

SCHOOL CITY OF EAST CHICAGO

Moving With Intention & Executing With Purpose!

1401 E. 144th Street, East Chicago, IN 46312 (219) 391-4100 (219) 391-4126



Dr. Stephen D. Bournés, Superintendent

January 14, 2026

Dear Families and Staff of the School City of East Chicago,

We are writing to inform you that after careful consideration, the School City of East Chicago has made the extremely difficult decision to close Carrie Gosch Early Learning Center at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year.

Please know that this decision was not made lightly. Our team conducted an extensive review of enrollment trends, budget considerations, facility needs and academic programming. This was followed by thoughtful discussions about how best to serve our students now and going forward.

The School City of East Chicago will still offer a Pre-Kindergarten program, and your child is welcome to attend Pre-Kindergarten in the elementary building that corresponds to his/her home elementary school.

We recognize that this is difficult news to receive, and we are committed to supporting students and families through the transition. Information regarding placement, transportation, and next steps will be shared in the near future.

Meanwhile, we invite families to attend an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the administration building located at 1401 E. 144th Street. District leaders will share additional details and answer questions. Additional updates will also be posted on our website at <https://www.scec.k12.in.us>.

We remain deeply committed to the success and well-being of every child in our district. Thank you for your continued partnership and support as we move with intention and execute with purpose.

Respectfully,

Dr. Stephen D. Bournés
Superintendent
School City of East Chicago

Board of School Trustees

- Maria Mercedes Taylor, *Board President*
- Joel Rodriguez, *Board Vice-President*
- Diane Smith, *Board Secretary*
- Pattie Jo Gibson-King *Board Trustee*
- Jesse Gomez, *Board Trustee*

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Dr. Stephen D. Bournés, Superintendent

14 de enero 2026

Estimadas familias y personal de Ciudad Escolar de East Chicago

Les escribimos para informarles que, después de una cuidadosa consideración, la Ciudad Escolar de East Chicago ha tomado la difícil decisión de cerrar el Centro de Aprendizaje Temprano Carrie Gosch al concluir el año escolar 2025-2026.

Por favor, sepan que esta decisión no se tomó a la ligera. Nuestro equipo realizó una revisión exhaustiva de las tendencias de inscripción, consideraciones presupuestarias, necesidades de las instalaciones y programación académica. Esto fue seguido por conversaciones reflexivas sobre cómo servir mejor a nuestros estudiantes ahora y en el futuro.

La Ciudad Escolar de East Chicago seguirá ofreciendo Pre-Kinder en la escuela primaria que corresponda a la escuela primaria asignada a su hogar. Reconocemos que esta es una noticia difícil de recibir y estamos comprometidos a apoyar a los estudiantes y familias durante esta transición. La información sobre asignación, transporte y los próximos pasos se compartirá en un futuro cercano.

Mientras tanto, invitamos a las familias a asistir a una reunión informativa el martes 20 de enero de 2026 a las 6:00 p.m. en el edificio administrativo ubicado en 1401 E. 144th Street. Los líderes del distrito compartirán detalles adicionales y responderán preguntas. También se publicarán actualizaciones adicionales en nuestro sitio web: <https://www.scec.k12.in.us>.

Seguimos profundamente comprometidos con el éxito y bienestar de cada niño en nuestro distrito. Gracias por su continua colaboración y apoyo mientras avanzamos con intención y ejecutamos con propósito.

Atentamente,

Dr. Stephen D. Bournes
Superintendente
Ciudad Escolar de East Chicago

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