



Board of Education

TO: West Chicago District 33 Board of Education
FROM: Director of Assessment & Accountability, Cathy Park
DATE: June 18, 2026
RE: Preschool Assessment Tool - Teaching Strategies GOLD

This memo is:

- ☐ Information only.
☒ Information with a recommendation and a request for Board approval by vote.

Date by which a Board decision is needed: July 23, 2026

Previous memos on this topic can be found:

- ☐ in previous Board packet(s) dated. _____
☐ or attached to this memo

Basic information:
We are looking to change the assessment tool that is used at Pioneer Preschool from DRDP to Teaching Strategies GOLD for the upcoming 27-28 school year.
The cost of the assessment with initial training will be \$12,585.00.
Background or historical information:
Each year, preschool students are monitored in their growth and development in our preschool. They also need specific data to submit to the state to remain a PFA (Preschool for All) program. As a district, we need to pick a measurement tool that is approved by the state to submit student data each year. DRDP and Teaching Strategies GOLD are both on the list of recommended tools for preschool assessment measures.
Previous decisions, actions, or parameters that relate to this topic or issue:
Preschool adopted the DRDP (Desired Results Developmental Profile) as their measurement tool as it aligned with the KIDS assessment that was given to our Kindergarten students each year.
The preschool will be shifting to using Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum by the 27-28 school year. By shifting to Teaching Strategies GOLD, the assessment tool will be aligned to their curriculum. This will allow teachers to use the assessment data that they collect to inform their instructional practices and teaching. The tool also provides support for teachers and families based on where the child is at developmentally along the continuum.
Recommendations:
The Teaching and Learning Department and Pioneer Preschool would like to make a recommendation to change the annual assessment tool that preschool staff and students use from DRDP to Teaching Strategies GOLD.
Other questions? What else does the Board wish to know?:
Brenda and Cathy are working with the reps at Teaching Strategies to provide on-site training for all of the preschool teachers in the fall, so they can begin to learn about the tool before they need to collect assessment data in the late fall.
The PreK Academic Leadership Council will approve the various required measures by the state from the GOLD objectives so the teachers will know which measures they will be collecting to submit.

We are also planning to set aside time throughout the year to check in with staff to see how the implementation process is going, as it will be a new tool that the teachers will need to learn and use.

We have also attached the quote for the board to review, as there will be a cost to train the teachers as well as to have a student profile on Teaching Strategies GOLD for each student.