



Taylor Early Childhood Center has one of the best preschool programs in the state. That's according to the Missouri School Boards' Association and their Future Builders Foundation. They are awarding Taylor with the prestigious Early Childhood Education Program of the Year Award.

Superintendent Stan Stratton says, "We're excited that the great staff at Taylor is getting the recognition they deserve. Their students are given a solid foundation and enter kindergarten ready to learn."

Future Builders Chair Jan Mees says, "This year's competition was impressive and there were numerous excellent applications submitted." Schools are divided into three categories, according to size, and a first place trophy is awarded in each category.

Taylor Early Childhood Director Charissa Kappler says getting the award is wonderful. She says, "Each of our staff members bring something different to the team and because we all work together our students and program benefit. The preschool started 11 years ago as a vision by Mr. Stratton and our Board of Education. It is because of their support that our program has been so successful."

Another key to the program's success is Special Education Director Tom Moreland. His steady guidance and vast knowledge of the regulatory environment positioned Taylor to flourish.

The Dunklin R-5 School District has been asked to make a video highlighting the achievements at Taylor to be shown at the MSBA's Annual Conference in September.