

## Jefferson Elementary School Preschool story Transcript

[Click here](#) to watch the entire video story - TRT: 3:54

[Click here](#) for a .Mp3 audio file of the story

### Additional Resources:

- [Click here](#) for the Jefferson Elementary School Preschool Soundbite log
  - [Click here](#) for the folder with all four video interviews
  - [Click here](#) for photos in all three classrooms for media use
  - [Click here](#) for Indiana preschool Foundational standards
  - [Click here](#) for information on Indiana First Steps program (age birth-3 years)
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### Angie Mills

#### Jefferson Elementary School Principal

“So at Plymouth Community Schools, we really want to target those students that really otherwise wouldn’t otherwise have a preschool opportunity.”

### Carolina Sanchez

#### Jefferson Elementary School Bilingual Teacher

*“Crei que no se iria nunca. Oye, ¿puedo cond...”*

*“I thought he’d never leave. Hey, can I drive...”*

**Mills:** “About 20 percent of our students in Plymouth are bilingual, especially Spanish, so we target those students that need that preschool experience in their primary language to set them up for success.”

**Sanchez:** “Mi nombre es Carolina Sánchez y trabajo en la escuela Jefferson My name is Carolina Sanchez. I work at Jefferson. Soy maestra de prekinder bilingüe. I am the bilingual preschool teacher. Los estudiantes de Plymouth benefician de un entorno bilingüe. The students at Plymouth benefit from a bilingual environment. La instrucción tanto en inglés como en español para darles un empujón y ayudarlos a tener éxito en el kinder. Instruction is provided in both English and Spanish to give them a jump start and help them be successful in kindergarten.”

**Mills:** “The standards have continued to increase throughout the years, and so the more opportunities we give them to build confidence and success. We also look at those students that are transitioning from [First Steps](#) or have special needs and that means that we can start to provide those early interventions that help them be much more successful later in life.”

### Angela Hissong

#### Jefferson Elementary School Preschool Teacher

“My name is Angela Hissong. This is my 16th year in early childhood special education all those years have been here in Plymouth and I am one of the Early Childhood Special Education Teachers. We have two preschool classes that serve our students with special needs and we serve students who have language delays, speech delays, kids on the autism spectrum, kids

who have developmental delays, some physical delays, and health concerns. I have about 20 students and Candace Hunter has around 20 as well. Probably 30 of those students have IEPs. It's an individualized education plan that we write for our students with special needs. We are the only special ed preschool in Plymouth, we service students that are 3, 4 and 5. For students to come into our program they have to qualify. We service all of our students corporation-wide. There's such a need and I like to advocate for them as they head to kindergarten. I love the kids, that's why I come back year after year."

**Mills:** "We also target students in the Title I population, those that wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it and provide them that first great step into kindergarten to be successful."

### **Madison Sonner**

#### **Jefferson Elementary School Title I Teacher**

"My name is Madison Sonner and I teach the Title I, general, pre-k general preschool class. I love seeing the growth every child has made, whether it's emotional, academic, and social. The kids in my classroom are 4 and 5 years old and they end up in my classroom if they are pretty fluent in English. This is the general preschool classroom. Throughout the year we do several checks, in the beginning, middle, and end of the year. See where they are with letters, numbers, colors, shapes. We've adopted several screeners we use. Through those screeners, we might have certain activities that relate. It's a big mix of everything we like to use, we use a lot of sensory. Sometimes we will write in shaving cream or sand. We use the Foundations to teach the correct formation of the letters. Then other than that there are pencils and iPads as well."

**Mills:** "Students at the Jefferson preschool program are actually students in the Plymouth Community Schools."

**Hissong:** "Many of them have never been outside the home, in daycare or other preschools, so this is their first opportunity but it is also the first time parents are dealing with the school, so we try to make it as seamless, open our arms to not only the kids but also their families."

**Mills:** "We use the [preschool foundational skills standards](#) for Indiana. It really is awesome to see them get excited about coming to school each day, start to build friendships outside of their home and really make Jefferson feel like part of their family."

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