



BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS
COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
15020 Metcalf Ave.
Overland Park, KS 66283-0901
913-239-4000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: September 11, 2009

Blue Valley early childhood classes still accepting peer models

Blue Valley's Peer Model preschool program still has space available throughout the district for peer models for the 2009-10 school year. The Peer Model Program provides an opportunity for typically developing children to be integrated into Early Childhood Special Education classrooms to serve as role models for children with special needs.

Peer model students provide positive peer interactions, engage in play skills, and model appropriate language and behavior for children with special needs while in the classroom setting. To be a peer model, a student must demonstrate age-appropriate skills in the areas of play, social, behavior, speech, language and motor. Additionally, all peer models must be toilet trained and speak English fluently.

"Kids learn best from other kids and research is clear that when children are integrated in this type of program, it has a positive impact on students with special needs and on students who are typically developing," said Kendall Burr, Blue Valley's special education coordinator for early childhood.

For more information about the Peer Modeling program and other Early Childhood programs, go to www.bluevalleyk12.org/earlychildhood or call (913) 239-4720.