



# Lewis Cass Intermediate School District

Learning For All...Whatever It Takes  
61682 Dailey Road Cassopolis, MI 49031  
269 | 445-6283

## NOTICE OF POTENTIAL VACANCY

- Position:** GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM (GSRP)  
ASSOCIATE TEACHER-STRONG BEGINNINGS PILOT FOR 3Y OLD CHILDREN
- Mission:** To educate, support and connect the children, families and communities of Cass County
- Summary:** Cultivate supportive, empowering relationships with children and families in a high quality pilot program to help young children learn and grow to their fullest potential
- Reports to:** Lewis Cass ISD Director of Early Childhood Education
- Education:** **Required:** Minimum of an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education or Child Development Associate (CDA) with demonstrated commitment toward continuing education
- Preferred:** Prior training and experience in supporting high quality, developmentally appropriate early childhood programs for children who are three-years-old. HighScope training a plus.
- Compensation:** Competitive hourly rates based on education and experience

This hourly position is for **120 staff days/80 child days** (36 hours/week) from January 11 to June 11, 2021, according to assigned school district hours of operation. There may be additional paid days required for professional development.

**Pending State approval, the new program would start on January 11, 2021**

**Full program year of 175 staff days/120 child days would start on August 2021**

- Application:** Applications will be reviewed upon arrival, and should be submitted as soon as possible. Please use the Lewis Cass ISD Applitrack Frontline system online at:  
<https://www.applitrack.com/lewiscass/onlineapp/default.aspx>

### **Application**

**Deadline:** NOVEMBER 15, 2020

- Questions?** Please contact Chris Whitmire, Director of Early Childhood Education at  
[christine.whitmire@lewiscassisd.org](mailto:christine.whitmire@lewiscassisd.org)

*It is the policy of the Lewis Cass ISD Board of Education that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, height, weight, marital status or disability shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity for which it receives any financial assistance from the United States Department of Education.*

**Pilot Program Description:**

Pending State approval for the Pilot Program Strong Beginnings grant, Lewis Cass ISD is actively recruiting qualified staff for a grant involving children in Cass County who are three-years-old by September 1.

Michigan is offering a Strong Beginnings pilot preschool program for three-year-old children with factors that may place them at risk for low educational attainment, starting part-way through the school year on January 11, 2021. This program is based on research that shows similar children, who attend a high-quality preschool for the two years prior to kindergarten, have significant positive developmental outcomes when compared to their peers who attended a high-quality program for only one year.

Components of the pilot program will include increased funding for classroom development as well as strong Family Engagement programming.

**Essential Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:**

- Demonstrated knowledge of the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) as an early educator
- Ability to develop effective, nurturing relationships with children, staff and the school community
- Demonstrated knowledge of: child development, early childhood education and special education
- Demonstrated knowledge of: family systems, trauma and poverty issues
- Understanding of and ability to promote developmentally appropriate practice in the classroom
- Well-developed observation techniques
- Demonstrated ability to communicate well, both orally and in writing
- Demonstrated professionalism and ethical decision-making in working with others
- Demonstrated organizational abilities
- Ability to read and comprehend simple instructions, short correspondence, and memos

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand, walk, sit on the floor and talk. The employee must regularly lift up to 40 lbs. Regular, in-person attendance is an essential job function.

**Evaluation:**

Performance will be evaluated by the Director of Early Childhood Education.

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