Dear Parents of PreK Children for the 2020-21 School Year,

The Early Learning Coalition will begin issuing VPK certificates for the 2020-2021 school year soon (late January/February). Please review the following information in preparation for next year.

Zale Early Childhood Learning Center and the Voluntary Pre-K Program Information

What is VPK?
In the VPK program, the state of Florida pays for 540 hours of a Pre-K program. These hours are built into our school year. The VPK days on the Levis JCC Zale calendar usually run from October thru April. You will receive a calendar of those Levis JCC Zale VPK days in the fall.

Who is eligible?
All children who are at least four years old by September 1, 2020 are eligible. Levis JCC Zale offers it to all age-eligible children enrolled in our program.

How do I register?
Once registration opens, you must register your child in the county in which they will be attending a VPK school (PBC). VPK in Palm Beach County is administered by the Office of Early Learning.

Be sure to select the 2020-21 school year when you apply online by going to:

[https://www.elcpalmbeach.org/voluntary-prekindergarten-vpk](https://www.elcpalmbeach.org/voluntary-prekindergarten-vpk)

For any of the above choices:

- You will need: Your child’s birth certificate and Proof of Florida residency (driver’s license)
- Upon enrollment you will receive your child’s Certificate of Eligibility. Please sign line 18, date line 19 and return to Levis JCC Zale by May 1st. You do need to also register for preschool.

How does it work?
The VPK credit will reduce your child’s tuition by approximately $2,000-$2,500 as we are reimbursed by the state. The exact amount is announced by mid-June.
**What is the attendance policy for children in the VPK program?**
Children should be present on the first and last days of VPK so they are considered active in the program. Children can be absent 20% of the VPK days (refer to Levis JCC Zale’s VPK calendar).

**VPK Reimbursement**

**VPK Families**
Tuition payments installed over 10 months (June through March), with $200 credit given each month to reduce payment.

**VPK Families – Paid In Full**
$750 refund processed on February 1st. Balance (to be determined) processed on June 1st.

**Notes:**
- If it is determined that a family does not qualify for VPK or if they fail to submit proper paperwork by the start of the school year, payments will be adjusted accordingly.
- If a family enrolls late, tuition along with $200 credit, will be installed over the remaining months of the payment period.

If you have any questions concerning VPK, please contact Kim at kimg@levisjcc.org or for more information on VPK you can visit [https://www.elcpalmbeach.org/voluntary-prekindergarten-vpk](https://www.elcpalmbeach.org/voluntary-prekindergarten-vpk)

**Stacey Rosenberg**
Director, Betty & Marvin Zale Early Childhood Learning Center