Fairfax County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENGAGE • INSPIRE • THRIVE

# PARENT POLICY COMMITTEE

2025-2026 Annual Report

*FCPS PreK and Early Head Start*

# FCPS PreK and Early Head Start Overview

The FCPS PreK and Early Head Start (EHS) program provides high quality preschool education and comprehensive services for students who are identified as having economic and educational risk factors. The purpose is to provide a strong start and develop kindergarten readiness skills including academic and social emotional skills.

| Program | Students Served | Student Slots |
|---|---|---|
| **PreK** | **3 or 4 years old by Sept 30** | **2378** |
| **Early Head Start** | **Pregnant mothers & birth to 30 mo. old by Sept 30th** | **48** |

# PreK and EHS Program Eligibility

- Family income*
- Child is homeless or in foster care
- Family receives public assistance
- Parents did not graduate high school
- Other risk factors such as parent incarceration or child protective services referral
- Child is eligible for special education services

*based on percentage of federal poverty level (FPL)

# Inclusion Expansion

| Type of Classroom | SY 23-24 | SY 24-25 | SY 25-26 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Traditional PreK Classrooms** | 110 | 107 | 43 |
| **PreK Inclusion Classrooms** | 7 | 61 | 133 |
| **Total Full Day PreK Slots** | 2064 | 2198 | 2378 |
| **Schools with PreK and/or PreK Inclusion Classrooms** | 66 | 73 | 78 |

**Full Day Inclusion Models**

Single Teacher

Itinerant

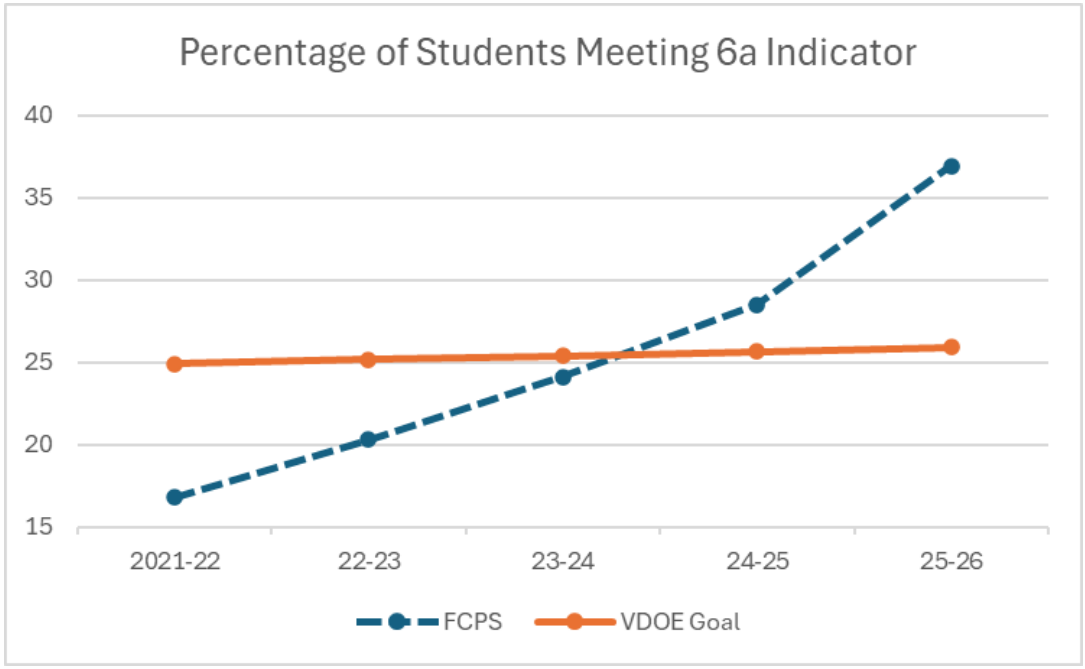
Co-teaching (new for 26-27)

**Half Day Inclusion Models**

PreK Paired with Early Childhood Class Based Classrooms

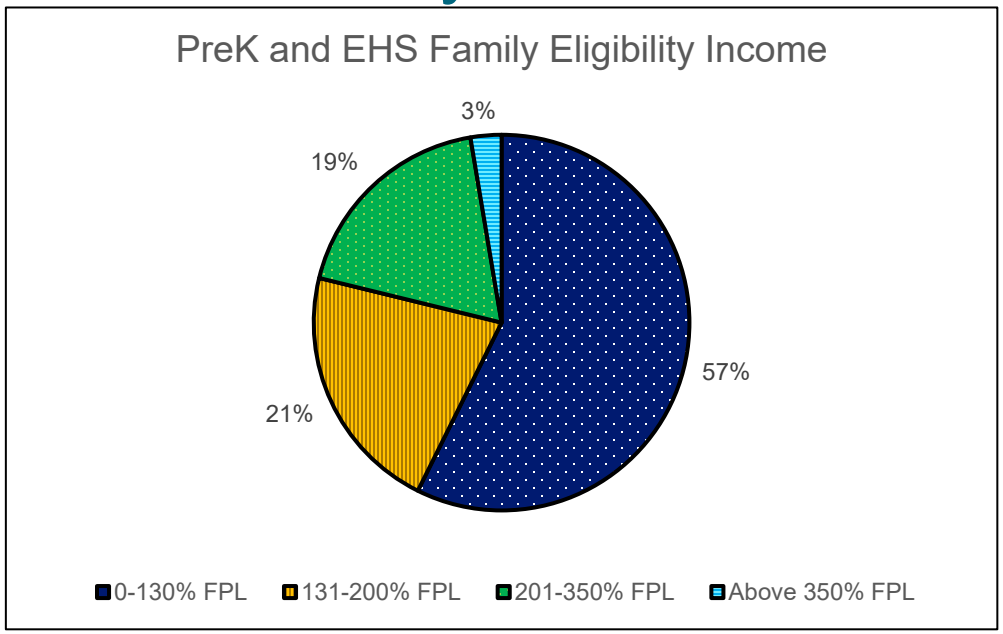
PreK Paired with Preschool Autism Classrooms

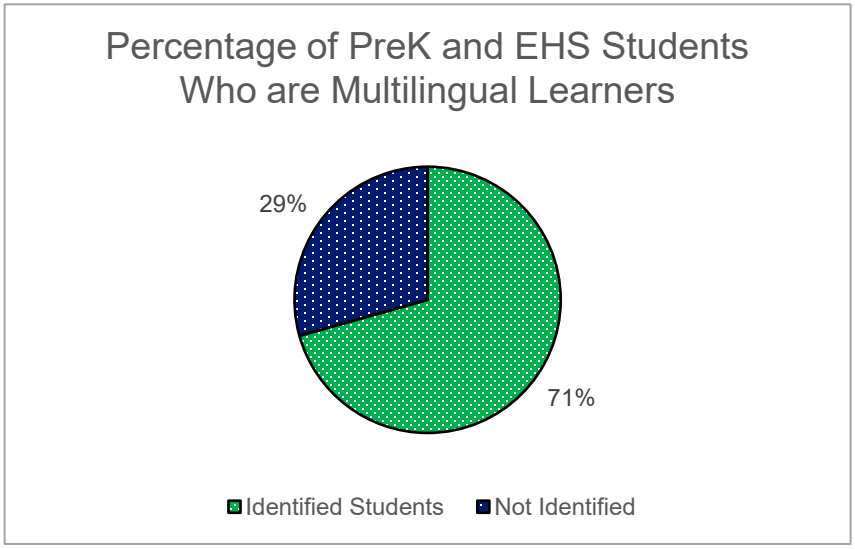
# Inclusion Expansion Continued

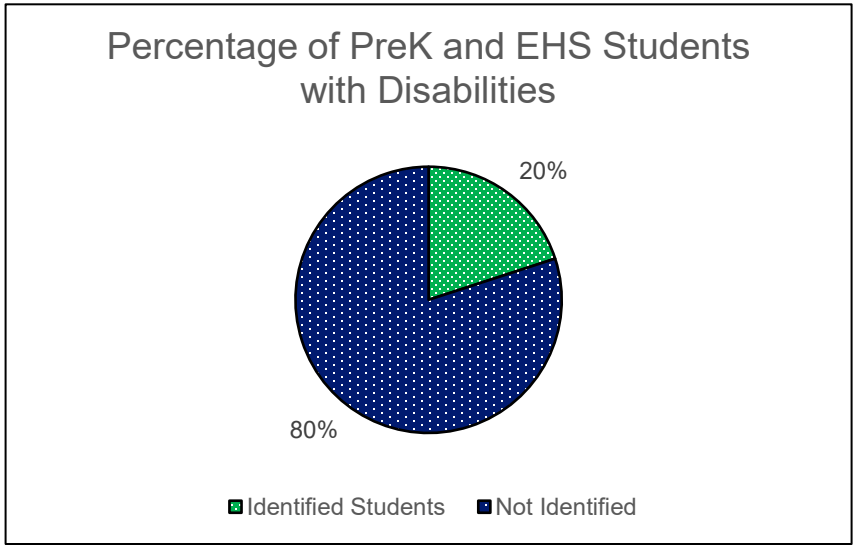



VDOE Indicator 6a-Children aged 3 through 5 with IEPs attending a regular early childhood program and receiving the majority of special education and related services in the regular early childhood program.

# FCPS PreK and Early Head Start Enrollment



# PreK and EHS Applications and Waitlist

| | SY 23-24 | SY 24-25 | SY 25-26 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Slots | 2112 | 2246 | 2426 |
| Number of Applications | 5619 | 5345 | 5269 |
| Eligible Students on Waitlist* | 429 | 474 | 404 |

*Not all 3 year old applications are processed based on space available, these students do not show on the waitlist

# PreK and EHS Comprehensive Services



# Program Highlights

**Education Team**
Professional development and new resources for GLAD (Guided Language Acquisition Design) Strategies to support vocab development

**Transportation**
Aligned more feeder schools with Early Childhood Special Education programs to serve more students in inclusive programs

**Multi-Tiered Systems of Support**
Reduced the number of consultation referrals through solution seeking conversations at collaborative learning teams and collaboration with inclusion co-teachers

**Mental Health**
Professional development focus on Social Emotional Learning and Conscious Discipline strategies to support all learners in positive, caring classrooms

**Family Engagement**
Supported school readiness and transition to kindergarten through additional virtual family center meetings and Ready Rosie

# PreK and EHS Parent Policy Committee





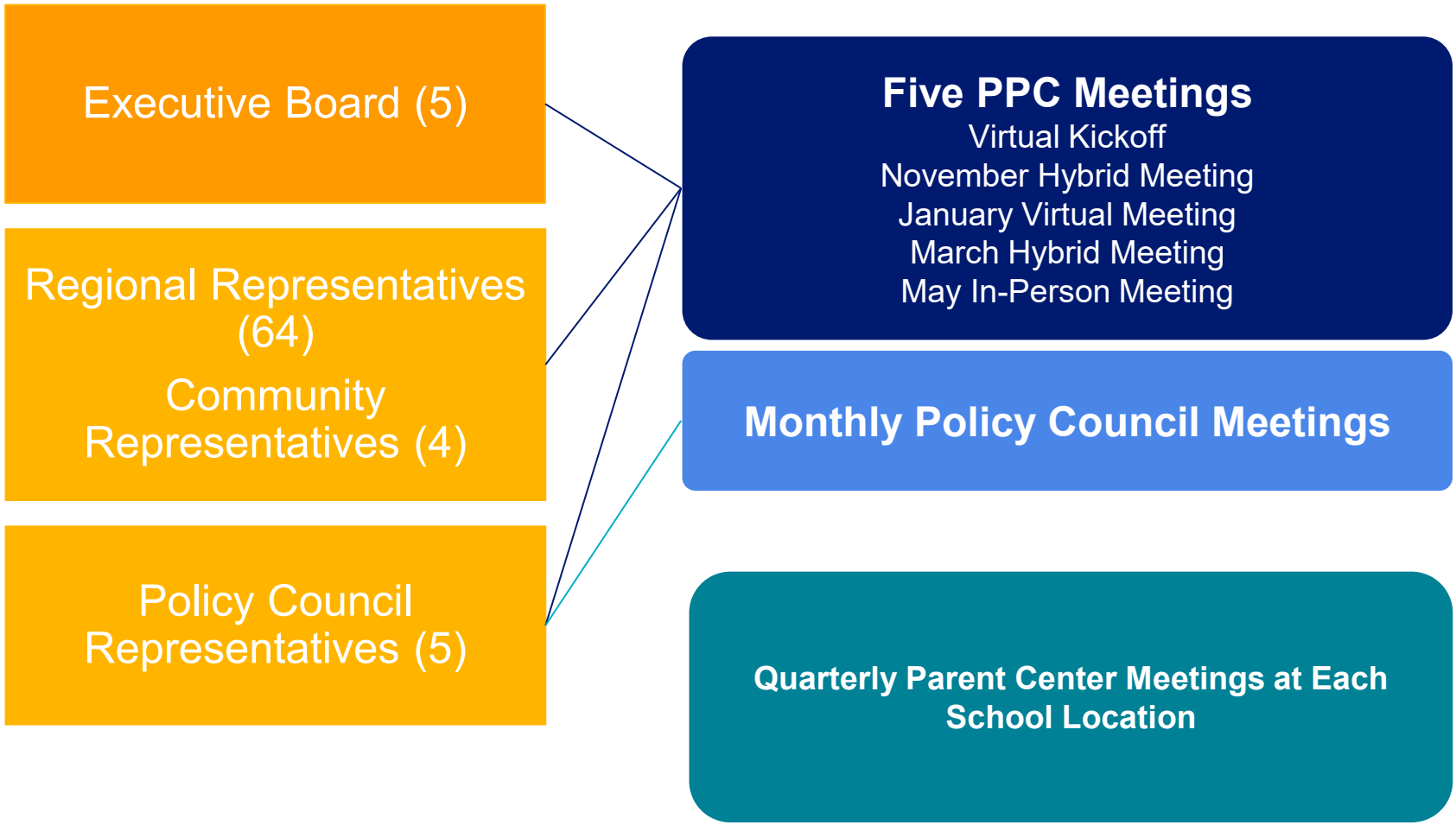




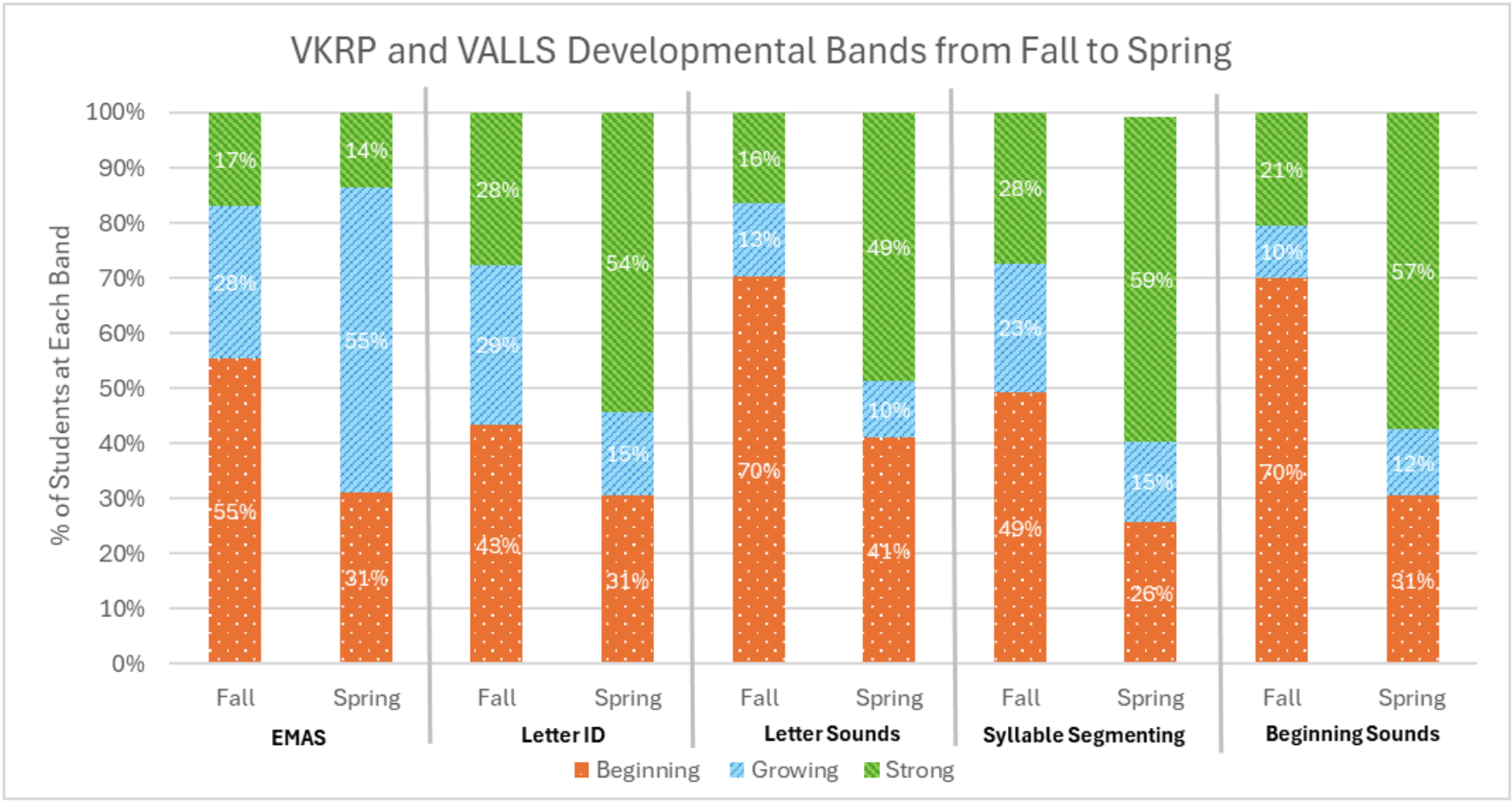

# Parent Policy Committee Executive Board

| Name | Role | Parent of PreK/EHS student at: |
|---|---|---|
| Theresa Do | Chairperson | Mason Crest |
| Dot Johnson | Vice-Chairperson | Washington Mill |
| Nicole Iriarte | Secretary | Timber Lane |
| Shaunna Clark | Treasurer | Fort Belvoir |
| Garrett Snoeyenbus | Parliamentarian & Policy Council Rep | Lane & North Springfield |

# Parent Policy Committee Governance Structure

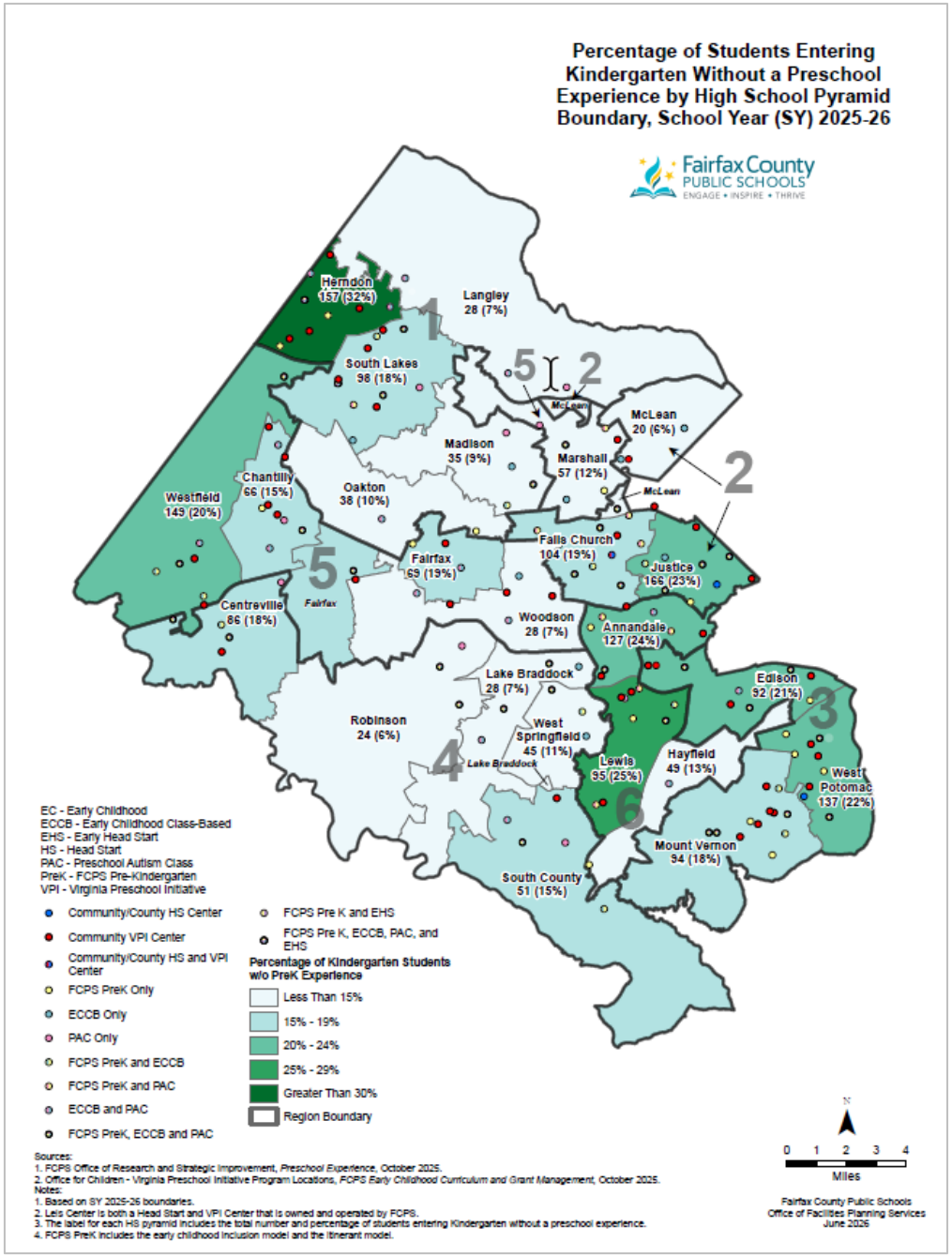


# Program Impact




Preliminary Data from SY 25-26
growth from Fall to Spring

# Percentage of Students Entering Kindergarten Without a Preschool Experience by High School Pyramid Boundary, School Year (SY) 2025-26




Sources:
1. FCPS Office of Research and Strategic Improvement, *Preschool Experience*, October 2025.
2. Office for Children - Virginia Preschool Initiative Program Locations, *FCPS Early Childhood Curriculum and Grant Management*, October 2025.

Notes:
1. Based on SY 2025-26 boundaries.
2. Lewis Center is both a Head Start and VPI Center that is owned and operated by FCPS.
3. The label for each HS pyramid includes the total number and percentage of students entering Kindergarten without a preschool experience.
4. FCPS PreK includes the early childhood inclusion model and the itinerant model.

# Parent Policy Committee Recommendations

1. Include PreK students in school-based staffing formulas for Time to Teach (TTT), ensuring consistent access to specials classes for all students.
2. Provide access to PreK students for afterschool childcare and enrichment programs at schools including on teacher workdays.
3. Continue funding program expansion to increase the number of families the program can serve, including expanding who can qualify such as higher income qualification or other situations such as job loss or medical conditions.




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