

**Hartford Jt. 1**  
**Community Based 4 Year Old Kindergarten (4K)**  
**Questions & Answers**

**1. Q: What is a community based 4K program?**

A: In a community based 4K program, four year olds receive pre-kindergarten instruction in a child care center or private/public preschool. A Wisconsin certified licensed teacher, hired by the School District, conducts a two and one-half hour program for five days a week. School District funds support the 4K program at the child care or private/public preschool site. Families may then choose to have their child(ren) participate in additional private pay child care or other services provided at daycare licensed sites for the rest of the day.

**2. Q: Will there be 4K in September 2010?**

A: Yes, we will start a Community Based 4 Year Old Kindergarten September 1, 2010.

**3. Q: Will there be a charge for 4K?**

A: There will be no charge for tuition, but as in all other grades, there will be fees assessed at \$26.00 per child.

**4. Q: What do I do if I did not fill out a survey?**

A: If you did not fill out a 4K survey, contact Joan Schultz ([Schultzj@hartfordjt1.k12.wi.us](mailto:Schultzj@hartfordjt1.k12.wi.us)) or Jean Jacoby ([jacoby@hartfordjt1.k12.wi.us](mailto:jacoby@hartfordjt1.k12.wi.us)). Feel free to fill out a survey online; go to the District website and click on community based 4K. You can also call Pupil Services at 673-8042.

**5. Q: Will there be transportation for 4K?**

A: District **Policy EEA Student Transportation Services** states, students living outside the city limits and within the boundaries of the School District of Hartford Joint No. 1, shall be transported to and from school. All students residing within identified hazardous transportation areas will be transported to and from their assigned school.

Under usual circumstances, families with children residing within the city limits, 2 miles of school, most likely **will not** be provided transportation to and from the four-year-old kindergarten sites.

**6. Q: How do I know what 4K site my child will be in?**

A: Attendance area boundaries were created to establish 4K sites using a map of Hartford Jt.1 area, which was divided into 6 sites. Your child will attend the neighborhood site or site closest to your home. In our second survey you were given the opportunity to pick your top three choices. We will make every effort to place your child in your first choice, however; that may not be possible for all families. The number of sessions of 4K will be determined by the enrollment of 4 year olds in the Hartford program. The 6 proposed sites are:

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|--|--|
| <b>1. Dream Center</b><br>1190 Western Dr.               | <b>4. Little Lambs Preschool</b><br>738 W. Monroe St.<br>(First United Methodist Church) |
| <b>2. Hartford Recreation Center</b><br>125 N. Rural St. | <b>5. St. Kilian School</b><br>245 High St.  |
| <b>3. Happy Hollow Day Center</b><br>3265 Hwy. K.        | <b>6. Sycamore Tree Preschool/Daycare</b><br>255 W. Lincoln Ave.                         |

**7. Q: Will the 4K bus routes include K-8 grade students?**

A: Yes, bus transportation for 4K, will include all district children for the A.M. pickup and P.M. drop off. The A.M. drop off and P.M. pickup for the most part will be preschool aged children.

**8. Q: What will the District do to keep my 4 year old safe on the bus?**

A: We will require an adult that you deem responsible, have visual contact of your child when picked up or dropped off by the bus. We will ask you to identify that person when you enroll your child. The 4K children will also be required to ride in the front of the bus and they will be checked ON and OFF the bus by the driver and their teacher once at the 4K site. The bus will not drop off your child unless the adult you choose is within close visual contact.

**9. Q: How will students be placed in each session?**

A: We will begin placing students that will need childcare services first. Then we will begin placing students in 4K sites according to the surveys. We may need to contact individual families to confirm survey information. The number of sessions of 4K will be determined by the enrollment of 4 year olds in the Hartford program.

**10. Q: How many days of the week will there be 4K?**

A: Community based 4K will be held 5 days per week and follow the Hartford Jt. 1 calendar.

**11. Q: Will there be A.M. and P.M. sessions? What are the times for each session?**

A: There will be mornings and potentially one afternoon session. The morning times are 8:20 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Your child may arrive at 8:10 a.m. The afternoon session will potentially run from 11:50 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and your child may arrive at 11:40 a.m.

**12. Q: Will there be an orientation for my 4K child?**

A: Yes, we will have a 4K orientation meeting on September 1, 2010. This will be for all registered 4K students and parents.

**13. Q: Will my child have art, music and physical education?**

A: Art, music and physical education will be woven into your child's day and be part of the four year old kindergarten curriculum.

**14. Q: What will my child learn in 4K?**

A: The curriculum for the community based 4K approach will focus on learning through discovery and active participation. Activities will be developmentally appropriate and provide rich language experiences. The focus will be on learning through intentionally designed activities in the areas of social-emotional, cognitive, creativity, early literacy, early math and fine motor, and self help skills. The approach will be hands on and there will also be an emphasis on positive values such as respect and responsibility.

**15. Q: How can I learn more about the standards that will support the 4K program?**

A: We will use the Wisconsin Model Early Learner Standards (WMELS) to guide our curriculum. The curriculum will focus on activities that support the categories included in the WMELS.

The WMELS are state standards developed to align with the Wisconsin K-12 Model Academic Standards. The WMELS are designed to assure early learning opportunities that support the success of children in school both now and in their future. The areas represented by the WMELS set the stage for curriculum development for pre-school classrooms. The WMELS reflect attention to the following categories of early learning: health and physical development, social and emotional development, communication and language development, along with approaches to learning and cognitive and general knowledge.

You can learn more about the Model Early Learning Standards by going to [www.collaboratingpartners.com/EarlyLS.htm](http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/EarlyLS.htm)

**16. Q: How many students will be in each session?**

A: There will be approximately 13 –18 students in each class. The number of sessions of 4K will be determined by the enrollment of 4 year olds in the Hartford program.

**17. Q: Who will teach 4K?**

A: The teachers will be hired and supervised by the Hartford Jt. 1 School District. Teachers that teach 4K will be licensed Wisconsin teachers and must have the appropriate license to teach preschool aged children.

**18. Q: What if my child will be four after September 1st?**

A: There will be **NO** early admission to 4K per District Policy #JEB-R. However, check with area site providers for other preschool offerings.

**19. Q: How will Emergency weather situations also be addressed at each site? How will security be addressed in the different sites?**

- A:
1. Weather situations will be addressed using the Emergency District Dismissal form. If there is early dismissal, the regular District policy will be followed.
  2. School closings and delayed starts will be announced with regular district announcements on both television and the District website.
  3. If there is a delayed start there would be no morning session of 4K.

Each 4K site will have emergency plans that match District and site expectations. These will include, fire, tornado, medical, and intruder and will be part of the teacher and parent handbook. 4K staff and students will practice the drills.

**20. Q: How soon do I need to decide if I want to send my child to Community Based 4K?**

A: We would like to know about all interested families by Friday, May 14, 2010. However, if you decide after May 14<sup>th</sup>, and anytime before school starts, please call the Pupil Service Department at 673-8042 regarding your intention to enroll your child.

**21. Q: How will parents be involved?**

- A: Parent involvement is an integral part of the 4K experience and will serve as an important step toward each child's success in school. It will take on many different forms, some of which are:
- Orientation – before or on the first day of school.
  - Classroom helpers/volunteers
  - Literacy nights
  - Curriculum night
  - Open House Events
  - Field Trips with your child
  - Transition activities to 5K at the end of the school year.
  - Other activities as planned.

**22. Q: Is 4K voluntary or mandatory?**

A: 4K is a voluntary program and not subject to mandatory attendance. However, we would anticipate that you would send your child to class each day unless your child is ill or otherwise excused.

**23. Q: Will there be a principal assigned to the 4K sites?**

A: Yes. Each site will be assigned a principal. It will either be Mr. Jake Jilling from Lincoln Elementary or Mrs. Pam Pyzyk from Rossman Elementary depending on site location.

**24. Q: How will my child's Speech and Language needs be met?**

A: Speech and Language services will be provided at each site by a certified Speech and Language therapist. The therapist will be hired by the School District to provide services and travel between each of the sites. This will eliminate having to bus your child to and from the elementary buildings for speech services.

**25. Q. Will there be before and/or after school daycare?**

A. Yes, there will be before and after daycare. There will be a separate registration for those that need daycare and your fee will be paid directly to the provider. The providers to contact are: Happy Hollow Day Center at 673-3005 and Sycamore Tree at 673-0161. Please contact these sites for additional information.

**26. Q. Will there be any other opportunities other than daycare for my child after the 4K session?**

A. There will be other opportunities for your child to attend preschool appropriate activities. These opportunities will require additional pay and registration. They are listed below for your convenience.

1. Dream Center will offer a 4K extension and additional activity session. This will take place at the Dream Center and there will be a fee established for this class. Please contact Sheila Trost at 673-3154 for additional information.
2. The Hartford Recreation Center offers a number of preschool aged appropriate activities and classes. Please contact the Recreation Center at 673-8226 or see the Seasonal Activity Guide available at the Hartford Recreation Center for class offerings, dates, times and fees.