

Brentwood NEWS RELEASE **UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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October 12, 2015

BRENTWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICIALS SECURE \$10 MILLION DOLLARS FROM NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE FULL DAY UNIVERSAL PRE K PROGRAM FOR LOCAL BRENTWOOD CHILDREN

Brentwood School District officials will announce on Tuesday the awarding of a \$10 million state education department grant that will allow the District to provide Full Day Universal Pre-Kindergarten classes to all families that requested it. The grant supplements \$2 million previously awarded to the District and will bring the total of children receiving Pre-Kindergarten services (full and half day) to over 1,000 students over the next three years.

"We appreciate our central administrative staff for their excellent work in writing the grant applications and the state for recognizing our need here in Brentwood," said School Board President Helen Moss. "Providing this vital service to every family that needs it is a great accomplishment."

"Brentwood was in competition with schools throughout the state for the Universal Pre-K funding and it is a testament to the hard work of our staff and the support of our state leaders that our requests were granted in full," said Dr. Levi McIntyre, District Superintendent.

"With the full funding in place, the huge burden of working families having to find day care for their young children has been lifted," the Superintendent said.

In total, 468 children will receive full-day services thanks to the grants and 598 will attend half-day classes. "The additional funding solved the potential problem of a family having only one child accepted with another receiving half-day," Moss said referring to the lottery system the District had used when the Universal Pre-K slots were limited. "This is a home run for everyone involved."

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