



wfmz.com

Serving Eastern Pennsylvania and Western New Jersey

NEWS FROM YOUR REGION

Regional Headlines

Regional RSS feeds

- ((( WIRELESS )))**
- HOME
- NEWS
- WEATHER
- TRAFFIC
- BUSINESS
- SPORTS
- DATABANK
- CALENDAR
- SKYCAMS
- JOB SITE
- TRAVEL EXPERT PROGRAMS
- CONTACT WFMZ
- SCHOOL CLOSINGS
- STATION INFO
- SITE MAP

NATIONAL | SPORTS | TECHNOLOGY | POLITICS | SCIENCE | BUSINESS | HEALTH | ENTERTAINMENT | CALENDAR

POSTED: 04-25-2007 05:44 PM ET | MODIFIED: 04-25-2007 05:45 PM ET

# Pre-K Counts Initiative to Help Combat Crime



E-MAIL STORY | PRINT VIEW | RSS FEEDS | WIRELESS | GOOGLE DESKTOP



What effect does pre- kindergarten have on the crime rate? Plenty. That's the word from some education and law enforcement officials urging state lawmakers to spend 75 million dollars on "pre-k" in next year's budget. WFMZ's Jaccii Farris has the details. 156 "My name is John Morganelli and I'm the District Attorney." >>REPORTER: They may not understand what a district attorney does.. 218 "I help the police enforce the law you understand

what that means we all want to obey the law." >>REPORTER: But these wide eyed pre-k students are excited to hear him read Officer Buckle and Gloria. 331 "Officer Buckle checked to see if Gloria was sitting at attention and she was, see what a good dog." >>REPORTER: Morganelli came to story time at Spark Early Childhood Center because he believes pre-k programs like this one help mold at risk kids into model citizens. >>JOHN MORGANELLI: 1059 "You know we have less people going into the criminal areas, less gang members, less kids that might get into drugs." >>REPORTER: Bethlehem is one of 75 school districts in the state who offer pre- k. Governor Ed Rendell hopes to boost that number with a 75 million dollar Budget initiative. The result, 11 thousand more at risk kids in classrooms like this one. Possibly saving them from becoming a statistic.. >>BRUCE CLASH: 2745 "The research is very compelling, for instance in one study kids who are left out of pre kindergarten were five times more likely to be law breakers by age 27 2425 "Do you remember how man is these?" >>REPORTER: Spark teacher Martha Hernandez says it's just common sense, kids who attend pre-k become better socialized adults. >>MARTHA HERNANDEZ: 1932 "I always see a poster that what I learned in kindergarten is what I need to learn for my whole life." Jaccii Farris 69 News.



(Video help with: Firefox / Mac)

watch video | e-mail story | print view | rss feeds | wireless | google desktop | podcast



**XML | RSS**  
Get our FREE headline news feed for your RSS Reader!

**NEWS EMAIL**  
Get the daily headlines



Current Traffic  
Conditions and area  
Traffic Cameras



Forecasts for  
each hour!



2007 High School  
Performances



One Tank Trip



Know of a local hero?