

Rhianna Nelson, Program Director/Administrator

Little Cardinals Preschool, Childcare, Cardinals Club, & Cardinals Summer Camp

Little Cardinals Preschool- 45/56 Children Registered – as of 6/17/20

Openings available- (5) 3-year-old (3) m/w & (2) day tu/th classes

(7) 4-year-old 3 day class

(9) 4-year-old 5 day class (all in PM class, Am class is full)

We are in the time of year that Preschool enrollment will continue to fluctuate, we have had 5 tour & enroll in the last two weeks, I have one more that I have been in contact with, trying to get her in to tour. We have also had a couple drop out due to uncertainty with the school year/family jobs. I am pushing tours with families the month of June and trying some incentives for the month of July to push enrollment. Our biggest challenge is we have families wanting full time care but not enough fulltime spots in childcare, making them have to look elsewhere leaving our pre-k classrooms with little enrollment.

Childcare- 22 Children Registered (over classroom capacity during lunch hour). I have been in contact with Local and State Licensing offices to try to license room 111 for more childcare spots for ages 3-5 to help provide full time spots during the 2:45-5:30 time that we are lacking for full time care. This is a 90 day minimum process, which means we may or may not have approval before school starts. But should have approval no later than September – this could be helpful with covid as well if for some reason the KSDE Pre-k classes cannot operate we could operate the licensed CC rooms to continue prek classes which will allow us to hold on to those tuitions this year.

Cardinals Club (ASP)- is ½ full. I want to spend next year focusing on ASP and how to boost enrollment in this program – I have spent the last 3 years on Childcare and Pre-k and while those are much better than when I started, I need to focus on ASP. This may be due to what we charge for ASP or creating concentrated aspects to bring into the program like Tutoring from JR. High students or STREAM/Club like activities. I will be surveying families later this year to see how we can improve this program.

Cardinals Summer Camp- Closed for Summer 2020 ☹️ The license increase will provide 20 MORE spots for summer 2021! We will begin planning early for Summer 2021- we have had most families decide to keep their spots for next year and let us keep their registration fees.

Concern - I have been taken off our school website as an Administrator, per our licensing regulations we MUST have a KDHE approved Administrator since our license is over 60 children. KDHE allows program directors to also be listed as administrators to limit having to employ another person. In order for the Administrator to be KDHE qualified they have to have all the requirements I have and would have to take over some of my responsibilities of program management and administration. In order to satisfy this requirement, KDHE asks that the Program Administrator be listed in lines of authority, websites and handbooks as Program Director/Administrator to prove that the program is in compliance.

Grant opportunity- I will be applying for the Sustainability Grant through Childcare Aware- this will provide our program \$500/mo for 6 months (\$3,000 total) for ongoing expenses when the program re-opens in August.

Covid-19 Update- Licensing has finally come out and has lifted all capacity restrictions but does continue to limit to “sustainable” groups of staff and kids – this will be easier to maintain in the school year than summer, so no matter HOW school looks in August, we will be able to operate all of our childcare rooms as we normally do in the school year.