



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact:** Jill Byrd, Creative Noggin  
jill@creativenoggin.com | 210.501.4288

**Pre-K 4 SA receives highest national accreditation from NAEYC**  
*High-quality standards and programs help Pre-K 4 SA better prepare 4-year-olds across the city*

**SAN ANTONIO** — Pre-K 4 SA has received the ultimate stamp of approval from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) by earning the Early Learning Program Accreditation.

Dedicated to improving early-childhood education, NAEYC offers a voluntary accreditation process for high-quality programs to implement best practices and develop a consistent understanding of how to achieve and maintain high quality. The standards to meet the accreditation are based on the latest research in education and are the foundation for accreditation in high-quality early childhood education.

“NAEYC accreditation is the gold standard for early childhood programs in the U.S.,” Pre-K 4 SA CEO Sarah Baray said. “The accreditation process is rigorous and requires programs to demonstrate a sustained commitment to maintaining the highest standards. The process began last year when we submitted an application along with extensive documentation of how our Education Centers meet each of the 10 NAEYC quality standards. An accreditation team conducted site visits to our Education Centers earlier this spring to assess our performance level. While accreditation is awarded individually to each school, we achieved this important milestone by everyone working together as a program.”

Research shows a direct correlation between high-quality early learning and children’s positive long-term outcomes in life, including increased educational attainment, healthier lifestyles and more successful careers. NAEYC Accreditation helps early childhood educators develop an understanding and commitment to maintaining high-quality education.

“The NAEYC Accreditation assures families that Pre-K 4 SA is recognized nationally for providing its students with the highest-quality early learning that is research-based and will prepare them for future success,” Baray added. “And through our Grants and Professional Learning Programs, we are striving to change the educational and workforce trajectory of San Antonio within one generation by working to ensure that every 4-year-old has access to high-quality pre-kindergarten education.”

Currently, Pre-K 4 SA holds NAEYC Accreditation at its North, South and West Education Center. The East Center, under a new director, is currently going through the process and is expected to receive accreditation in the coming year.

**About Pre-K 4 SA:**

Pre-K 4 SA is a comprehensive early childhood initiative aimed at changing the education and workforce trajectory of San Antonio in one generation. Pre-K 4 SA offers full-day pre-kindergarten for 4-year-olds living in the City of San

Antonio. Pre-K 4 SA is free for qualifying students and also accepts tuition-paying students. The school day begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Extended hours are available at no additional charge from 7:15 to 8 a.m., and from 3 to 6 p.m. for working families. Breakfast, lunch and two snacks are included and free transportation is available to all students. Pre-K 4 SA has four Education Centers located throughout the city: North Education Center, 3635 Medical Dr.; South Education Center, 7031 S. New Braunfels Ave.; East Education Center, 5230 Eisenhower Rd.; and West Education Center, 1235 Enrique M. Barrera Memorial Parkway. The Pre-K 4 SA Professional Learning program provides pre-kindergarten through third grade educators in San Antonio with complementary continuing education to support best practice instruction to help every child in San Antonio excel. The Pre-K 4 SA Competitive Grants program provides more than \$4 million in funding annually to increase quality and access in early childhood programs throughout San Antonio. Visit [www.prek4sa.com](http://www.prek4sa.com) for more information.

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