	Norway J7	7	Rosholt	36
Maple	76	Oak Creek-Franklin	305	Royall	39
Maple Dale-Indian Hill	37	Oakfield	37		
Marathon City	42	Oconomowoc Area	280	<b>S</b>	
Marinette	122	Oconto	72	Saint Croix Central	92
Marion	33	Oconto Falls	115	Saint Croix Falls	60

Saint Francis	39	Sun Prairie Area	585	Waupaca	134
Salem	92	Superior	304	Waupun	150
Sauk Prairie	164	Suring	21	Wausau	480
Seneca	20	Swallow	40	Wausaukee	26
Sevastopol	32			Wautoma Area	84
Seymour Community	113	<b>T-V</b>		Wauwatosa	354
Sharon J11	17	Thorp	39	Wauzeka-Steuben	17
Shawano	119	Three Lakes	32	Webster	36
Sheboygan Area	679	Tigerton	13	West Allis-West Milwaukee	524
Sheboygan Falls	96	Tomah Area	176	West Bend	326
Shell Lake	38	Tomahawk	65	West De Pere	234
Shiocton	40	Tomorrow River	56	West Salem	112
Shorewood	89	Trevor-Wilmot Consolidated	46	Westby Area	74
Shullsburg	18	Tri-County Area	42	Westfield	89
Silver Lake J1	41	Turtle Lake	22	Weston	9
Siren	34	Twin Lakes #4	37	Weyauwega-Fremont	39
Slinger	141	Two Rivers	90	Wheatland J1	35
Solon Springs	26	Union Grove J1	43	White Lake	6
Somerset	82	Unity	68	Whitefish Bay	166
South Milwaukee	156	Valders Area	56	Whitehall	43
South Shore	7	Verona Area	279	Whitewater	109
Southern Door County	58	Viroqua Area	79	Whitnall	114
Southwestern Wisconsin	33			Wild Rose	31
Sparta Area	200	<b>W-Y</b>		Williams Bay	25
Spencer	50	Wabeno Area	27	Winneconne Community	84
Spooner Area	50	Walworth J1	41	Winter	14
Spring Valley	63	Washburn	31	Wisconsin Dells	112
Stanley-Boyd Area	56	Washington	2	Wisconsin Heights	64
Stevens Point Area Public	514	Washington-Caldwell	13	Wisconsin Rapids	346
Stockbridge	16	Waterford Graded	103	Wittenberg-Birnamwood	76
Stone Bank	23	Waterloo	62	Wonewoc-Union Center	20
Stoughton Area	169	Watertown Unified	202	Woodruff J1	46
Stratford	57	Waukesha	659	Wrightstown Community	74
Sturgeon Bay	62	Waunakee Community	243	Yorkville J2	27