

Coconut Creek Elementary School Aftercare Program

The School Board approved the decision made on September 2nd, 2020. At this time, the temporary rate increase has only been approved through December 31, 2020. Our hope is that once things are stabilized, we will be able to reduce the amount.

Increasing the childcare rate from \$2.65 per hour to \$3.50 was not an easy decision for the School Board and the District to make. Because childcare is not federal, state, or county-funded, it is not part of the school year budget. This means that the fees charged must cover expenses such as staff salaries, including campus monitor, and program materials.

The childcare rate of \$2.65 per hour was based upon a group size of one counselor to 20 students (1:20). Now, due to physical distancing requirements and limiting staff contact, we have had to reduce the ratio from one counselor to an average of fourteen students (1:14). This means that programs must have more staff: one counselor per student group, one to walk students to restrooms and dismissal, one staff to greet and deliver the students. Programs must purchase additional PPE, sanitizing materials, and individual student materials.

The decision to make payments weekly was two-fold. Our hope was that by offering smaller, more frequent payments, it might make payments more manageable to families. Additionally, weekly payments were put in place to make the process of refunds more efficient, causing less of a financial strain on parents. We know that refunds often take time to process, so a smaller amount might be less of a financial burden.

Thank you,

BASCC