

# McFarland's 4K Status

Past

Present

Future

# Past

## May, 2000 School Readiness Task Force

- 38 members in four committees made up the task force, studying communication, curriculum, research, and finance related to four- year-old programming.
- 114 surveys returned plus 28 comments via email, letter, or hotline – opposition to four-year-old programming ran 5 to 1.
- After a final listening session in February of 2001, the committee ceased its work with no formal proposal or vote by the board. Virtually all of the attendees at this listening session were opposed to any publicly provide four-year-old programming.

# Present

## Current District Programs that Relate to Four-Year-Olds

- Developmental Screener
- Community Childcare –Preschool Provider Network
- Stay and Play
- Destination Discovery
- FAST (Family and School Together)
- Just Five Kindergarten

# Present

## Recent Changes (Past 10 Years) which Relate to Four-Year-Olds

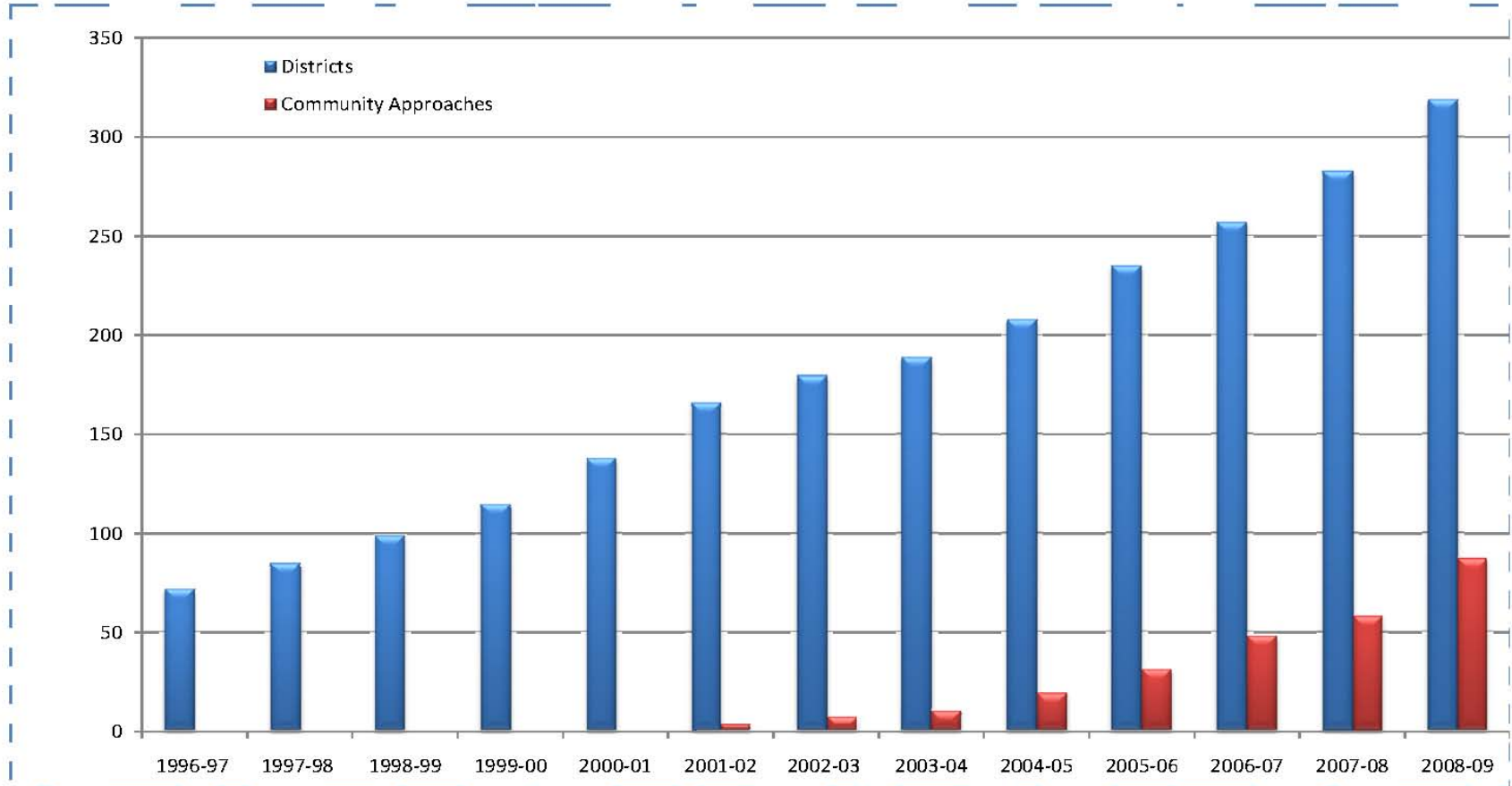
- Half-day kindergarten changes to transitional and full day, and then just full day.
- Community based 4K model (LaCrosse) encouraged by DPI
- State (DPI) begins start-up grants for 4K programming in 2006
- Between 2000 and 2009, the number of district offering 4k grows from 30% to over 80%

## Trends in 4-Year-Old Kindergarten

The number of Wisconsin school districts offering 4-year-old kindergarten, 1996-2009 and

The number of Wisconsin school districts using the Community Approach, 2001-2009

Year	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Districts	72	85	99	115	138	166	180	189	208	235	257	283	319
Community Approaches						3	7	10	19	31	48	58	87





# Present

**May 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 - Formation and Charge of the  
Preschool Readiness Committee**

By October 5, 2010, a report will be made to the Board of Education on the advantages and disadvantages of developing four-year-old preschool programming in the School District of McFarland.

# Future

- One year delay due to concerns over the recession.
- Retiring school board vice-president Jim Moeser has volunteered to facilitate the committee.
- Community based 4K model only model possible in McFarland unless space is added to district facilities.
- Current and potential 4K providers invited to attend the DPI “Preserving Early Childhood Conference” – all but one provider to attend.
- Final committee will be selected and begin its work in April.