

# Early childhood development gets boost with addition of Primrose Schools

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With more than 230 schools scattered throughout the nation, Primrose Schools, an early childhood development center, is planning to open 10 more facilities in the greater Washington, D.C. metro area.

The first of those schools will be located in Ashburn, at the intersection of Route 7 and Loudoun County Parkway on the George Washington University Ashburn campus. The school is owned and operated by Adela Taboada and her husband, Victor.

According to Taboada, an educator for the last 20 years, Primrose was the first preschool to be accredited.

“One of the differences of Primrose is Primrose corporate requires all of their individual schools to be accredited and that really distinguishes us from any other preschool because usually that accreditation is up to the individual school to determine,” Taboada said.

“We have a balanced

learning curriculum, which is unique in that, for example, there are a lot of different models of theories of the best ways children learn and Primrose realized that there are good aspects to all the different methods of schools and their education experts took all the different parts and made them into one curriculum called the ‘Balance Learning Approach.’”

The new center will serve children from as young as six weeks old to kindergarten age. Taboada also said there will be after-school care for children up to 10 years old.

Over the years, 90 percent of Primrose graduates have achieved standardized test scores well above the national average. Infant sign language is taught as part of the daily curriculum and Primrose students show 1.5 times more growth than their peers in concepts mastered by the end of the school year.

Enrollment is now open for prospective students and parents. The school is scheduled to open sometime around the middle of January.

“Loudoun County has a large group of highly professional individuals. People that value early education in children and know how important that is for a child’s development,” Taboada said. “Every year the competition is more difficult and, with a big professional group, you get to appreciate how important it is to have the right early start.

“A lot of parents have shared with me that they do have good day care centers here, but they have all said, once the children get past that day care, they need preparation for elementary school and that’s where it lacks,” Taboada said. “It’s basically hit or miss and Primrose has the background and proven results that our curriculum does prepare our children once they get into elementary schools and the parents know what they are getting.”

A second Primrose School is scheduled to open in the South Riding area sometime later next year.

