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# WAYNESVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Instructional Services Department

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The following information describes various programs offered through the Waynesville School District to meet the diverse needs of students throughout the district. Additional information is available by contacting the personnel involved with the instruction of each program or by calling the Instructional Services Office at (573) 842-2050.

### **PACE (Preschool Program)**

The Parent and Child Education (PACE) Program is a Title I/district-funded program designed to help children who have turned three before August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year. Students will be screened to identify those with developmental delays that may prevent them from being successful upon entering kindergarten. These children are helped through involving them in developmentally appropriate activities and by enabling parents to become better teachers of their children.

Enrollment in the PACE Program is voluntary. Students are selected based on need, which is determined through a screening process. The process consists of a developmental screening, a parent questionnaire, and consideration of age, previous status, referrals, and special developmental concerns. The developmental screening used is the DIAL-IV. Scores from the screenings are entered into a computer to get an overall standard score. Children are then ranked from greatest need to least need. The children with the greatest need are selected for enrollment. All other children are placed on a waiting list in the same numerical order.

The PACE Program includes classroom sessions and parent/child nights. During the classroom sessions, children are encouraged to structure their own thinking and gain mastery over their environment by observing, exploring, discovering, questioning, problem solving, sharing experiences and initiating activities which have been planned specifically for that child to promote growth at his/her developmental level. A meeting for PACE students and their parents to interact in a variety of learning experiences is held once a quarter.

If you are interested in finding out more information about the program or inquiring about scheduling a screening, please contact us at (573) 842-2650 (Williams Elementary) or (573) 842-2050 (Instructional Services Office).

### **Parents as Teachers (PAT)**

#### *Why Enroll in PAT?*

- As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher.
- PAT is a family education and support program that begins prenatal through age 5.
- PAT is a flexible program for all parents of young children.

#### *Benefits of PAT:*

- Through PAT, parents acquire knowledge and skills to make the most of crucial early learning years.
- PAT provides timely information on child development and neuroscience research.
- PAT involves you in parent-child activities that encourage language, intellectual, social and motor development.
- Independent evaluations have shown PAT children at age 3 tend to be significantly more advanced in language, social development, problem solving and other cognitive abilities than comparison children. PAT children score higher on kindergarten readiness tests and on standardized measures of achievement in early grades.

#### *Personal Home Visits...*

are the heart of the program. PAT-certified parent educators are trained in child development and educated in the latest brain research on early learning. They help you understand what to expect as your child grows. They offer practical suggestions on encouraging learning and managing challenging behavior.

#### *Group Meetings...*

allow you to meet with other parents to gain new insights, share experiences and discuss parenting topics.

#### *Screenings...*

are administered periodically by a parent educator that assess your child's overall development, as well as health, hearing and vision.

#### *Connections with community resources...*

that link your family to services for additional assistance beyond the scope of Parents as Teachers.

If you are interested in enrolling in the PAT program or finding out more about the program, please call (573) 842-2650.

## **District-Wide Testing**

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) testing is conducted in grades 3-8 each spring in the areas of communication arts and math. In addition, science is tested in grades 5 and 8. End-of-Course (EOC) testing is conducted at the high school levels when students complete the following courses: Algebra I, Algebra II (this applies only to students who took Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade), English II, Government and Biology. Results of these assessments are received in early fall and are reflected in the district's Annual Performance Report.

Universal screening instruments utilized across the district include tests to determine students' reading levels, administered in grades K-10, as well as tests to determine students' math levels, administered in grades K-8. These tests are administered multiple times throughout the year to track student progress.

In addition, district-developed common assessments are administered at all grade levels throughout the year to guide instruction and monitor student progress in all subject areas.