



Flemington-Raritan Early Childhood Advisory Council (FR ECAC)

**Flemington-Raritan Regional
School District
Preschool Leadership Team
May 6th, 2025**

Spring Meeting Agenda

- Lottery Recaps
 - Ideas for Improvements
- Mid Year Parent Survey
- Whole Child Fair
- Looking ahead
- Chronic Absenteeism
- Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

Meet our Leadership Team!



Dr. Kari McGann
Superintendent of
Flemington- Raritan
School District



Dr. Danielle Hamblin
Director of Pupil Personnel
Services and Special
Education



Amanda Cahill
Supervisor of Early
Childhood
Education



**Katherine Javier-
Mannino**
Administrative
Assistant for Preschool



Rachel Colonna
Child Study team
Preschool Social Worker



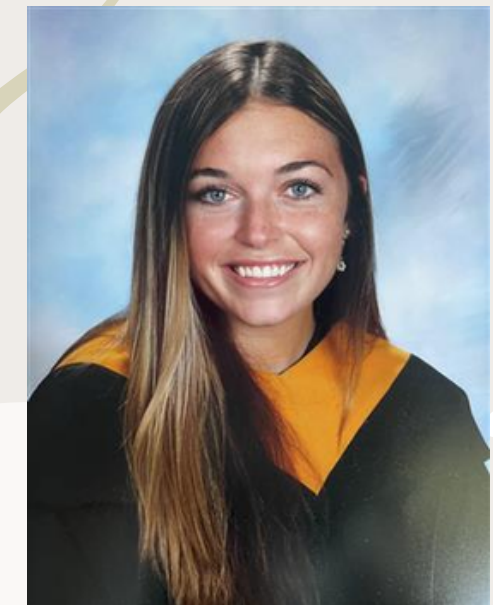
Nicole Bateman Preschool
Intervention and Referral
Specialist (PIRS)



Theresa Ferrara
Child Study Team
Preschool LDT-C



Vicki Marcine
Preschool Instructional
Coach (PIC)



Riley Finnegan
Preschool Social Worker and
Community Parent Involvement
Specialist

What is ECAC?

Early Childhood Advisory Council or “ECAC” means an advisory group of community stakeholders interested in the education and welfare of children in preschool through grade three that is convened by the school district (N.J.A.C.6A:13A-1.2).

Members include Community and Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS), school personnel, parents, community stakeholders, and early childhood providers.

We meet quarterly! We met in the Fall, Winter, and now Spring! We will meet again at the end of the school year.

Preschool Lottery Recaps

Preschool Lottery notification was sent to families on March 14, 2025

Entries into preschool lottery for the 2025-2026 school year: over 300 entries

Seats available for the 2025-2026 school year: approximately 100 general education seats

Waitlisted students for the 2025-2026 school year: approximately 200 students



Preschool Lottery Recaps



What are your thoughts on the district's current lottery process?

Do you have any ideas on how we can improve the process while keeping the process equitable?

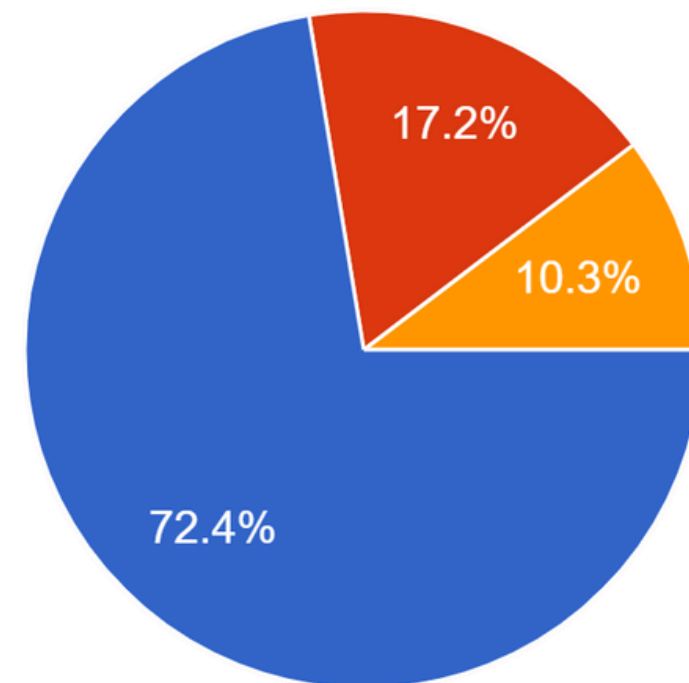
Mid Year Parent Survey

Our goal is always to increase the number of responses so that we are hearing recommendations and feedback from our total population!

29 responses thus far

Communication between teachers and parents is adequate. La comunicación entre profesores y padres es adecuada.

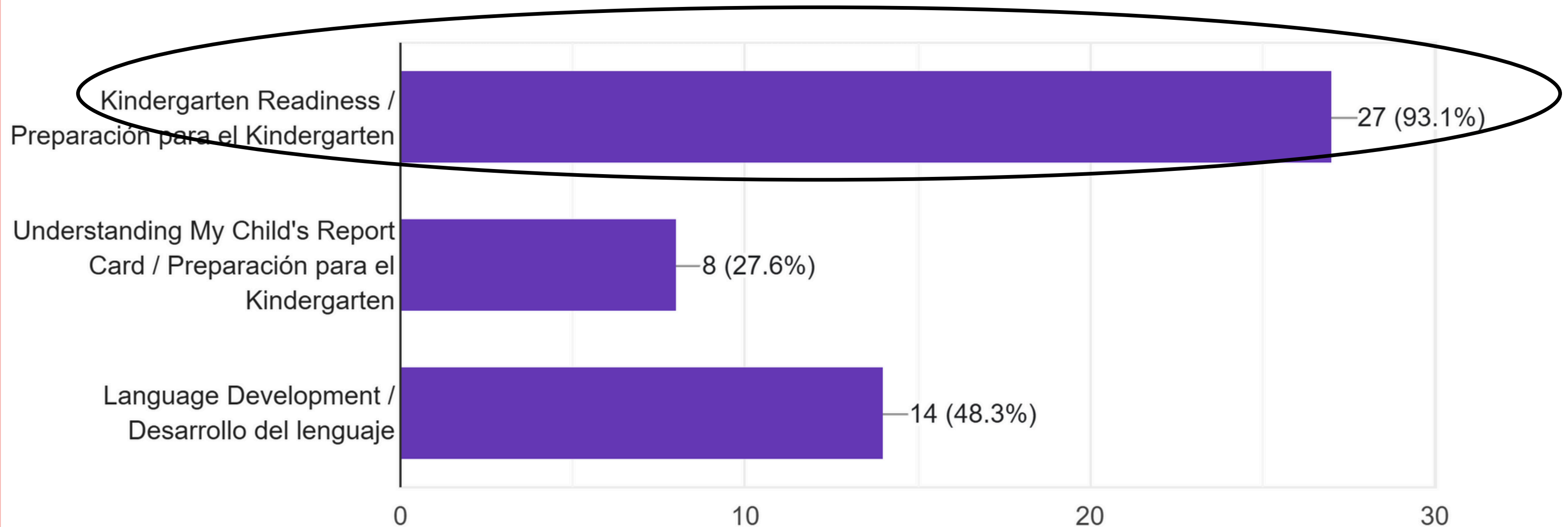
29 responses



- Strongly agree / Estoy totalmente de acuerdo
- Agree / Estoy de acuerdo
- Neutral
- Disagree / Estoy en desacuerdo
- Strongly Disagree / Estoy totalmente en desacuerdo

Would you be interested in attending any of the future workshops? ¿Estaría interesado en asistir a alguno de los talleres en el futuro?

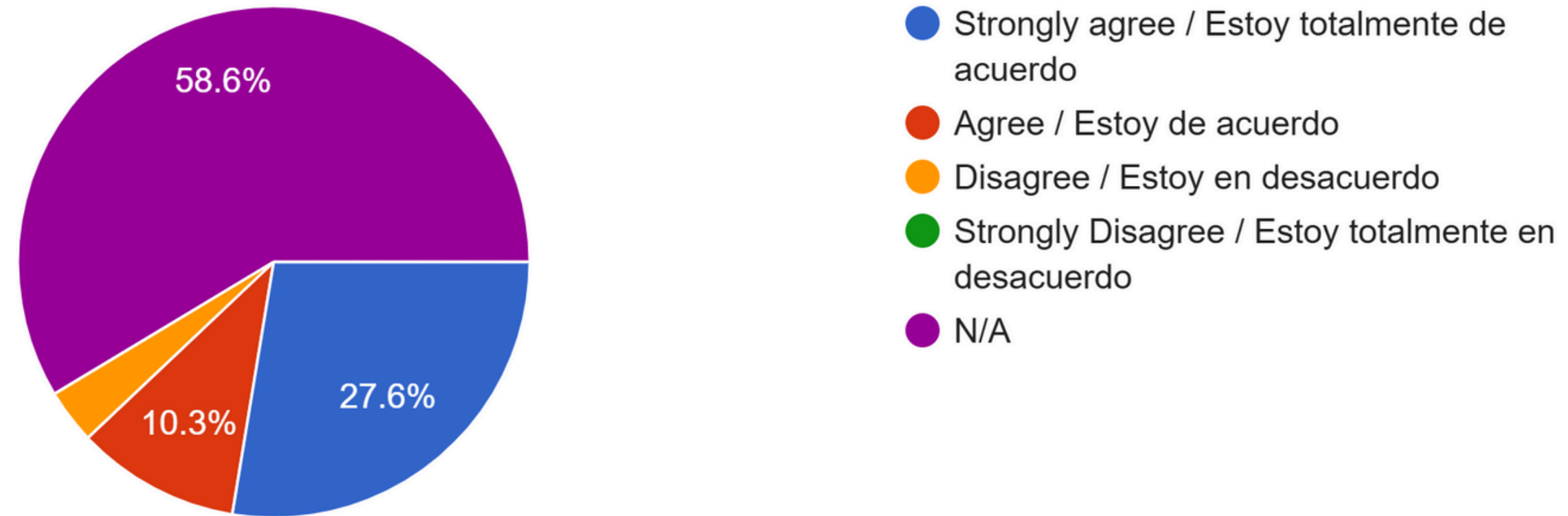
29 responses



What are we doing with this information?

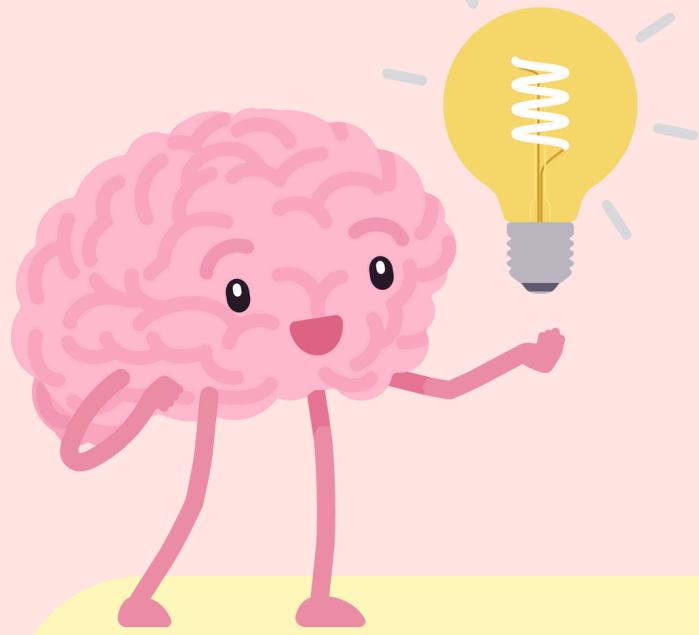
Do you find workshops helpful? ¿Te parecieron útiles los talleres?

29 responses



Next Years Goals

- Increase Attendance
- Introduce In-Person Workshops
- Continue to target the needs of our families



Ideas for In-Person Workshops/Meetings

Feedback from one of our preschool parents

“For night events, it may be helpful to work with the child development program at Hunterdon Central or Polytech to have students watch school aged children in a classroom while parents serve on committees or attend workshops. This may help with the attendance and participation.”

Overall, it was great to hear that families are pleased with their child's preschool experience!

My daughter loves her class and teachers and is learning a lot!

My child has a positive experience in school. He is supported, accepted and has constructive relationships with teachers and peers.

My daughter loves her teachers, has made so many friends, and comes home everyday with a story to share about school. The before/after care program has been super helpful in making the school hours work with our schedules and we are so thrilled with the entire preschool program so far.

He loves to go to school and it is never a fight in the morning for it. He loves his teachers and his routines.

The pre-k program has been an excellent experience for our daughter and our whole family. I'm very grateful the pre-k expansion came to our district!

seems very happy with school and talks about the activities he does.

Both of our twins have been thriving in Preschool. We have been very happy.

My daughter is having a great experience this year in ' preschool class.

I LOVE the Tools of the Mind program. My son has learned so much vs at his former preschool. If there is any access to the program for the parents, would you please share this information with me? Thank you!!

We are extremely thankful to have attending preschool at Robert Hunter. It's the best thing for him.

Thank you for all that you do!

My daughter's teachers and are the best loves going to school and it's a direct reflection of how they treat their students

The preschool program has exceeded our expectations. We feel very grateful that our son was selected and has had the opportunity to participate we saw a lot of academic and social growth this year.

My son has had a positive preschool experience at Robert Hunter.

Appreciate everything you guys do

This preschool class has been fantastic for my daughter I would just like to thank , her staff and the rest of the school staff for everything they have done and continue to do at Barley Sheaf. Thank you so much!

The preschool program is exceptional!

Just thank you to the teachers and staff for all that they do for our children!

Whole Child Fair Success!





Please share any ideas, comments, or suggestions for future celebrations/activities at school that can help bring families in and contribute to parent involvement

Ideas for Next Year

Preschool CURRICULUM CARNIVAL

SEPTEMBER:

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Bring the whole family for a night filled with games, laughs, and fun!

What to expect!
-TOOLS OF THE MIND
CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS
-EXCITING GAMES & ACTIVITIES
-FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
-COMMUNITY TABLES
-CRAFTS
-MUSIC



Preschool Family Fun Night

Held at Copper Hill Elementary School



For the Kids

Preschool Prom!

Dress up in your favorite outfit and join your friends for a fun night of music, dancing, and laughter! No matter which location your child attends, come celebrate a fantastic year as a Preschool Penguin with us at Copper Hill!

Friday, May
From 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Located in the Copper Hill Gym!



For the Parents

Parent Academy

Topics will include preparing your child for kindergarten, keeping learning alive over the summer, and essential water safety tips to ensure a fun and safe season.

Friday, May
From 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Located in the Copper Hill Cafeteria!

Preschool Playdate



Join fellow Pre-K parents for a fun and relaxed weekend gathering while the kids enjoy playtime together!

Where: Lenape Park
When: Saturday, September





Home visits

The Flemington-Raritan School District is dedicated to fostering strong, trusting relationships with the families of our preschool students. As part of this commitment, we have embraced home visits –a widely recognized and effective practice in preschool programs across the country.

Home visits are flexible and designed to meet your needs. We're happy to meet you in the comfort of your home or at a convenient location, like a local coffee shop –whatever works best for you!

During the visit, we can share helpful at-home support resources, suggest fun learning activities for extended breaks, or simply check in to answer any questions you may have. It's all about supporting you and your child in the way that feels most comfortable.

Still a focus for us...



Chronic Absenteeism

- Families taking extended vacations resulting in their child missing a large amount of days.
- Sick days going well above 20

Chronic Absenteeism



Any ideas on how we can emphasize the importance of being in school to parents at the start of the school year?

Should anything be sent out in Summer?

Chronic Absenteeism



What are your thoughts on a policy regarding attendance? Please share any pros and cons

Example: 10 days unexcused absent = a child is unenrolled from the program.

Community Needs Assessment (CNA) Questions



- Attendance is critical, and we are frequently monitoring attendance. Are there any barriers to attending our program daily? (Ex: childcare, transportation..)
- If a workshop is held in the evening, would you need childcare in order to attend?
- In my family, we talk about problems
 - I know how to soothe my child when he or she is upset

Is there anything else that you think would be beneficial to add into this survey?

Preschool Highlights



Thank you for attending today's meeting!
Please fill out the exit form below by
scanning the QR!



Prepping for our final ECAC

- future celebrations/activities to increase parent involvement
- addressing chronic absenteeism
 - importance, policy
- additional CNA questions to add