

## **The K-12 Education Administration Subsidizes Public Preschools to Improve Teaching Environment and Facilities to Create a Safe and High Quality Learning Environment**

(Courtesy of I-Ting Wang at the Division of Preschool Education)



To enable preschools to provide a safer learning environment with higher quality, the K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education, has formulated the Guidelines on the K-12 Education Administration's Subsidies for Special Municipality Governments and City and County Governments to Enhance and Improve Preschools' Teaching Environment and Facilities. It provided subsidies to 571 public preschools in the school year of 2020 to improve their facilities and equipment, and the application for such subsidies is currently open to all public preschools for the school year of 2021.

The flow of movement in the kitchen of the affiliated preschool of the Shuiyuan Elementary School in the Hsinchu City was inadequate and relevant equipment was also outdated. The preschool applied for and used the subsidies to re-plan and improve the flow of food delivery in

the school year of 2019, while updating the cooking and washing equipment and the storage facilities to safeguard children's food safety. In addition, the preschool updated gas and other internal pipelines and completed a rooftop waterproofing project, which gave the nearly 40-year-old kitchen a complete overhaul; as such, this preschool has improved the quality of food provided to its students. Furthermore, it has set up a preschool cafeteria to provide a diverse and flexible cooking space, while allowing nutrition education to be integrated into children's life curriculum.

The affiliated preschool of the Tainan Municipal North District Kaiyuan Elementary School is located next to the Taiwan Railway's railroad. As the railroad was moved underground, the railway landscape unique to this preschool was no longer available. Therefore, it applied for subsidies during the school year of 2020, with the aim of combining the railway imagery and the aesthetic education. After discussions with teachers, children, and parents, the preschool decided to design its playground equipment as a train, along with landscape facilities, to enable children to train and develop their gross motor skills, improve their balance, and foster their interpersonal interactions and teamwork, while allowing the image of the train and the railroad in the preschool to be passed on through this playground.

According to the K-12 Education Administration, to maintain the safety of preschools and provide a better learning environment for children to learn happily, it will continue to motivate public preschools to apply for subsidies to enhance and improve their teaching environment and facilities, thereby creating a high-quality learning environment and lighting up the path of education for children through the preschools' ingenuity.