

ADAMS COUNTY
Head Start
2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Adams County Head Start

The mission of Adams County Head Start (ACHS) is to provide high-quality, early childhood education for children in partnership with their families and the community. This is accomplished by offering services that provide and build a foundation for children to grow and develop skills for school success by improving the ability of families to be self-sufficient, and promoting the healthy development of children and families.





Program Overview

Adams County Head Start is a federally funded comprehensive preschool program serving children 3–5 years of age and is a division under the Adams County Human Services Department. In the 2021–2022 school year, Adams County Head Start provided 208 Head Start slots in the county. Due to staffing shortages, three classrooms were unable to open. This reduced the number of available slots from 256 to 208. This program helped meet the diverse needs of young children and their families throughout the county.

VISION

Every child enrolled in Head Start will enter kindergarten with the competencies necessary to succeed in school, and parents/caregivers will be empowered to be their child's most important teacher.

MISSION

To provide high-quality, early childhood education for children in partnership with their families and the community.

PHILOSOPHY

All children are born ready to learn; therefore, the quality of their earliest experiences is critical for future school success.

LONG-TERM GOALS

- **Program Goal 1:** Improve the quality of family engagement.
- **Program Goal 2:** Children will progress in all developmental domains for both typically developing children and children with special needs.



Enrollment

ACHS LOCATIONS, FULL FUNDING

Center	Number of Slots	Program Options	Communities Served
Brighton HS	48	FD and 1020 sessions	Brighton
Creekside HS	32	1020 sessions	Federal Heights, Northglenn, Thornton
Little Star HS	32	FD and 1020 sessions	Federal Heights, Westminister
Northglenn HS	48	FD and 1020 sessions	Thornton, Northglenn, Westminister
Rainbow HS	48	FD and 1020 sessions	Federal Heights, Unincorporated Adams County, Westminister
Sunshine HS	48	FD and 1020 sessions	Commerce City
Total	256	FD and 1020 sessions	

FD= Full-Day Sessions (Monday – Thursday)

1020= Full-Day Sessions (Monday – Friday)

ACHS LOCATIONS, WITH CLOSED CLASSROOMS

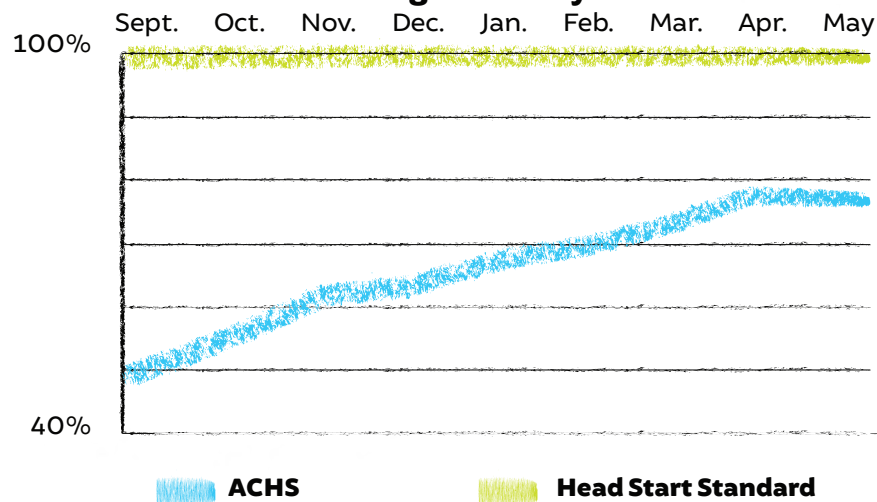
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Total	208		

FD= Full-Day Sessions (Monday – Thursday)

1020= Full-Day Sessions (Monday – Friday)

In 2021-2022, we were not able to open three classrooms due to staffing shortages. This resulted in 48 slots unable to be filled. The first chart reflects full funding. The second chart reflects three closed classrooms, one at Northglenn HS, Rainbow HS, and Sunshine HS.

2021-2022 Average Monthly Child Enrollment



Two significant factors contributing to our enrollment openings are the pandemic and a shortage of staff.

ACHS 2021-2022 FAMILY INFORMATION

- 215 Head Start-eligible children were enrolled.
- Two over-income children were enrolled.
- 198 families were served.
- 17 children in families with income between 100% and 130% of the Federal Poverty Guideline were enrolled.
- 33.3% of families served were two-parent families, and 66.7% were single-parent families.
- 62.1% of ACHS-enrolled families had at least one employed parent/guardian.
- 4.5% of ACHS-enrolled families had at least one parent/guardian in job training or school.
- 28% of families had less than a high school diploma.
- 43% of families obtained a high school diploma or GED.
- 29% of families had an advanced degree, vocational school, or some college.
- At least 109 families were referred to community resources. Supporting transitions between programs (e.g. EHS to HS, HS to Kindergarten), housing assistance, and assistance enrolling in an education or job training program were the top three resources ACHD families utilized the most.

Demographics of Enrolled Children

Adams County data does not represent demographics solely for 3-5-year-old children; therefore, the numbers indicated in the narrative include children ages 0-5.

According to the Affordability and Accessibility of Quality ECE Programs in Adams County; Report presented to the Early Childhood Partnerships of Adams County (ECPAC) developed by A. Brodsky and S. Howard (2019), the number of 0-5-year-old children within the service area is estimated at nearly 10,000 living at or below the federal poverty guidelines.

To roughly estimate the average number of 3-5-year-old children, the 10,000 children who meet the income eligibility and age were evenly divided by five (the five age groups: 0 yr., 1 yr., 2 yrs., 3 yrs., etc.). This resulted in approximately 1,600 children per age group, totaling 4,800 children between the ages of 2-5.

Based on this estimation, the program currently serves 5% of the Adams County population of eligible children.

Wellness

In 2021–2022, parents were provided with take-home snack ingredients with an accompanying recipe. ACHS was also able to conduct regular screenings as well as partner with Salud Dental Clinic to provide exams in October and April during the school year. Although the ACHS Health Team was still challenged to increase metrics in lead and anemia screening, due to parental attendance during these screenings and medical homes unable to conduct and provide this data during this school year, we developed a plan to increase the team's ability to receive and/or conduct these screenings in 2022–2023.

Every three months (November, February, and May) dental packages consisting of a toothbrush,

dental floss, toothpaste, and an activity were sent home with children. These packages were intended for parents to encourage regular dental care and encourage good brushing habits at home during the time when ACHS was unable to implement toothbrushing once a day in the classrooms during the pandemic. Additionally, teachers introduced a toothbrushing curriculum at the beginning of the year to teach good habits to children and encourage regular brushing and going to dental exams every six months. Salud Dental Clinic, our dental partner, provided in-house dental clinics in October and April. They also provided a story time activity and toothbrushing demonstration at all ACHS classrooms during pediatric dental month in February.

Health Metrics

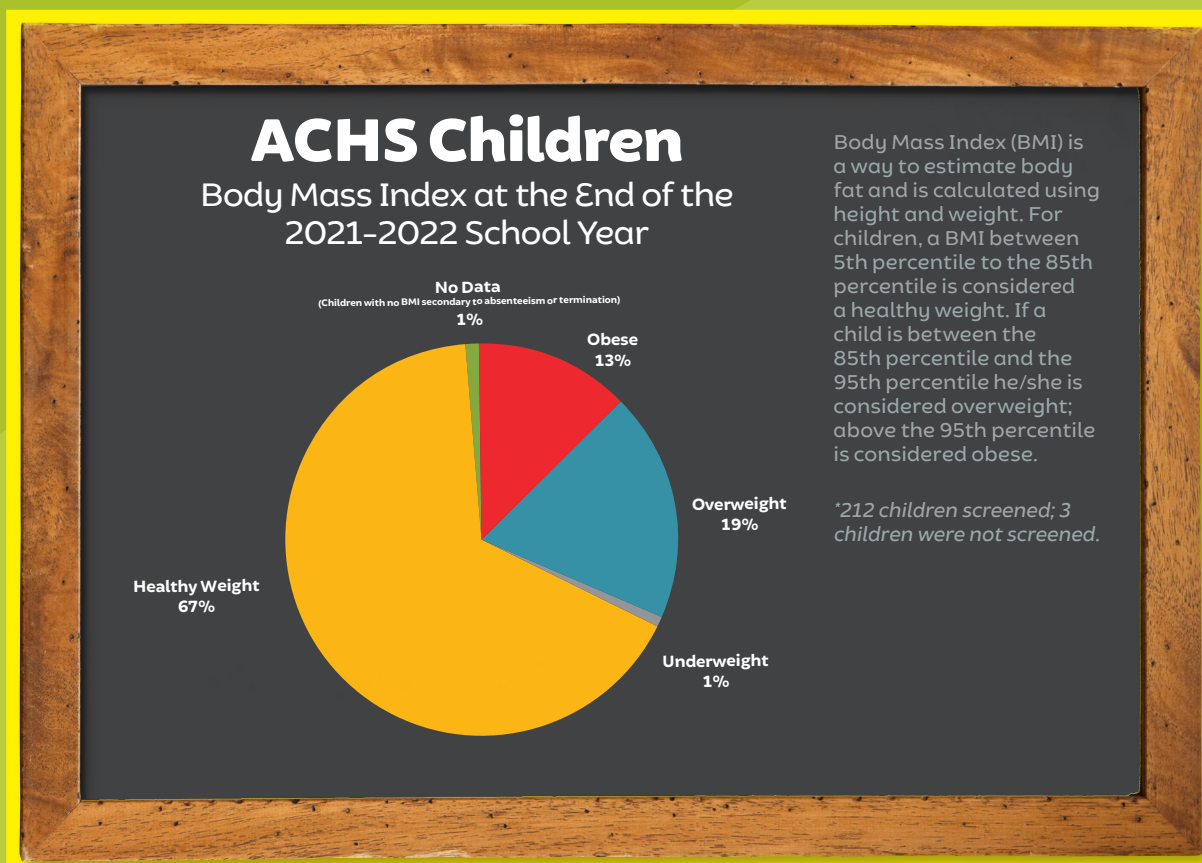
At the End of the 2021–2022 School Year

Completed Lead Screening	75%	162
Completed Annual Anemia Screening	71%	153
Completed Annual Physical Exam	93%	200
Completed a Professional Dental Exam	93%	200
Maintained a Current Schedule of Preventive and Primary Health Care (EPSDT)–Hearing & Vision	93%	201
Current State–Mandated Immunizations	92%	197
Maintains Health Insurance Coverage	96%	206
Maintains a Dental Home	99%	212
Maintains a Medical Home	99%	214

Wellness

In 2018-2019, there were 27% of enrolled Head Start children that were > 85 percentile for weight. Through the pandemic this number increased by 5% and has not decreased in 2021-2022. Though ACHS continues to partner with the Culture of Wellness Program (COWP) where healthy eating habits and increased physical activity are key informants, the trend continues as we begin to move out of the pandemic and into a more normalized state of behavior. ACHS is focusing on a new philosophy in 2022-2023 where we will coach teachers and families on introducing a more neutral eating environment where food is not the focus of picky eating which

contributes to providing higher calorie/less nutritive foods to satisfy adult's needs to get their children to eat. Additionally, throughout the pandemic there was a trend in "comfort consumption" where less fruits/vegetables along with increased consumption of higher calorie beverages and greater focus on technology and less physical activity among the school age population flourished. Based on implementation of this philosophy, continued nutrition coaching in partnership with COWP, and continued improvement in ACHS menu design, we hope to see this trend gradually decrease in 2022-2023.



2021-2022 Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Assessment Report

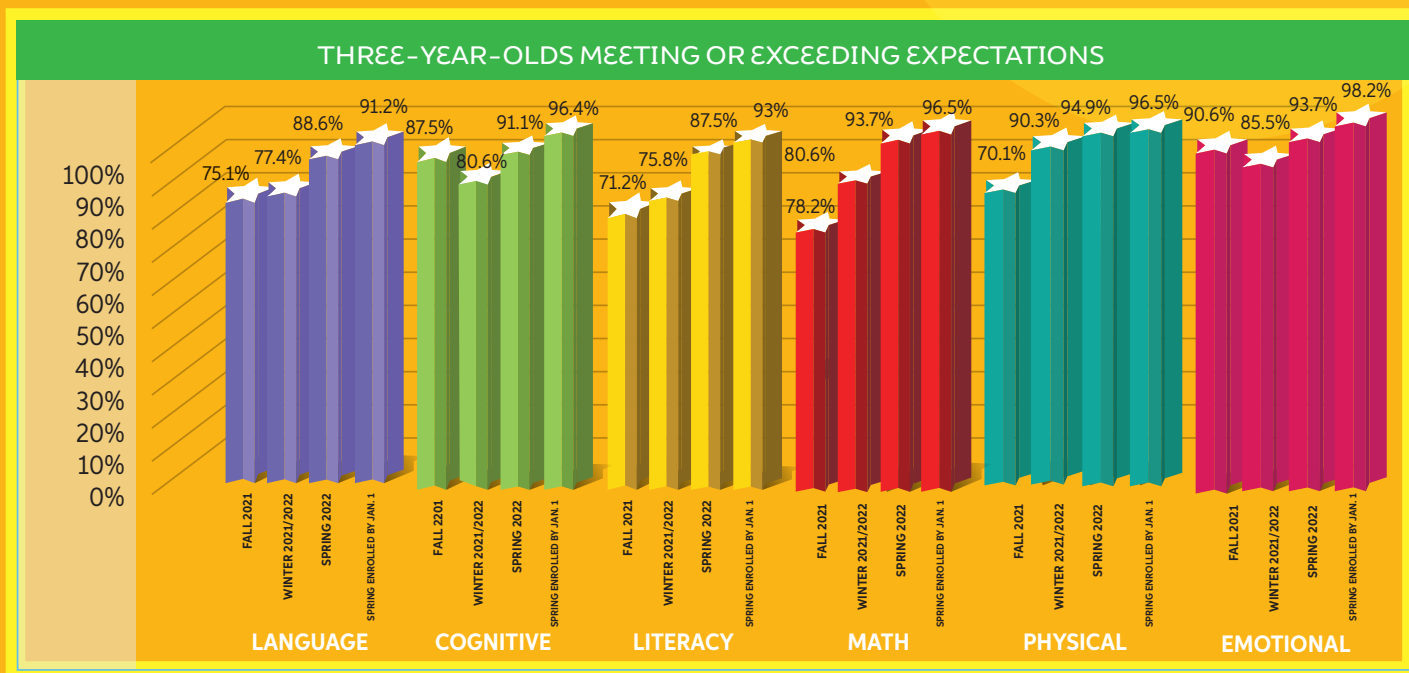
The first two data rows show the data for the School Readiness Goals. The first School Readiness Goal is to have 90% of the typically developing four-year-olds meet or exceed standards in all developmental areas by the spring checkpoint. The program achieved these goals, since all spring scores are above 90%, including math at 91.6%.

The second School Readiness Goal is for all four-year-olds with special needs – on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) – to show significant progress during the school year. The second data row shows there was significant progress in all areas, from 11.3% on the low end in language, to 34.6% in literacy on the high end. In this area as well, the goal was achieved. Significant progress can be shown in all areas. Therefore, we achieved our School Readiness Goals on 12 of 12 measures.

Though not a five-year grant goal, ACHS tracks the data for three-year-old TSG scores and strives for these scores to meet or exceed expectation in all developmental areas on the spring assessment. For all three-year-old spring scores, four of six measures were met. When the three-year-old TSG data is conducted with only children who were enrolled before Jan. 1 of the school year, with sufficient learning time (five to nine months), then six of six measures were achieved. That is, 90% of 57 three-year-olds who had five to nine months of learning during the 2021-2022 school year met or exceeded expectations in all six areas (six of six). There were 22 other three-year-old children who started ACHS in January or later and had less than four months of instruction.

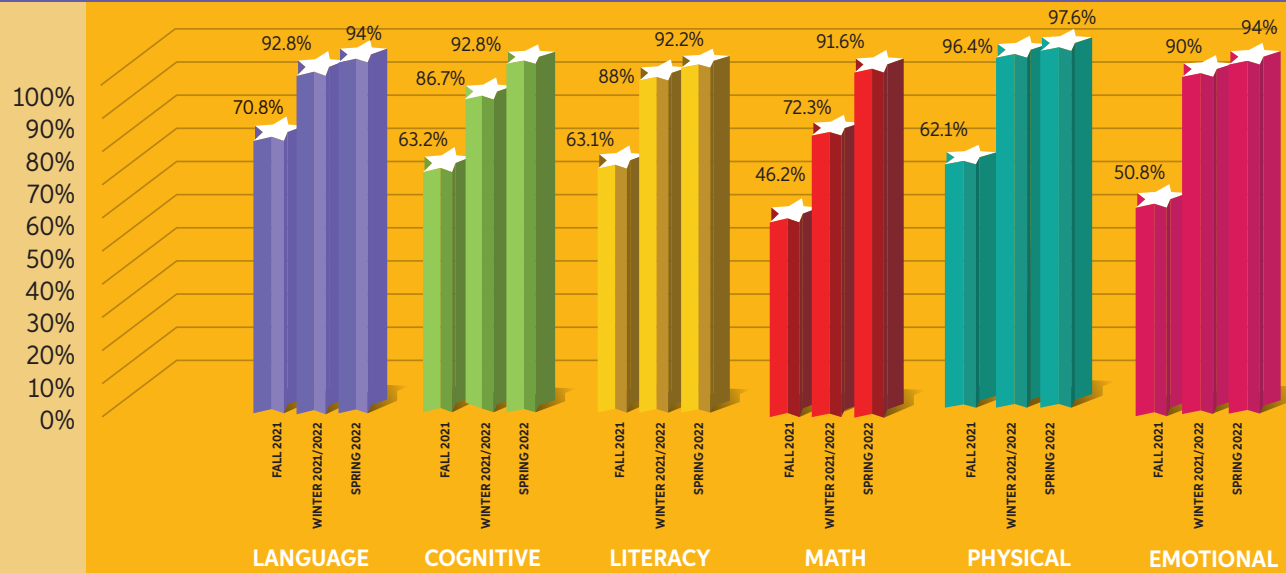
SPRING 2021/2022 TSG	LANGUAGE	COGNITIVE	LITERACY	MATH	PHYSICAL	EMOTIONAL
SCHOOL READINESS GOAL SECTION FOR 2020 -2025 HEAD START GRANT						
TYPICALLY DEVELOPING FOUR-YEAR-OLDS	94%	92.8%	92.2%	91.6%	97.6%	94%
FOUR-YEAR-OLDS WITH IEPs INCREASE/ PROGRESS FROM FALL TO SPRING	11.3%	26.9%	34.6%	11.5%	22.1%	22.1%
OTHER TSG DATA TO ENSURE ACHS EXCELLENCE AND IMPROVEMENT						
SPRING 2021/2022 TSG	LANGUAGE	COGNITIVE	LITERACY	MATH	PHYSICAL	EMOTIONAL
ALL THREE-YEAR-OLDS WITH IEPs	61.3%	76.9%	84.6%	61.5%	84.6%	84.6%
ALL THREE-YEAR-OLDS	88.6%	91.1%	87.3%	93.7%	94.9%	93.7%
THREE-YEAR-OLDS ENROLLED BEFORE JAN. 1	91.2%	96.4%	93%	96.5%	96.5%	98.2%
WINTER 2021/2022 TSG	LANGUAGE	COGNITIVE	LITERACY	MATH	PHYSICAL	EMOTIONAL
ALL THREE-YEAR-OLDS	77.8%	81%	72.2%	71%	91.5%	75.7%
FALL 2021 TSG	LANGUAGE	COGNITIVE	LITERACY	MATH	PHYSICAL	EMOTIONAL
ALL THREE-YEAR-OLDS	46.2%	30.8%	53.9%	15.4%	61.5%	53.9%

Developmental Growth Scores for Three-Year-Olds



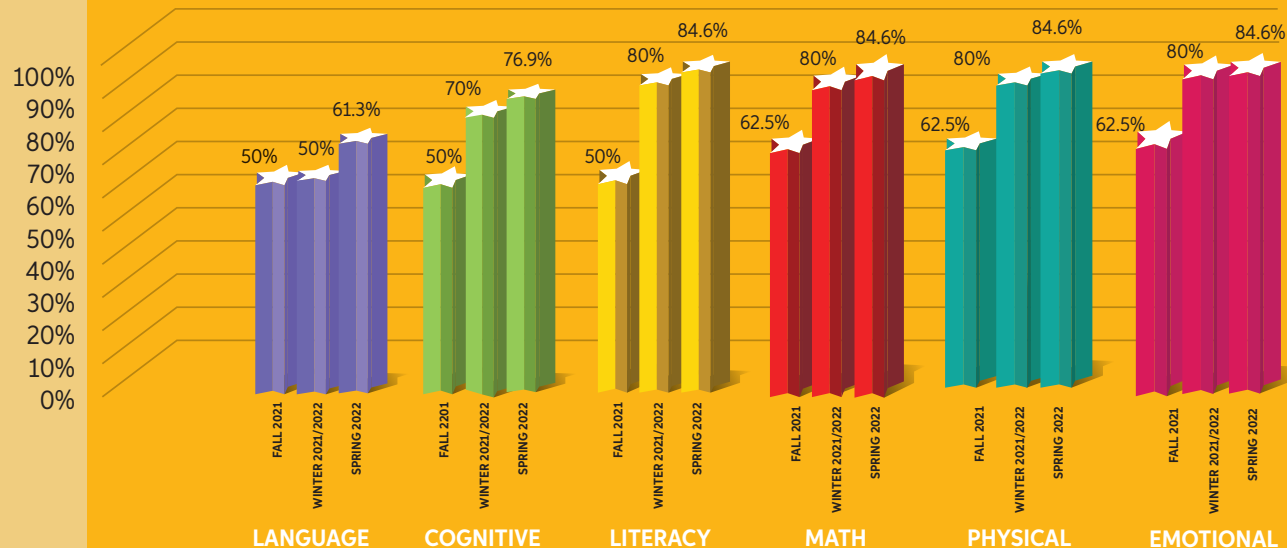
Developmental Scores for Four-Year-Olds

TYPICALLY DEVELOPING FOUR-YEAR-OLDS MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



Developmental Growth Scores for Children with Special Needs

FOUR-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



Widely Held Expectations (WHE): This compares information for each child, class, or group placing children into three categories: below, meeting, or exceeding national scores expectations.



ACHS 2021-2022 School Year

	TOTALS	BHS	CHS	LSHS	NHS	RHS	SHS
FALL CLASS AVG: EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SCORE	6.56	6.33	6.33	6.25	7.00	6.13	7.00
SPRING CLASS AVG: EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SCORE	6.50	6.67	6.50	6.25	6.63	6.13	6.50
FALL CLASS AVG: CLASSROOM ORG. SCORE	6.07	6.11	6.00	5.17	6.83	5.50	6.83
SPRING CLASS AVG: CLASSROOM ORG. SCORE	6.09	6.56	6.33	5.00	6.33	5.83	6.50
FALL CLASS AVG: INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SCORE	4.54	4.22	4.00	4.17	6.17	3.83	4.83
SPRING CLASS AVG: INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SCORE	4.76	4.56	4.67	4.67	4.33	5.83	4.50

CLASS Summary

The ACHS average scores in Emotional Support decreased from 6.56 (fall) to 6.50 (spring), and yet were both above the national average (6.03). The ACHS average in Classroom Organization increased from 6.07 (fall) to 6.09 (spring) and were both above the national average (5.78). The ACHS average scores in Instructional Support increased from 4.54 (fall) to 4.76 (spring) and were both above the national average (2.94).

Narrative of Education Department Work/News

Only 13 of 16 classrooms were open during the 2021-2022 school year. ACHS conducted multiple measures to hire staff for the three classrooms.

Literacy Books Given Out

2,204 | Total books given out for the 2021-2022 school year.

Lending Library Books

2,340 | Total books lent out for the 2021-2022 school year.

Preparing for School Success

ACHS's focus is on preparing children for kindergarten and beyond. This includes supporting families with preparing their child for school success. ACHS provides a high-quality, full-day preschool experience. In addition, we are dedicated to implementing research-based, appropriate, and high-quality curriculum elements covering all developmental areas addressing school-readiness goals. We use a continuous improvement model that elicits feedback from staff, parents, and stakeholders to ensure all elements of the agency are serving families and children to its full capacity.



Other program efforts to support kindergarten readiness include presenting parents with kindergarten readiness literature multiple times during the school year, working with parents to establish specific goals for the children preparing them for kindergarten, increasing parent engagement in children's literacy, working with their child to strengthen developmental areas needing additional help, and striving to hire highly qualified and skilled education staff.

Lastly, staff works hard to support families during the transition process and schedules visits to the school children will attend. This establishes smooth transitions and gives the receiving schools thorough information that will help children succeed.

Parent Engagement

Parents are included in all aspects of our program. Teachers complete two home visits a year to learn of the goals parents have for their child and encourage them to be as involved as they can. Parents support the program in different ways, such as serving on the Head Start Policy Council.

In this role, they participate in program decision-making, program self-assessment, hiring and termination of staff, and strategic planning for the program. In addition, parents who volunteer in the classroom serve on the parent committee, and plan program events.



THERE ARE OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS TO BE INVOLVED:

- *Incredible Years Parent Group*
- *Classroom Orientation/Open House*
- *Parent Café*
- *Policy Council*
- *Home Visits*
- *Parent Surveys*
- *Family Yoga*
- *Parent/Teacher Conferences*
- *Classroom Volunteer*
- *Cultural Literacy Festival Event*
- *Health Advisory Meetings*
- *Collaboration Meetings*
- *Parent/Guardian Days*
- *Motheread/Fatheread*
- *Parent Wellness Workshop*
- *Special Education Workshop*
- *Cooking Matters Class*

Financials

Monitoring Review and Financial Audits

Independent auditors reviewed the Head Start program as part of the county audit process, per the Single Audit Act. There were no audit findings.

Federal Review

The program completed year two of the five-year grant cycle.

Revenue and Expenses

Head Start 2021-2022 Revenue - \$5,888,090

	2021-22 Projected	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Projected
Health and Human Services Grants (HHS)	\$4,656,159	\$4,774,530	\$4,774,530
HHS COVID:	—	\$34,683	\$42,365
HHS Relief Grant	—	\$154,091	\$152,213
Colorado Preschool Program (CPP)	\$468,982	\$301,393	\$453,356
Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	\$214,994	\$135,348	\$214,973
Temple Buell	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Adams County	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$54,116
CDHS-Incredible Years	\$18,200	\$16,850	\$20,000
Child Care Operations Stabilization Grant	—	\$371,195	—
Total	\$5,508,335	\$5,888,090	\$5,761,553

Head Start 2021-2022 Expenses - \$5,888,090

	2021-22 Projected	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Projected
Personnel Costs	\$4,327,648	\$4,866,438	\$4,615,218
Other	\$343,544	\$502,176	\$404,519
Supplies	\$259,834	\$213,496	\$200,400
Contractual	\$507,502	\$251,353	\$492,609
Education & Training	\$69,807	\$54,627	\$48,807
Total	\$5,508,335	\$5,888,090	\$5,761,553

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Department of Agriculture information:

Number of breakfasts served	11,872
Number of snacks served	11,569
Number of lunches served	12,210
Number of meals served	35,651
Total CACFP funds received	\$113,901

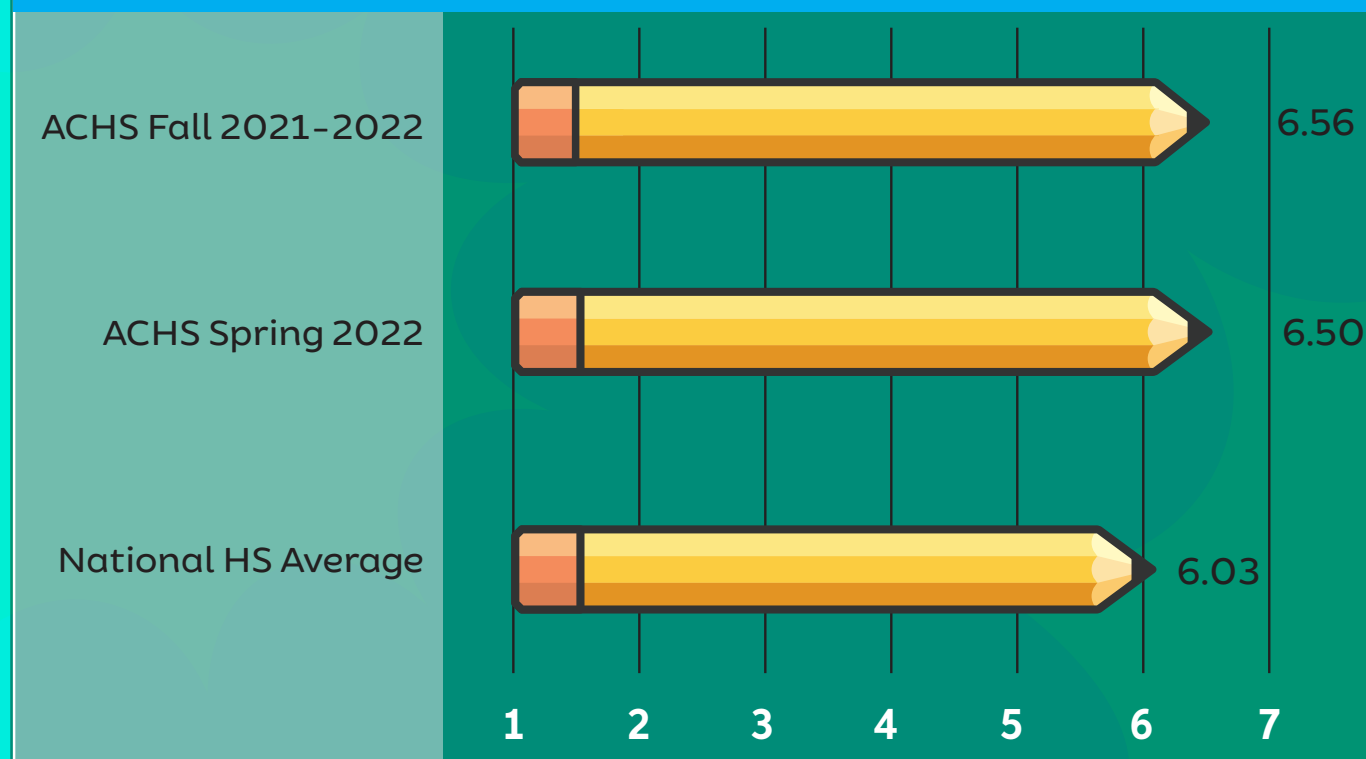
ACHS CLASS Score Averages

Comparison of Fall 2021-2022 Scores to Spring 2022

All ACHS CLASS scores, both fall and spring, were above the national average. The spring Instructional Support score for ACHS showed the largest increase above the national average (4.76 versus 2.94).



CLASS Emotional Support Scores



CLASS Classroom Organization Support Scores

ACHS Fall 2021-2022



6.07

ACHS Spring 2022



6.09

National HS Average



5.78

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

CLASS Instructional Support Scores

ACHS Fall 2021-2022



4.54

ACHS Spring 2022



4.76

National HS Average



2.94

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Council Members

HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL MEMBER ROSTER 2021 - 2022

Role	Name
Brighton Representative	Perla Acosta Gurrola
Community Representative (BOCC Appointed) Historian; Executive	Stephanie A. Mirelez
Community Representative (Fiscal) Treasurer; Executive	Gustavo Covarrubias
Community Representative (Fiscal) Treasurer; Executive	Lily Paredes-Gomez
Creekside Representative Personnel	Abi Steiner
Little Star Representative Chairperson; Executive	Bria Suazo
Little Star Representative Executive; Personnel	Christopher Williams
Little Star Alternate Vice-Chairperson; Executive	Priscilla Morales
Northglenn Representative Secretary; Executive; Budget/Finance	Samantha Signorile
Rainbow Representative	Franklin Lester
Rainbow Representative	Melissa Bennett
Rainbow Alternate	Victoria Gonzales
Sunshine Representative	Elpidia Sanchez
Sunshine Alternate	Marcela Reyes

Adams County Commissioners



ADAMS COUNTY HEAD START CHILDREN

THE 2022 ADAMS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SERVED AS THE HEAD START GOVERNING BOARD

Eva J. Henry

Emma Pinter

Lynn Baca

Charles "Chaz" Tedesco

Steve O'Dorisio

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[ADCOGOV.ORG/HEADSTART](https://adco.gov.org/headstart)