

NR 070920

Grant to continue innovative Gladstone preschool

The Gladstone School District received a Preschool Promise grant from the Oregon Department of Education, providing \$216,000 per year for 18 disadvantaged children to attend the Gladstone Teaching Preschool.

The preschool, using an inquiry-based education model, is located at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families. The program serves students with disabilities as well as low-income children from the Head Start waiting list. It was formed 6 years ago in partnership with the Clackamas Education Service District.

“This substantial grant fulfills a long-time dream of continuing this innovative preschool experience for children who otherwise would not have the opportunity,” said Lennie Bjornsen, Director of Student and Family Supports. “We know preschool plays a vital role in kindergarten readiness, especially for disadvantaged children.”