



GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

195 Federal Street, Suite 100, Greenfield, MA 01301

"Every Child's Success is Our Mission"

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Christine DeBarge Ed. D, Superintendent of Schools

February 7, 2023

To: School Committee
From: Christine DeBarge, Ed.D
Re: Tuition Increase Request

I am requesting a vote to increase the cost of tuition at the Academy of Early Learning effective the start of the 2023-2024 academic year.

Attached you will find a memo dated January 22, 2020 from the prior business manager to the prior superintendent, requesting this increase. The Administrative Assistant at AEL reports the current tuition is that from the 2020-2021 academic year but that future tuition increases were not implemented.

I am requesting that the increases proposed for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years (in this 2020 memo) be voted for the upcoming 2023-2024 and then the 2024-2025 academic years.

The AEL Pre-School Revolving account started fiscal year 2023 with a balance of \$149,981. The fiscal year 2023 budget had a projected use of \$283,240. This is another program that will be using current year receipts for current year expenditures.

The sliding scale will still be used for determining the tuition for families demonstrating financial need.

Thank you

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM
GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

To: Jordana Harper
From: Steve Nembirkow
Subject: AEL Tuition
Date: January 22, 2020

Preschool like all other district operations is increasingly reliant on tuition and revolving funds. For example, for FY20 the revolving fund usage included an additional \$150,000 above previous years.

It is the goal to keep tuition affordable; however, as the revolving fund is more heavily used, tuition will need to be increased. Below is a summary of tuition and the proposed FY21-FY24 tuition schedule. Also, attached is the sliding scale.

<u>Current 19-20 Tuition</u>					
Full Day	\$	542			
AM	\$	325			
PM	\$	268			
FY19 Revenue	\$	244,376			
Est. Paid Enrollment	\$	61			
Avg. Per Pupil	\$	4,006			
Avg. Mo Per Pupil	\$	401			
Reliance on the Revolving Account was increased in FY20 by \$150,000					
<u>Proposed 20-21 Tuition</u>		<u>Previous Yr</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Delta</u>
Full Day	\$	542	\$ 54	\$ 596	10.00%
AM	\$	325	\$ 33	\$ 358	10.00%
PM	\$	268	\$ 27	\$ 295	10.00%
** The last increase was in the 2017-2018 School Year					
Est. Additional Revenue - \$22,000					
<u>Proposed 21-22 Tuition</u>		<u>Previous Yr</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Delta</u>
Full Day	\$	596	\$ 24	\$ 620	4.00%
AM	\$	358	\$ 14	\$ 372	4.00%
PM	\$	295	\$ 12	\$ 307	4.00%
** The last increase was in the 2017-2018 School Year					
Est. Additional Revenue - \$10,000					
<u>Proposed 22-23 Tuition</u>		<u>Previous Yr</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Delta</u>
Full Day	\$	620	\$ 25	\$ 645	4.00%
AM	\$	372	\$ 15	\$ 387	4.00%
PM	\$	307	\$ 12	\$ 319	4.00%
** The last increase was in the 2017-2018 School Year					
Est. Additional Revenue - \$10,000					

Preschool Tuition Fee Comparisons SY 22/23

Public Schools:

Location	Amount	Notes
Frontier Regional/Union #38	\$42.00 Full Day \$7.00/hour	\$6246/year- reflects half day Fridays Also see local daycares and private centers' fees below for comparisons in immediate area
Amherst Public Schools	\$5.57/ hour	Possibly increasing rate for next school year
Easthampton Public Schools	\$28.75/half day program ~\$7.00/hour	Offer morning and afternoon half days M-TH, 2.5 hours
Greenfield Public Schools	\$596/month Full Day Flat Rate ~\$6.20/hour	AM:\$358/monthly PM:\$295 monthly
Gill-Montague	No Charge	This was initiated 5-6 years ago
Hatfield	\$6,500/year ~\$6.10/hour	No hourly rate; broken into 10 equal payments; based on 5 days/week;
Mohawk Regional School District	4 y/o \$5,184 3 y/o \$6,048	District gives 3 y/o 3 hours per day up to 3 days free and 4 y/o 3 hours/day up to 4 days free
Northampton Public Schools	\$42.00 \$7.00/hour	Looking to raise fee; current tuition "undercutting" local centers and daycares
Pioneer Regional School District	\$38.00/Full Day \$6.33/hour	
Eastern Mass Comparison		
Needham	\$11/hour	From the listserv- this is high end for eastern MA towns
Shrewsbury	\$12/hour	From the listserv- this is high end for eastern MA towns

Private Local Centers

Location	Amount	Notes
Small World	\$55/day \$7.33/hour	
Old Deerfield Nursery School	\$60/day \$9.23/hour	\$10,260 Full days/school year \$7,695 Half/days/school year
Happy Roots	\$58.10/day \$7.26/hour	Program runs 8:00-4:00
Deerfield Early Learning Center	\$58/full day for 5 days ~7.25/hour	Half day 8:00-12:30 \$43/half day Full day 8:00-4:00 \$47/day <5 half days; \$ 62/day < 5 full days 10:00/half hour if early 7:30-8:00 or late 4:00-4:30
Ja Duke	55.00/day ~\$6.50/hour	They offer early drop off at 7:30 with no charge And performing arts programs for late pick up at an additional fee