



Innovative Teaching and Learning for All: Special Course and Program Offerings in Jackson Public Schools

January 19, 2021

JPS Mission and Vision

Our mission is to develop scholars through world-class learning experiences to attain an exceptional knowledge base, critical and relevant skill sets, and the necessary dispositions for great success.

Our vision is to prepare scholars to achieve globally, to contribute locally, and to be fulfilled individually.



JPS Core Values

- **Equity**
- **Excellence**
- **Growth Mindset**
- **Relationships**
- **Relevance**
- **Positive and Respectful
Cultures**

Objectives



Provide an overview of special course offerings and programs in the Jackson Public School District



Discuss efforts to improve and/or sustain quality courses and programs in alignment with the District's Strategic Plan





Commitments

#1 – A Strong Start

#2 – Innovative Teaching and Learning

#5 – Joyful Learning Environments

Special Course Offerings

Special Course Offerings

Commitment #2 – Innovative Teaching and Learning

- **The Open Doors-Gifted Education Program**
 - Identifies and serves gifted students in a uniquely qualitatively differentiated program not available in the regular classroom
 - Encourages and nurtures inquiry, flexibility, decision making, thinking skills, self evaluation, and divergent thinking
 - Serves intellectually gifted students in grades 2-8
- **Strings in Schools**
 - Continued collaboration with the MS Symphony Orchestra
 - Impacts over 3,000 students in grades 3-12 through ensemble visits, informances, full orchestra educational concerts, and string instrument instruction



Special Course Offerings (cont.)

Commitment #2 – Innovative Teaching and Learning

- **Advanced Placement (AP®)**
 - Expands access to higher education
 - Allows students who pass AP exams an opportunity to earn college credit and placement
 - Aligns with our commitment to equitable preparation and access for all
- **Dual Enrollment and Dual Credit**
 - Offers structured opportunities for qualified high school students to simultaneously enroll in college courses at Mississippi (public) Institutions of Higher Learning or Mississippi Community or Junior Colleges
 - Provides pathways leading to academic or career technical postsecondary credit.

*JPS currently has agreements with Hinds Community College and Tougaloo College.



Special Programs

Title I Pre- Kindergarten Program

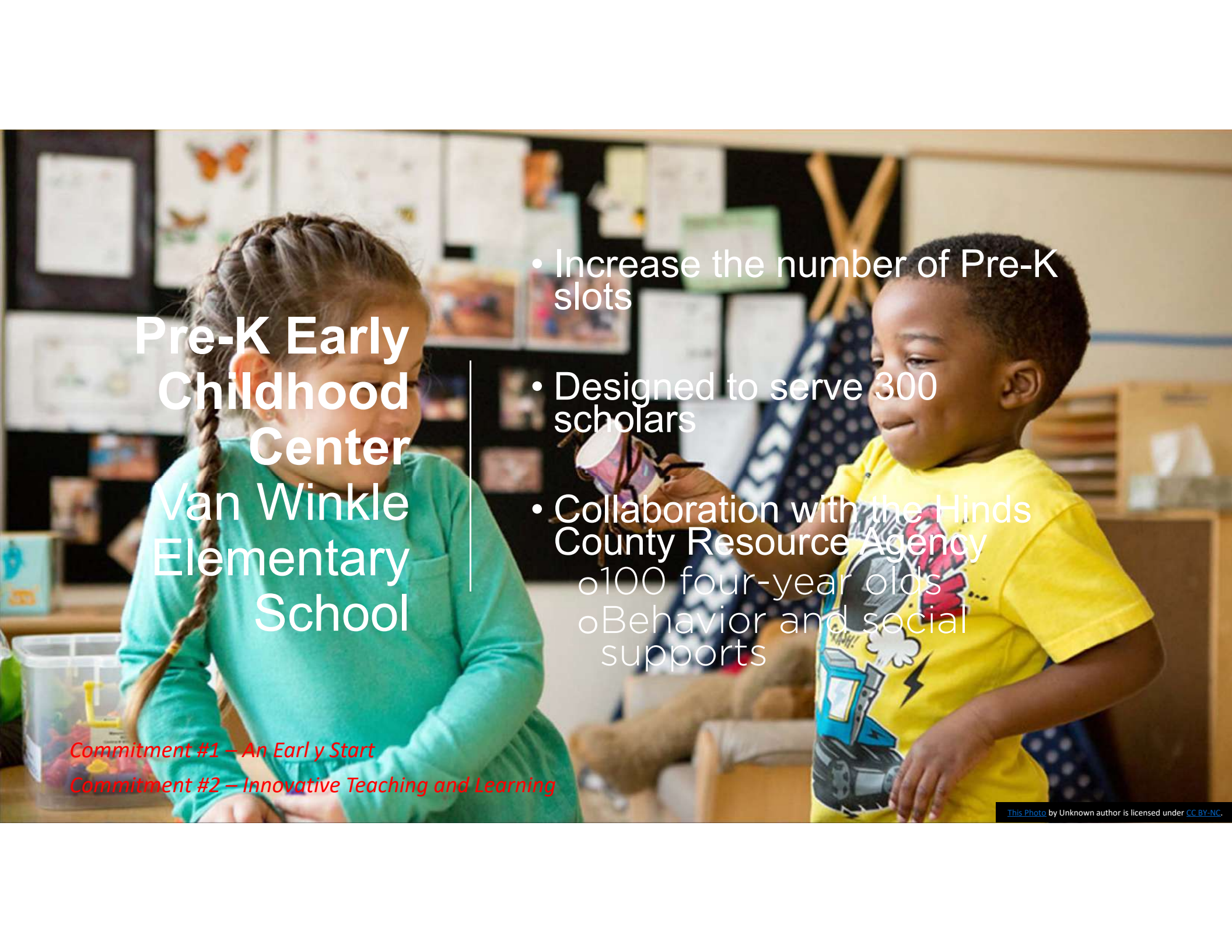
Commitment #1 – A Strong Start

JPS currently has 53 Title I Pre-K classrooms at 21 sites with a maximum enrollment of 1,160 students.

Goals:

- Develop rich oral language and a robust vocabulary
- Acquire knowledge of skills and concepts taught in each subject area
- Develop social skills and emotional control
- Transition smoothly through daily routines to learning centers and to other environments independently





Pre-K Early Childhood Center Van Winkle Elementary School

- Increase the number of Pre-K slots
- Designed to serve 300 scholars
- Collaboration with the Hinds County Resource Agency
 - 100 four-year olds
 - Behavior and social supports

Commitment #1 – An Early Start

Commitment #2 – Innovative Teaching and Learning



Montessori Program McWillie Montessori Elementary School

- Montessori education offers multi-aged classrooms with a strong emphasis on interactive, self-directed learning for pre-school and elementary children.
- The McWillie Montessori Program has 3-6, 6-9, and 9-12-year-old classrooms
- Expansion of Regular Pre-K slots (100)
- The McWillie site serves 296 children throughout the school district.

Commitment #1 – An Early Start

Whole School Initiative: Arts Access Program

*Commitment #2 –
Innovative Teaching and Learning*

Casey Elementary School
Kindergarten-5th Grade



Goals of the Mississippi Arts Commission's Whole School Initiative

1. Arts Integration

To provide learning opportunities to improve student academic achievement through the integration of the arts into the core curriculum.

2. Arts Discipline

To increase students' and teachers' skills, knowledge, awareness, and experiences in all arts disciplines.

3. Professional Learning

To build a school culture with sustainable systems that support arts integration as an approach to teaching.

4. Community Involvement

To increase family and community engagement and understanding of the arts

Academic and Performing Arts Complex (APAC)

Commitment #2 –

Innovative Teaching and Learning

Commitment #5 –

Joyful Learning Environment

The Academic and Performing Arts Complex (APAC) is open to students who are strong academic achievers and who show an aptitude for one or more of the visual or performing arts.

- Academics Division
- Visual and Performing Arts Division (theatre, visual, dance performance, & music)

Grade Band	Location
4 th -5 th Grade	Power APAC Elementary School
6 th -8 th Grade	Bailey APAC Middle School
9 th -12 th Grade	Forest Hill High School
9 th -12 th Grade	Murrah High School

Power APAC provides academic and visual/performing arts opportunities to 715 students grades 4-12.



*Commitment #2 –
Innovative Teaching and Learning*

Objectives:

- Provide students with a balanced education;
- Facilitate geographic and cultural mobility; and,
- Promote international understanding through shared academic experiences.

Program	Grade Band	Location
Primary Years Program (PYP)	Kindergarten-5 th Grade	Barack Obama IB Elementary School
Middle Years Program (MYP)	6 th -8 th Grade	Northwest Jackson IB Middle School
	9 th -10 th Grade	Jim Hill High School
Diploma Program (DP)	11 th -12 th Grade	Jim Hill High School

There are 816 IB students grades K-12.



*Commitment #2 –
Innovative Teaching and Learning*

*Commitment #5 –
Joyful Learning Environment*



The JTECHS Program was established to help first-generation college students and other underrepresented students earn college credits while in high school.



Students in the program complete Mississippi graduation requirements for high school while working on college coursework.



Students may earn an Associate's Degree or up to two years of credits towards a Bachelor's Degree.

Career Development Center

The Career Development Center our Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses focus on state and national standards, skills that lead scholars to innovation, creativity, problem solving and critical thinking.



Career Development Center

17 Career and Technical Programs

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agriculture & Environmental Science Technology• Automotive Service Technician*• Broadcast Journalism (Television Broadcasting and Production)• Business Fundamentals/ Marketing – 2 programs*• Construction Core/ Carpentry• Collision Repair Technician• Cosmetology – 2 programs• Culinary Arts | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital Media Technology• Early Childhood Education – 2 programs*• Engineering• Health Science (Lanier High School)• Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning• Information Technology• Law and Public Safety (Forest Hill High School)• Lodging Hospitality and Tourism*• Simulation and Animation Design• Teacher Academy• Welding |
|--|---|

*Hinds Community College Dual Credit Course



JPS Career Academies - Callaway



Academy of Law and Public Safety

Students enrolled the Academy of Law and Public Safety have the opportunity to engage with academy partners by participating in industry visits, job shadows and internships.

Courses included in this academy are:

- Law and Public Safety I
- Law and Public Safety II
- Career Pathway Experience



JPS Career Academies - Lanier



Academy of Health Services

Introduces students to the science of clinical services, clinical technologies, healthcare support services and gathering and analyzing evidence, documenting facts, and conducting criminal examinations.

Courses included in this academy are ...

- Health Science I
- Health Science II
- EMT



JPS Career Academies - Provine



Hope Credit Union Academy of Business and Finance

Students will explore business ownership and banking through the lens of business law, finance, marketing, accounting, financial services, contracts, economics, marketing, banking systems, financial technology, money management and foreign and domestic currency, and ethics.

Courses included in this academy are ...

- Business Law/ Personal Finance
- Business Fundamentals
- Entrepreneurship Internship/Hope Credit Union Provine Branch



JPS Career Academies - Provine

Academy of Scientific Innovation

Students will explore aviation and engineering through the lens of aerospace technologies, unmanned aerial device flight and construction, atmospheric science, engineering designs and the study of engineering systems.

Courses included in this academy are from the following pathways:

- Aviation
- Engineering



JPS Career Academies - Wingfield

Academy of Natural Resource and Utilization

Introduces students to Agriscience and Agribusiness through the lens of plant and soil science, food systems, agricultural systems, agricultural systems, mechanical systems, business fundamentals and agricultural economics.

Courses included in this academy are ...

- Environmental Science
- Botany
- Survey Of Agricultural Technology
- Zoology
- Microbiology
- Field Experiences In Science



Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC)

The JROTC program of instruction focuses on the development of better citizens through the development of skills in Citizenship; Leadership Theory and Application; Science; and American History.



Next Steps and Sustainability

Next Steps and Sustainability

- **Special Courses**

- Expand teacher recruitment efforts
- Assist teachers with acquiring special certifications
- Increase the variety of course offerings
- Increase accessibility to Edgenuity courses
- Increase grade level requirement, i.e testing first graders for gifted program (Pilot)

- **Special Programs**

- Monitor effectiveness and alignment to program objectives
- Provide on-site support through program consultants
- Consistently update resources
- Strengthen collaborations with like schools/programs

- **Ongoing Professional Development**



Question/Answer Session

