

Peer Model Applications for the 2022-2023 Academic Year are now being accepted! The application can be found on our website!

We are SO excited for another year full of learning, exploring, playing, and growing!

First Step Preschool is housed inside of Pleasantview Elementary School and is an Integrated Preschool meaning we serve both students with disabilities (SWDs) and without disabilities (Peer Models) within our classrooms. We serve approximately 300 students ages three to five. All of our Integrated Classrooms have SWDs and Peer Models. All of our teachers hold at least a Bachelor's Degree and several have Master's Degrees as well. All of our teachers are Licensed Early Childhood Intervention Specialists with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). First Step Preschool also falls under the ODE guidelines for Preschool and we are 4 Star Rated through Step Up to Quality and on track for a 5 Star this current year! Each of our classrooms have teaching assistant(s), which means our student to staff ratio is low. Our related service providers (physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech therapists) also are in and out of classrooms quite often.

Our program runs Tuesday through Friday, and since we are part of Parma City School District, we follow the District Calendar with modified days at the end and beginning of the school year. Students are either enrolled in the morning session (8:20-10:50am) or the afternoon session (11:50am-2:20pm). The tuition for the program is \$600 for the entire year, which is a much lower cost than local preschools. Peer Models need transportation to/from First Step and need to be toilet trained. Many local childcare centers have also reached out to provide transportation from their end to our program.

Our small class sizes and variety of instructional strategies enable our students to realize their unique potentials while exploring their environment and developing in many areas as they prepare for kindergarten. On campus, we have a playground, a renovated courtyard donated by Lowe's, weekly art classes, a new STEM lab, full-time school nurse, library, sensory room, motor room, and gymnasium. We have a supportive PTA, PBIS systems in place, FAST program, partnerships with our local Cuyahoga County Libraries, and Baldwin-Wallace University. Our creative staff implement our PCSD Board-Adopted "Creative Curriculum" and "Second Step" with universal learning targets for success for all. All our classrooms are based on "pods", so children are naturally and equitably grouped with their neighborhood peers for smooth transitions to kindergarten and opportunities for friendships!

Please don't hesitate to contact First Step Preschool if you have any questions or concerns. We are excited to meet all our new families. Thank you! ☺

First Step Preschool

7770 Malibu Drive

Parma, Ohio, 44130

440-885-8645

<https://www.parmacityschools.org/>

Our tentative Peer Model Screening Date will be Friday, March 4, 2022 and times will be determined.

