

SIU CARBONDALE HEAD START



2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT

The mission of SIU Carbondale Head Start is to provide comprehensive school readiness and high-quality services for income eligible families with pre-school age children.

The Year in Review

Dr. Lea Maue, Executive Director

SIU Carbondale Head Start is pleased to provide this required annual report (Head Start Act, 2007), which is a snapshot of program information and performance occurring July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The 2023-24 program year was the fourth year in the five-year grant cycle. The program provided center-based services to children at its four locations, but due to teacher shortages, four classrooms were not open for the entire year, which significantly impacted enrollment. Although funded to serve 337 children and their families, the program enrolled no more than 290 at any single time and 328 cumulatively in the 2024-25 school year. This is 42% of the income-eligible children in the service area (per most recent IECAM income demographic data) and a 6% increase from the previous program year. The program applied for an enrollment reduction at the end of the program year to serve 290 children with additional support in the classroom. This reduction was approved for the 2024-25 school year.

Despite enrolling less children this program year, the program was able to support 37 children with a documented disability receive services, far exceeding the federal requirement of 10% of cumulative enrollment. Additionally, the program transitioned 161 children to kindergarten, of which 86-96% met or exceeded developmental expectations (depending on area measured). Child outcomes indicate that children increased skills in almost all learning domains, demonstrating the program's commitment to school readiness and child success.

A federal onsite Focus Area Two (FA2) monitoring review occurred April 15, 2024 through April 19, 2024. The FA2 allows grantees to demonstrate effectiveness in implementing a high-quality program to promote positive outcomes and school readiness for children and their families. The review assesses a grantee's performance and to determines if programs are meeting the requirements of the Head Start Program Performance Standards. The review determined that the program was fully compliant with federal regulations with no areas of concern.

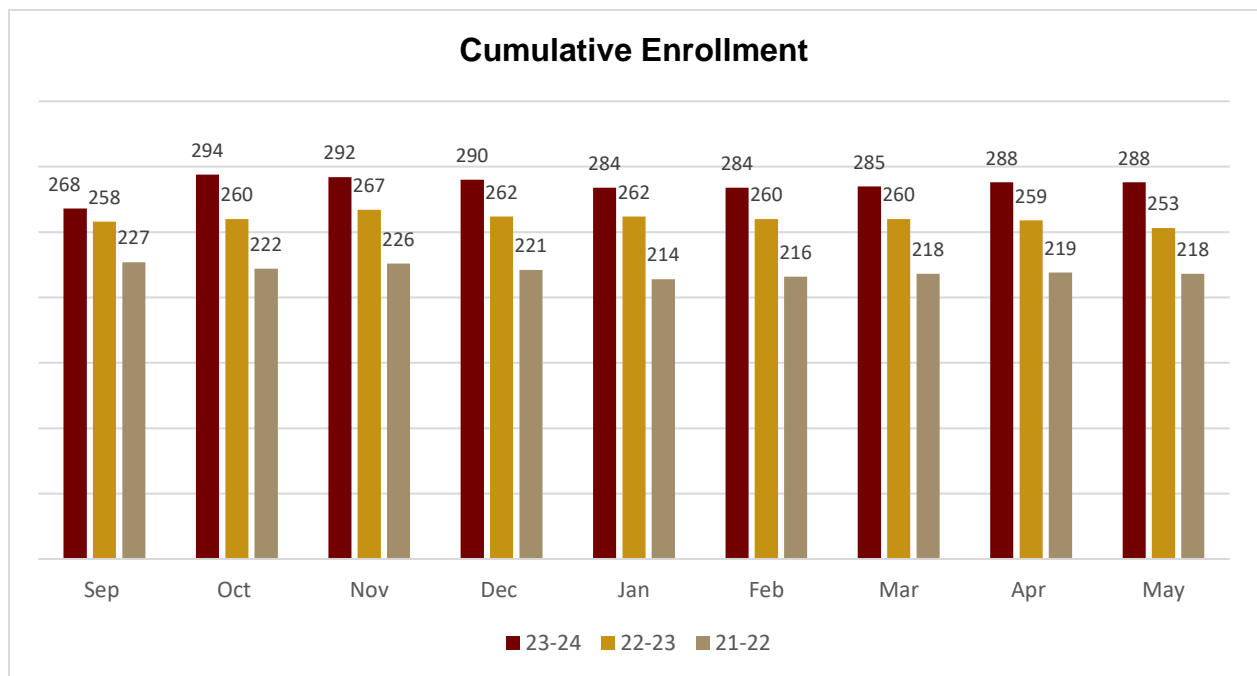
SIU Carbondale Head Start has a strong 54-year history as a provider of quality pre-school child development and family services in Jackson and Williamson Counties, and we look forward to many more years serving the community.

Funded Enrollment

Enrollment slots were divided between four centers:

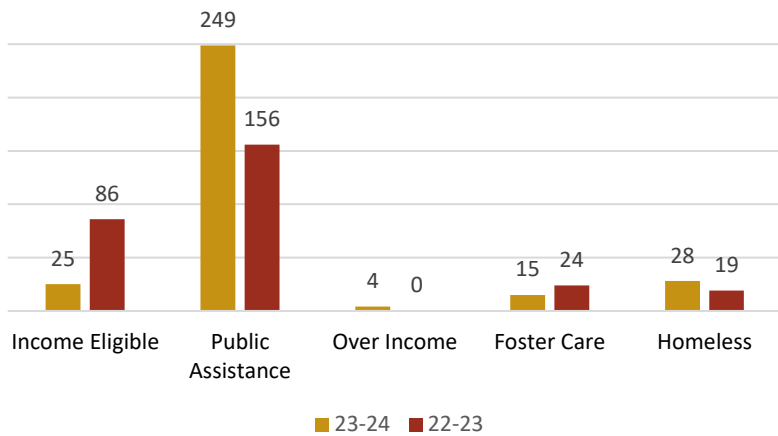
Site	Full-Day	Half-Day	Totals
Carbondale	85	60	145
Marion	34	60	94
Murphysboro	34	30	64
John A. Logan	35	0	35
TOTAL	187	150	337

The following graph captures the number of children enrolled, including vacancies of less than 30 days and spots being held for foster or homeless children.

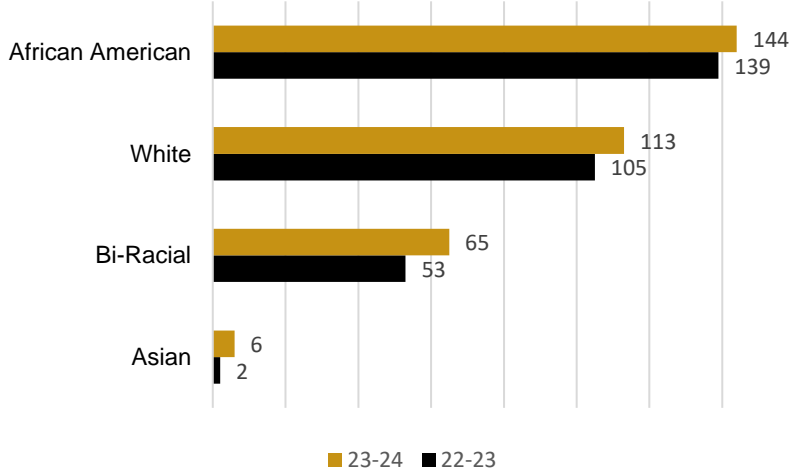


ABOUT SIU CARBONDALE HEAD START CHILDREN

Family Primary Eligibility

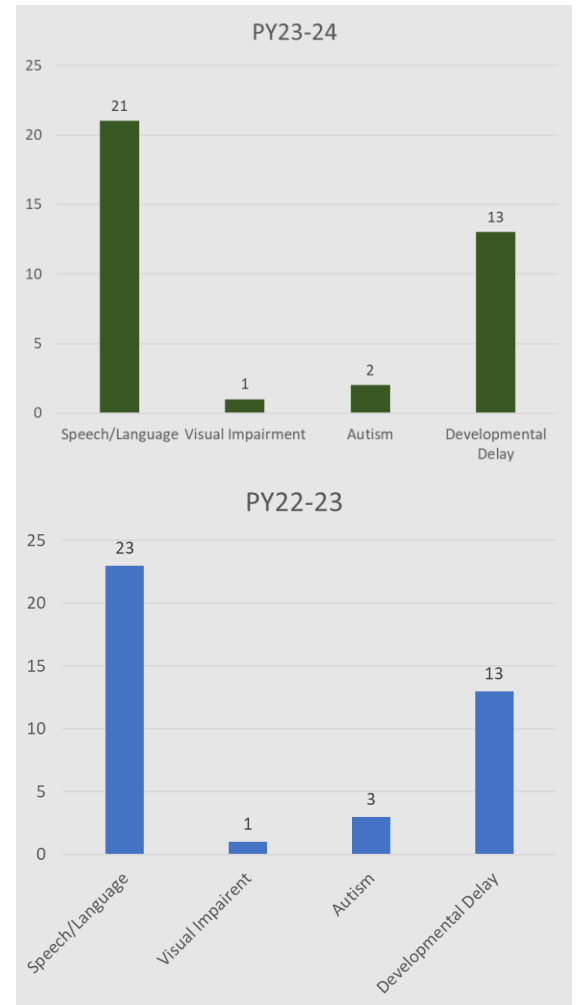


Child Race



Disability

Head Start requires programs to serve at least 10% of total enrolled children that are eligible for disabilities services through IDEA. This requirement must be accomplished through providing established services and/or referring children to determine eligibility. The tables below demonstrate disability eligibility and total numbers served for the current and previous fiscal years.



FISCAL REPORT

PY 23-24 Income and Expenditures		
	OPERATIONS 226594	T/TA 226633
AWARD AMT	4,306,878.00	41,317.00
Rollover	127,300.00	0.00
In-Kind	1,118,874.00	0.00
TOTAL	5,553,052	41,317.00
<i>Salaries</i>	2,147,322.59	7,185.00
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>	971,168.05	3,477.54
<i>Travel (Out of State)</i>	4,548.92	2,578.71
<i>Equipment</i>	0.00	0.00
<i>Supplies</i>	110,11.25	378.18
<i>Contractual</i>	236,481.61	0.00
<i>Other</i>	561,438.58	23,941.57
YTD Expenditures	4,031,071.00	37,561.00
<i>Indirect Costs (F&A)</i>	403,107.00	3,756.00
YTD Total Expenditures	4,434,178.00	41,317.00
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BALANCE	0.00	0.00
Total Award		5,594,369.00
Total Expenditures		(4,475,495.00)
In-Kind		(*1,118,874.00)
Balance		0.00

* Actual In-Kind figures were 1,430,304.13 which exceeds the targeted 1,118,874 figure in the award documents by 311,430.13.

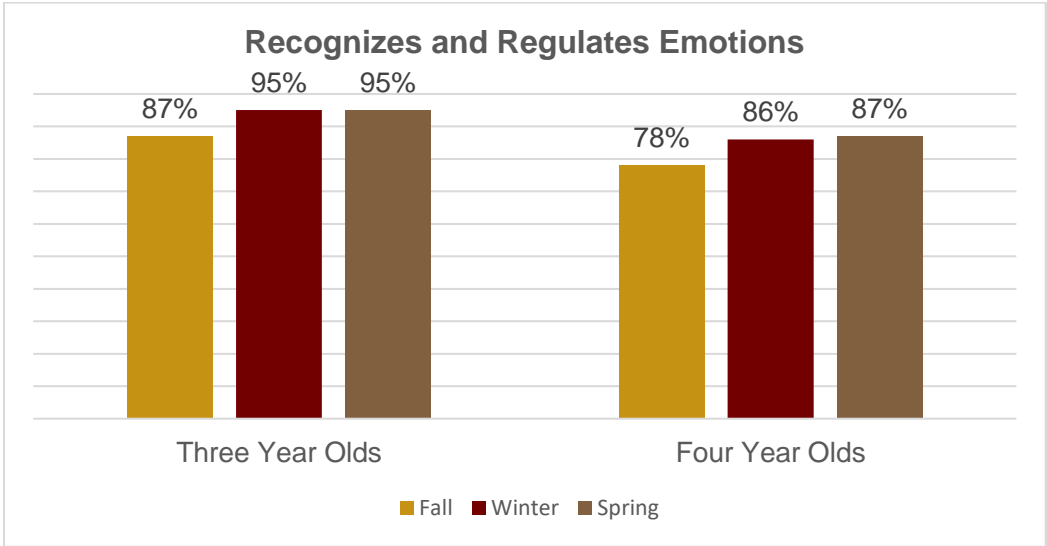
Financial Audit

An external Single Audit and State Compliance Examination (In accordance with the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A- 133) for FY 2022-23 was conducted in fall 2023. Head Start was selected as one of the units and was found to be in compliance. The audit report can be found at <https://siusystem.edu/internal-audit/internal-audit-reports.shtml>

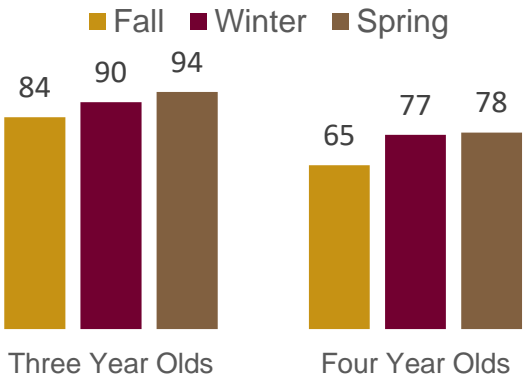
SCHOOL READINESS

Preparing children for academic and social success in kindergarten and beyond is central to Head Start services. Every employee of Head Start plays a role in preparing children and families for success in school. The program continues to use Creative Curriculum 6th Edition to implement developmentally appropriate activities to children in the classroom. The program uses MyTeachingStrategies to document student progress and school readiness outcomes. Each child’s school readiness outcomes are assessed three times per year. Outcomes are used to coach education staff to enhance school readiness in the classroom and plan for program training opportunities. The percentage of children meeting or exceeding school readiness and developmental goals is documented below:

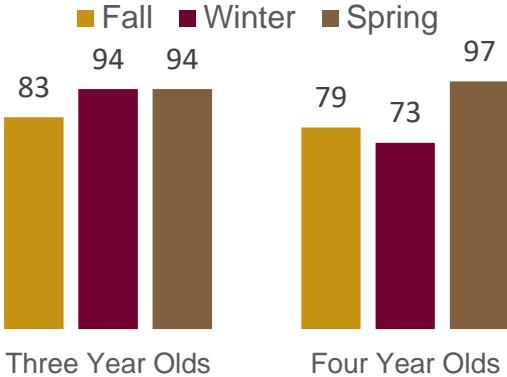
School Readiness Outcomes: Social and Emotional Development



Sustains Positive Relationships with Peers and Adults

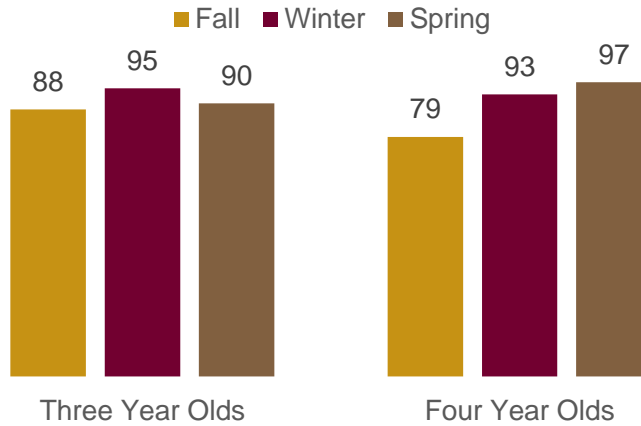


Participates Cooperatively and Constructively in Group Situations



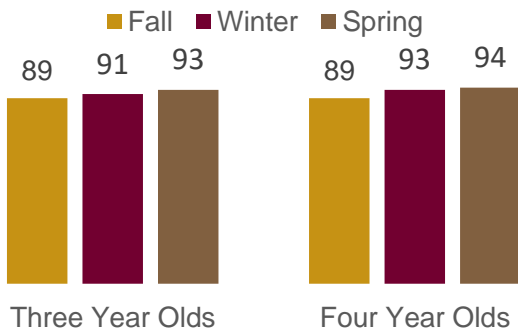
School Readiness Outcomes: Physical Development

Fine Motor Strength and Coordination

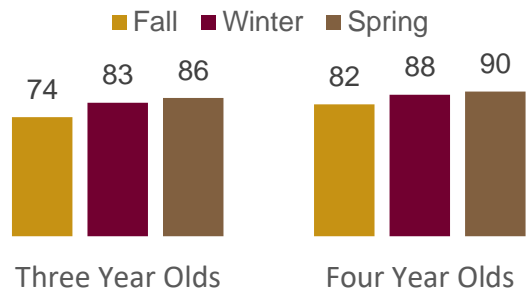


School Readiness Outcomes: Language and Literacy

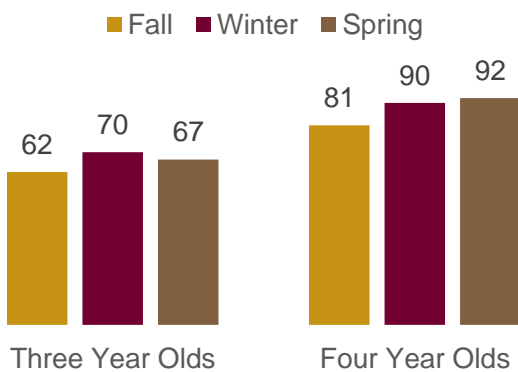
Listen and Understand Increasingly Complex Language



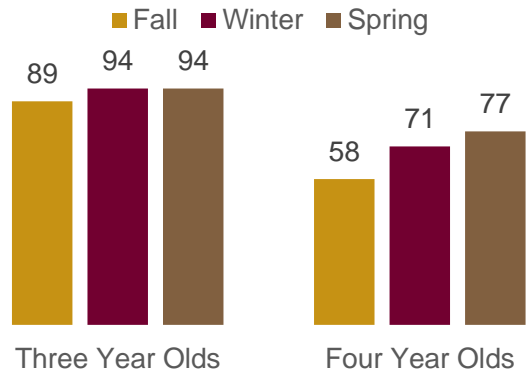
Use Language to Express their Thoughts and Needs and Engage in Conversation



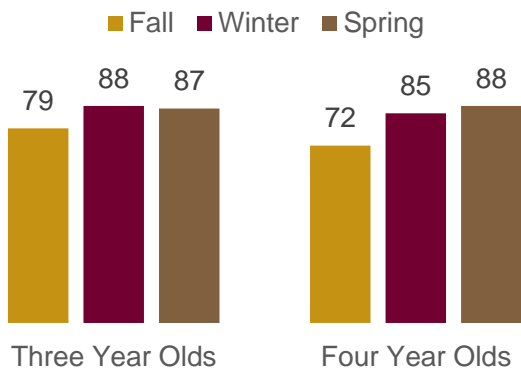
Letter Knowledge



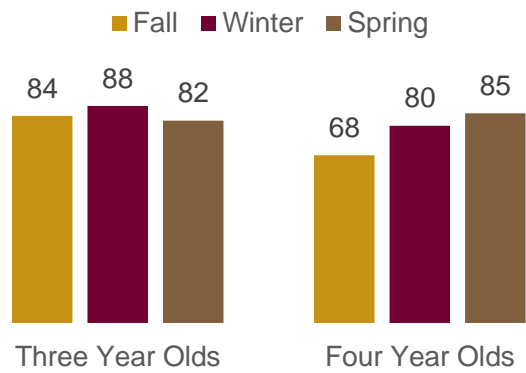
Phonological Awareness



Knowledge of Print and its uses

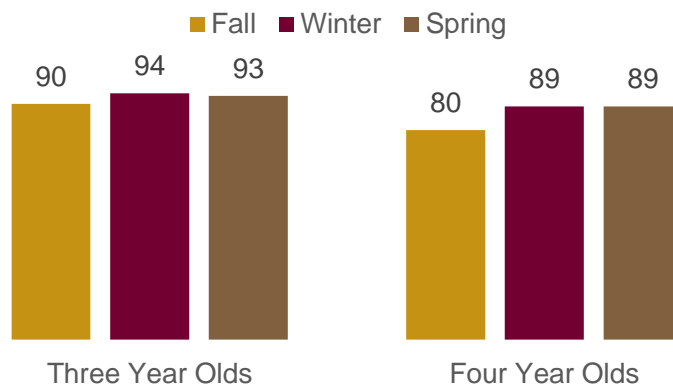


Writing Skills



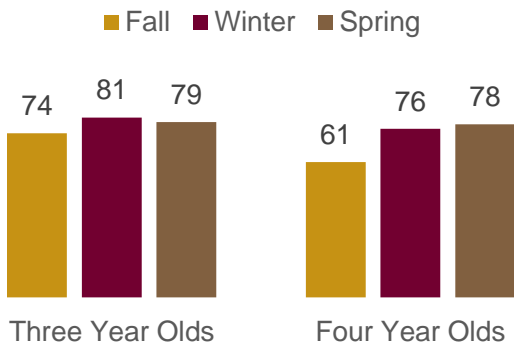
School Readiness Outcomes: Approaches to Learning

Demonstrate Engagement, Motivation, and Persistence in Learning

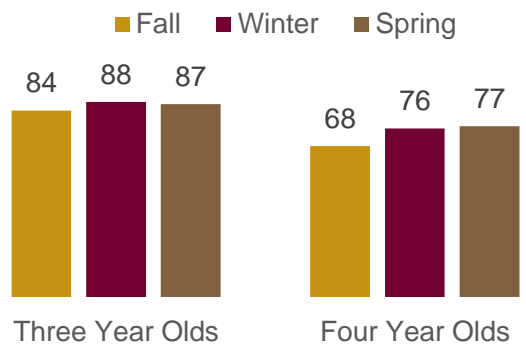


School Readiness Outcomes: Cognition

Use Number Concepts and Operations

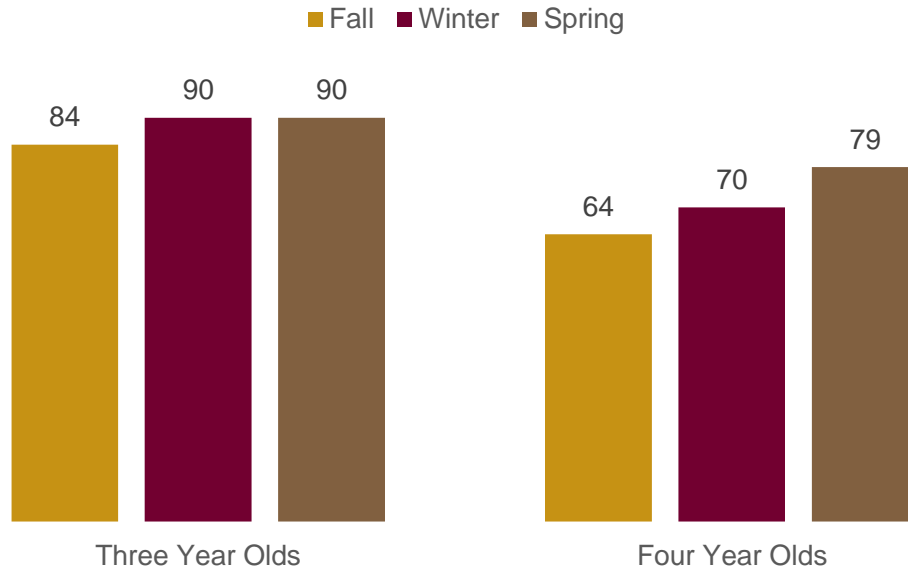


Knowledge of Shapes and Relationships

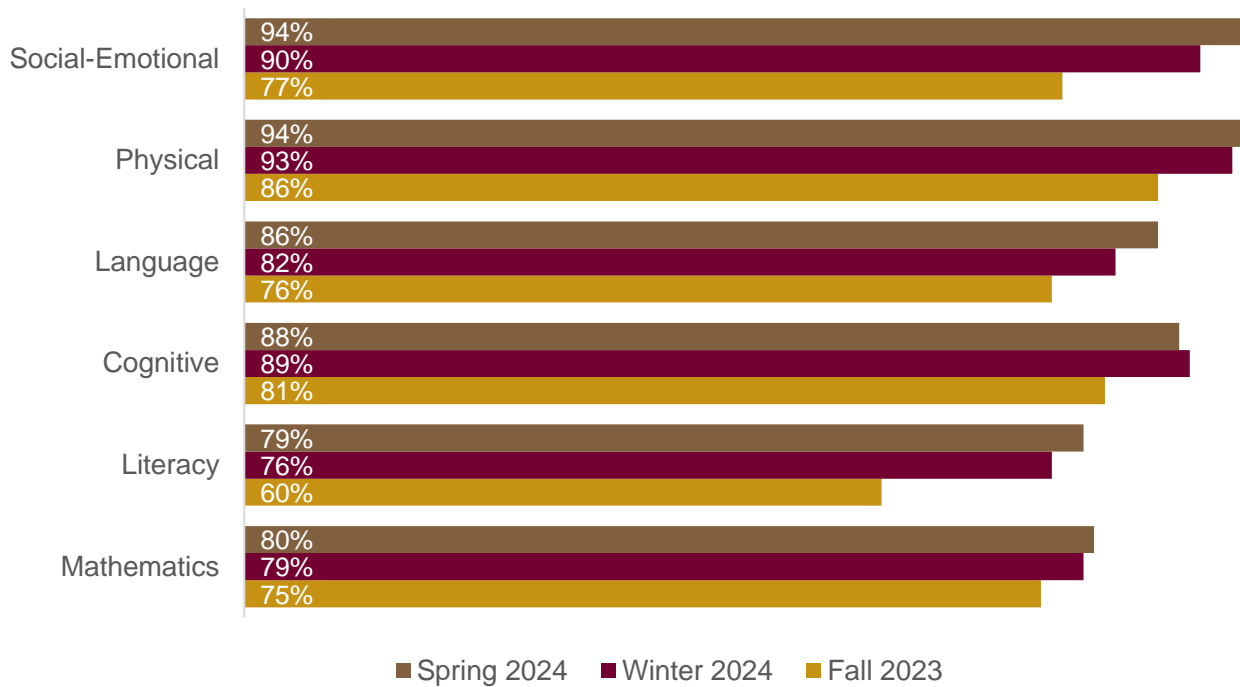


Mathematical Operations

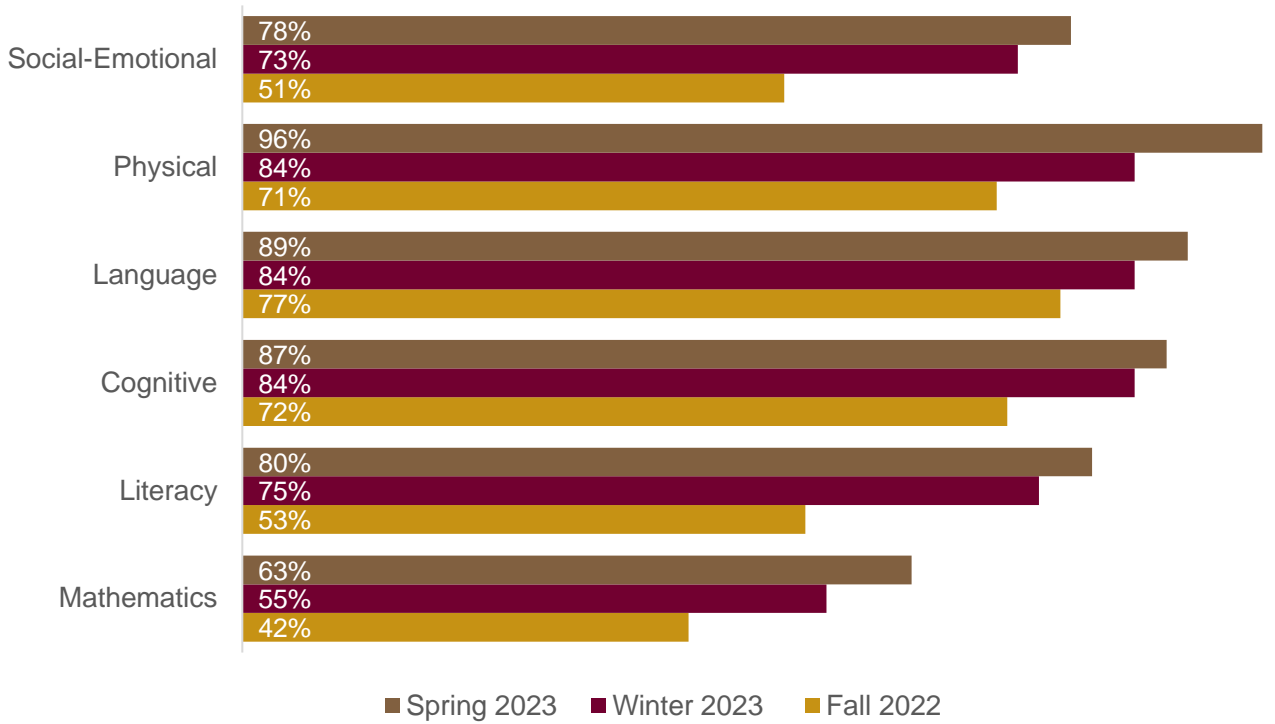
Measurement and Patterns



Three-Year Old Children Meeting or Exceeding Developmental Expectations: 2024-25

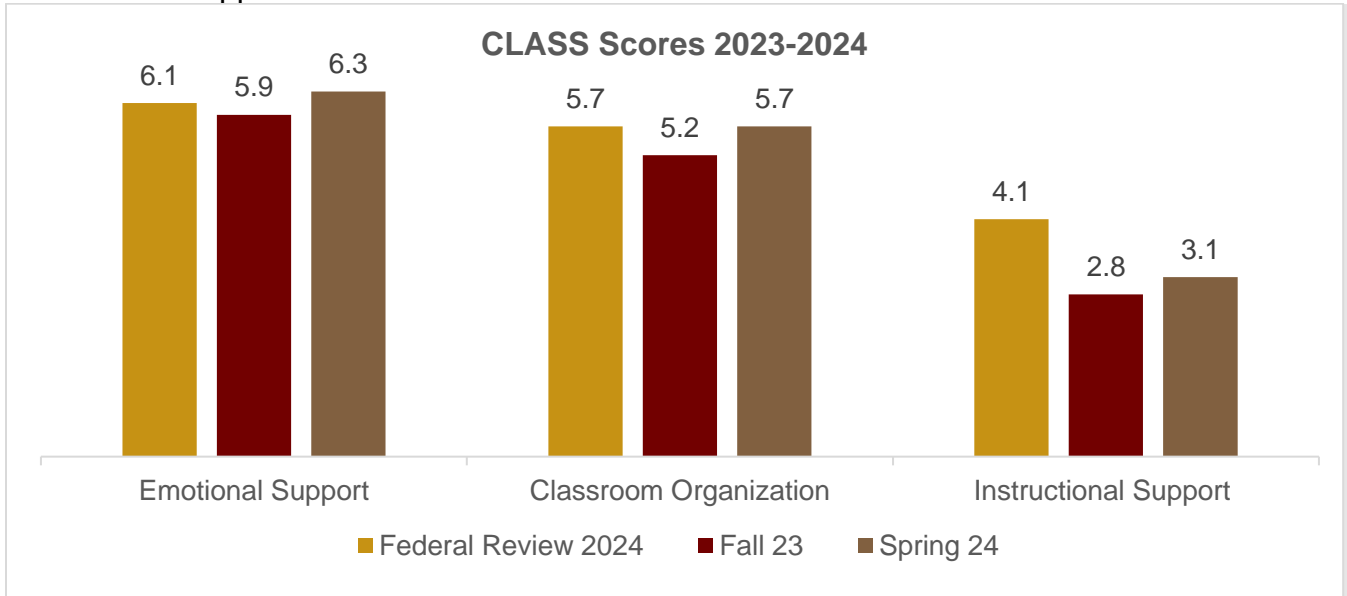


Four-Year Old Children Meeting or Exceeding Developmental Expectations: 2023-24



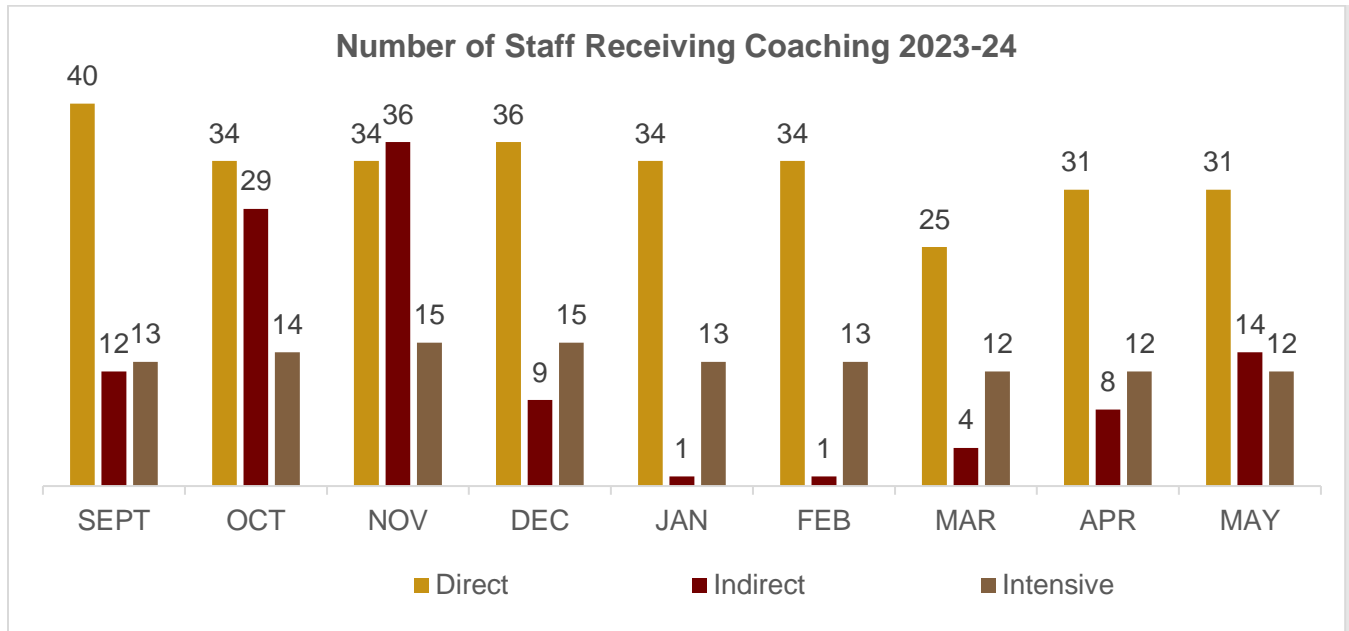
CLASS Observations

Teachers are observed semi-annually using the CLASS tool by a CLASS observer certified. All Education Managers and Center Directors are certified. The CLASS tool assesses quality of classroom interactions across three domains – emotional support, classroom organization, and instructional support. Data indicates that the program is progressing towards its benchmark of a program average of 6 in emotional support, 6 in classroom organization, and 3 in instructional support.



Coaching

The program executed its coordinated practice based coaching plan which includes a tiered system of coaching and support ranging from direct to indirect to intensive coaching for child development staff. Intensive coaching is reserved for staff new to their positions or for those who have been identified as needing or wanting this level of coaching.



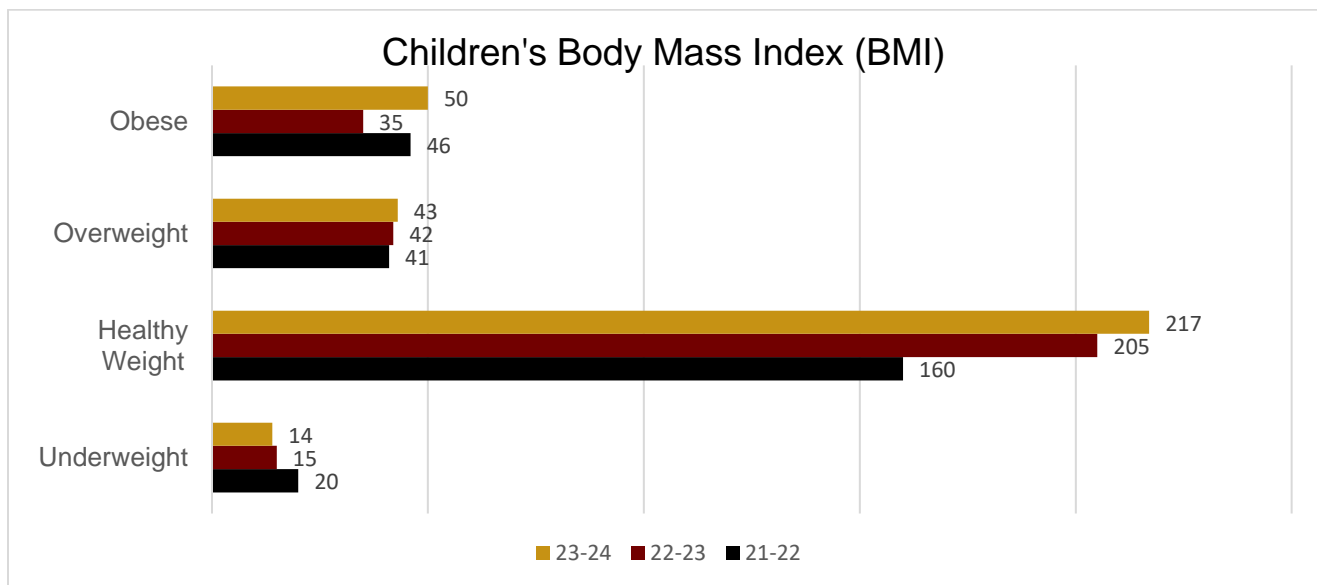
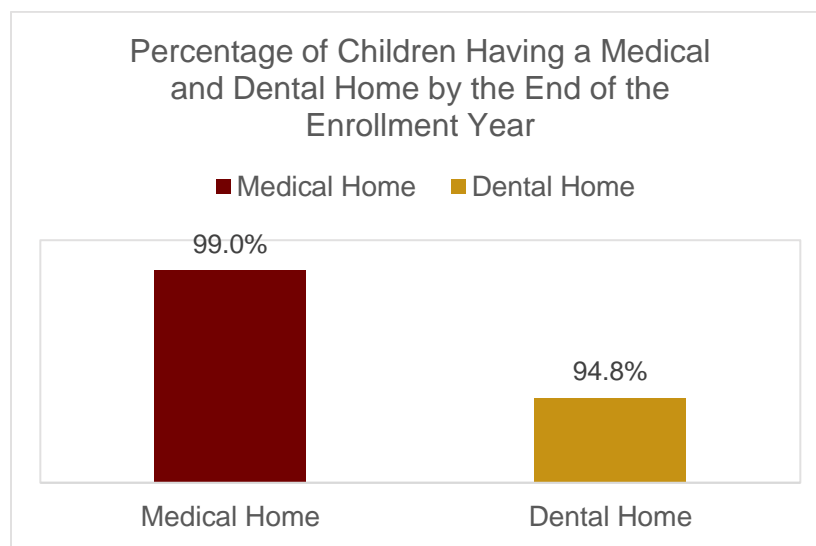
HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Meeting the health and nutrition needs of Head Start children and families is one primary concern for SIU Carbondale. The program provides comprehensive health services such as preventative vision and hearing screenings, height and weight monitoring, and fluoride varnish. We work closely with families to connect them with medical and dental services in the community. The program participates in the Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP) to provide nutritious meals and snacks to children.



Medical, Dental, and Immunization Services for Children

Measure	at enrollment	at end of enrollment year
Number of all children who are up to date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventative and primary health care	292	320
Number of children determined by a health care professional to be up to date on all immunizations	302	300
Number of children with continuous, accessible health care	318	325
Number of children with continuous, accessible dental care provided by a dentist	94	311



Underweight= BMI less than 5th percentile Healthy weight= BMI 5th-85th percentile
 Overweight= BMI 86th-95th percentile Obese= BMI > 95th percentile



Ready-For-School Screening and Resource Fair

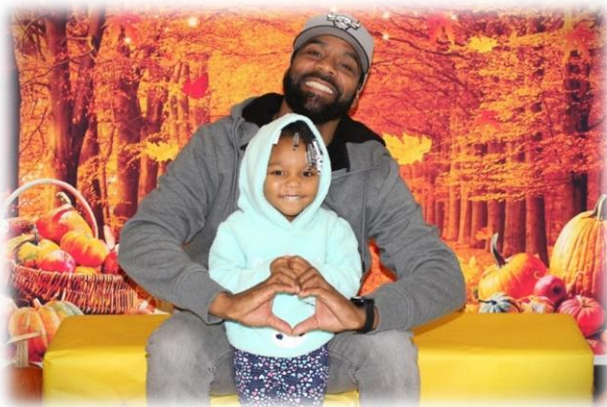
SIU Carbondale started the 2023-2024 school year with a Ready-For-School Screening and Resource Fair (Intake Days) for all newly enrolled children in Jackson and Williamson Counties. Children received hearing and vision and height and weight screenings. Other services included a physical exam from the health consultant, who is a medical professional. Families received learning resources and other materials.

Intake Day	Jackson County (8/10/23)	Williamson County (8/11/23)
Physical Exams	36	27
TB Risk Assessments	25	16
Hemoglobin Screenings	31	17
Blood Lead Screenings	27	28
Dental Exams	59	46

Dental Exams

Head Start Program Performance Standards require every child enrolled in our program to receive a Dental Exam [1302.24(b)(1)(i)]. SIU Head Start has the unique opportunity to partner with the SIU Dental Hygiene Program to ensure that this requirement is met. The SIU Dental Hygiene Program is the only Baccalaureate Dental Hygiene program in the state of Illinois and one of the premier programs in the country. SIU Dental Hygiene students and the Dentist and Dental Hygiene faculty perform dental exams. SIU Dental performed exams for 105 of 278 (37.7%) enrolled children.

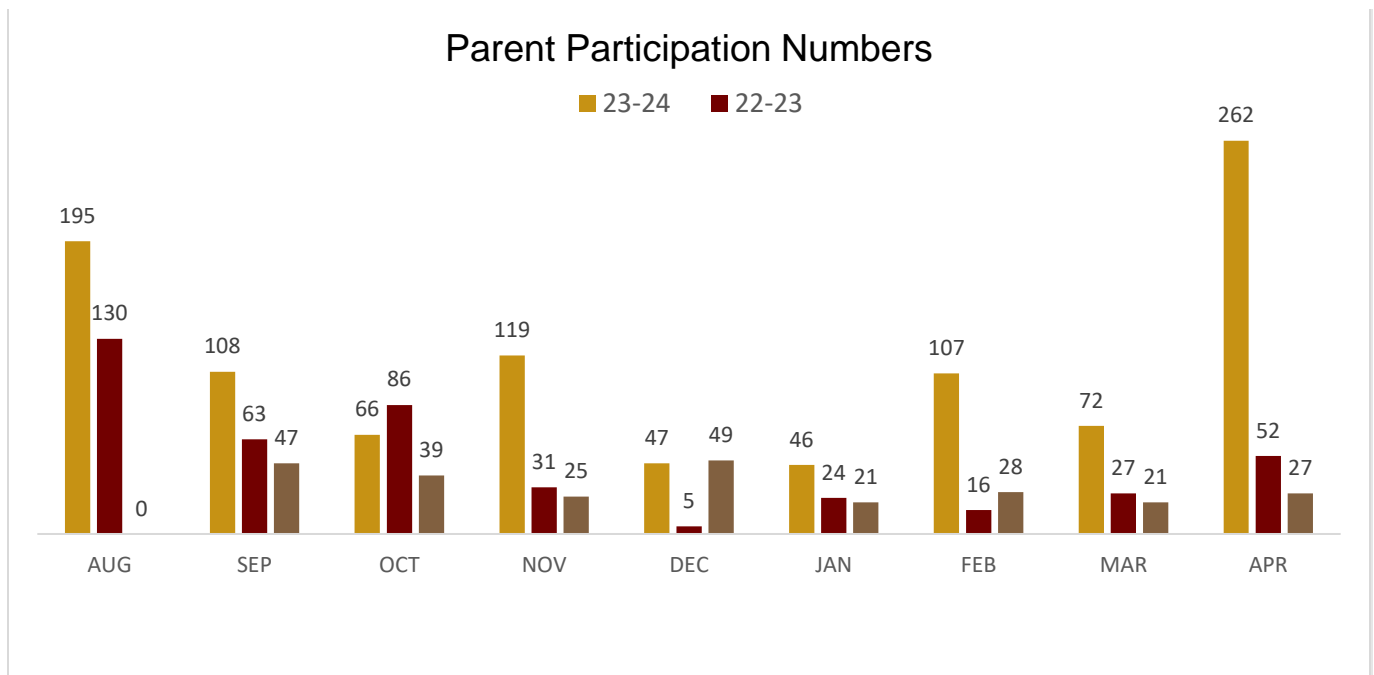
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



SIU Carbondale Head Start recognizes that parents are the first and most important teachers for their children. The program makes intentional efforts to support families through our family engagement approach to become active partners in the success of the educational development of their children. Families participate in activities throughout the program year including opportunities to become directly involved in the decision-making process of the program.

During the 23-24 program year, our Head Start engaged families in multiple ways: In-take Resource Fairs, Monthly Parent Meetings, Family Fall Fest, Literacy Night Activities, Family Engagement Months (October/February), 100 Days of Head Start Celebration/T-Shirt Day, and Kindergarten Transition events. Community Outreach Workers met with individual families at least monthly.

We continued our practice of family conferences, embracing the holistic approach of sharing information about children as well as family support services and resources. SIU Carbondale Head Start is committed to engaging and collaborating with families in respectful and empowering ways. Culturally responsive and systematic data driven practices guide program planning. Parents are encouraged and supported to become directly involved in decision making of the program by becoming active members of the Policy Council, IHSA Parent Leader/Parent Board Representative, Health and Family Services Advisory Committee, Male Advisory Panel, and as elected officers of the Parent Committee.



Community Partnerships

The community that we serve is a link for parents as we carry out our mission of educating children, empowering families, and strengthening communities. Members of the community recognize changing family needs to raise children in an environment that provides the conditions for health, safety, and learning. We are striving to strengthen partnerships with community agencies and to increase the number of Interagency Agreement /Memorandums of Understanding and Local education agencies,

Our Community Partnerships Include:

Interagency Agreements/Memorandums of Understanding:

- Adult Education & Family Literacy Providers
- Archway, Inc.
- Bi-County Health Department
- Carbondale Community HS
- Child and Family Connections #22
- Child and Family Connections #24
- Child Support Enforcement – Marion
- Regional Office
- Christian Social Services
- CCHS #165 Rebound
- Department of Children & Family Services
- IL Dept. of Human Services
- Jackson County Health Department

- Jackson County Housing Authority
- Migrant Education
- Man-Tra-Con

- Shawnee Health Service
- SIU Carbondale Southern Region Early Childhood

Local Education Agencies:

- Carbondale Elementary District #95
- Carterville CUSD #5
- Centerstone and Early Head Start
- DeSoto Elementary District #86
- Giant City CSD #130
- Herrin CSD #4

- Marion CUSD #2
- Murphysboro CUSD # 186
- Tri-County Special Education
- Unity Point District #140
- Williamson County Educational Services

Family Partnerships, Goal Setting, and Service Provisions

Family Advocates developed partnerships agreements and initiated goals with parents. This was an invaluable process not only for the families, but for program outcomes as well. Building relationships with families is necessary to support family well-being and to help families in meeting goals for themselves and their children. During the 23-24 program year, Community Outreach Workers completed 295 initial and year-end Family Needs Assessments, established 499 Family Partnership Goals, generated 185 referrals, and completed 295 Parent Orientations with families. Family Services were provided in the following areas:

Requested	Service Received
Adult Mental Health & Disabilities	20%
Transportation	11%
Daily Living/Family Partnerships	8%
Other Services Requested	
Relationship & Marriage	
Employment/Work Experience/Job Training	
Housing	
Energy Assistance	
Emergency Support (Food/Clothing/Shelter)	

Program Governance

23-24 Governing Board Members

- Carol Greenlee, Chair
- E. Ryan Hall
- Casheena Stephens
- Will Stephens
- Chris Swims
- Stacy Thompson

23-24 Policy Council Members

- Anna Sloan, Marion Parent Representative
- Cerena Fleener, John A. Logan Parent Representative
- Deborah Golden, Jackson County Community Representative
- Lolita Mack, Chairperson, Marion Parent Representative
- Imani McHenry, Vice Chairperson, Carbondale Parent Representative
- Cathy Phoenix, Secretary, Murphysboro Parent Representative
- Dillion Phoenix, Murphysboro Parent Alternate
- Cody Stout, Carbondale Parent Alternate
- Samantha Stout, Carbondale Parent Representative
- Deborah Wills, Williamson County Community Representative