



Cochrane-Fountain City School District

S2770 State Highway 35 Fountain City, Wisconsin 54629

Mr. Troy White
Superintendent
twhite@cfc.k12.wi.us
608-687-7771 x313

Mr. Steve Stoppelmoor
Principal
sstoppelmoor@cfc.k12.wi.us
608-687-4391 x102

Mrs. Sue McKay
Assistant Principal
smckay@cfc.k12.wi.us
608-687-4391 x106

Larry Cyrus, President
Kalene Engel, Vice President
Niki Secrist, Clerk
Lynn Doelle, Treasurer
Don Baboun, Director
Bonnie Breza, Director
Darrin Dillinger, Director

C-FC School District and Head Start Explore Expanded Partnership

History

As part of the district's commitment to the community, Head Start has been offering access to high quality early childhood education for families in the C-FC school since 2012. The partnership promotes the school readiness of children ages three to five from low-income families by supporting their growth and development in a positive learning environment through comprehensive early learning, health, and family well-being services. The partnership started with a single classroom being utilized and has grown to include an additional classroom and workspace. Along with the partnership with Head Start the school district has provided a 3-year-old program.

Purpose / Process

The C-FC District and Head Start have witnessed a shortage of childcare and area districts implementing childcare facilities. This prompted the idea of exploring an expanded program to include care for children ages 6 weeks through 5 years old. The concept of benefiting the community in an area of need as well as increasing the district's ability to attract and retain high-quality staff had merit.

Fact Finding

District and Head Start staff, working in concert, are gathered information. Below is a timeline of our endeavors.

- 2021-10-13 Arcadia Daycare site visit.
 - 2021-10-25 Feasibility discussion, prompted contacting ISG to develop ideas.
 - 2022-03-02 ISG meeting to discuss needs and review location proposals.
 - Current 4K head Start, C-FC 3-year-old, and first 2 classrooms (factors below)
 - Significant disruption to elementary student "flow"
 - Daycare rooms and offices lacked continuity
 - Need for parking
 - Possible interference with septic
 - Need separate outdoor play area
 - Junior High classrooms (factors below)
 - Utilize existing parking
 - Minimal impact on high school student "flow"
 - Need separate outdoor play area
 - Single, separate area for daycare rooms and office
- Preference for junior high classrooms space***
- 2022-03-18 Blair-Taylor site visit and C-FC space discussion about options and preferences
 - 2022-03-25 C-FC space walkthrough and submission of needs and ideas to ISG for planning
 - 2022-04-08 Meeting with ISG to discuss modifications and details for junior high location
- The process paused until the new superintendent was hired***
- 2022-07-07 C-FC School Board sent a letter to Senator Baldwin, Congressman Kind, and Senator Johnson requesting assistance on the possibility of expanding the partnership with Head Start
 - 2022-07-20 ISG presented a proposal for renovating the junior high location which also included input from the administration and maintenance personnel.

Current Status

Additional information is being investigated including financial assistance, afterschool programs, enrollment projections, and maintenance needs as well as the effect on students, staff, and parents.