



Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent

INFORMATION MEMO

To: Board of Public Education for Bibb County ("Board")
Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent

From: April Harriger, Director of Northwoods Academy
Nelson Render, Executive Officer

Subject: Summer Transition Program: Rising Pre-K and Kindergarten

Summary

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Board with information regarding the planned Summer Transition Program at Northwoods Academy for rising Pre-K and kindergarten students. This program will be funded by *Bright from the Start*, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning.

Background

In the past, BCSD has offered a summer transition program funded by Bright from the Start, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. Last year we housed four rising kindergarten classes (3 gen ed and 1 inclusion) and two rising pre-k classes (1 ELL and 1 inclusion). Class sizes last year were 14 students per rising kindergarten class and 12 students per rising pre-k class. The class size is subject to change based on Bright from the Start's guidelines.

The summer transition program is an intensive program (23 instructional days, 6.5 hours/day; or 149.5 hours total) for students. Bright from the Start Enrollment Priorities include:

- Rising Kindergarten:
 - students who did not attend Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start during the 2025-2026 school year.
 - Students that attended a Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start Program the entire school year but fall into one of the priority groups listed below:
 - Child identified as needing additional academic support
 - Dual Language Learner
 - Foster care placement
 - Child's family is without permanent housing
 - Child has an IEP
- Enrollment priorities for the rising pre-k classes include students who are registered to attend pre-k during the 2026-2027 school year and Spanish is

spoken in the home. Rising Pre-K Inclusion class students must be registered to attend pre-k during the 2026-2027 school year. This includes students with an IEP.

Each class will be funded by a grant from Bright from the Start. This includes salaries, benefits, operational and support dollars, transportation, and administrative costs. BCSD is listed as one of the target counties for the Summer Transition Program. The program allows us to provide students with another opportunity to have a more successful transition to kindergarten/pre-k by addressing literacy and school readiness skills. The program also supports the district's goal of Student Achievement. We want students to get the foundational skills needed to "Show Up" and be successful for the upcoming school year.

Summer Transition Program Logistics

- Dates of program for students: 6/1/2026- 7/2/2026
- Program Hours of Operation: 8:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Teachers/Paraprofessionals Dates: 5/28/2026-7/2/2026; Remote workday for teachers and paras June 5, 2026 for in-service/training/planning)
- Teachers/Paraprofessionals Time: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Transitional Coaches will be needed for contacting families and getting students for the program, registration paperwork, family engagement/education training, assisting with transitioning, etc.

- Transitional Coaches Dates: 5/11/2026 – 7/3/2026
- Transitional Coaches Times: Flexible hours depending on family needs. Guidelines state the transition coaches work 7-8 weeks or 160 hours per classroom to allow time for recruiting, program set-up, family workshops, family engagement activities and program closeout. This is subject to change based on Bright from the start guidelines.

Next Steps

Northwoods Academy will continue planning to host the Bright from the Start Summer Transition Program for rising Pre-K and kindergarten students during summer 2026.

Superintendent's Comments and Approval

Superintendent's Signature	Approved / Not Approved
Dr. Dan A. Sims	Approved