

The Road to Preschool Expansion



We shall provide all children with an education that develops open-minded thinkers with the strong academic and interpersonal skills to thrive in an ever-changing world and make it a better place for all.

Who We Are

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Parallel Paths to Preschool



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The Process - Path 1

- Alignment of Current Program
 - Articulation
 - Competition
- Professional Development for Staff
 - Creative Curriculum
 - Foundations
 - Second Step
 - ESL Training
- Hiring of Staff
- Expansion of Current Program to Full Day
 - Transportation
 - Physical space
- Application Process for 2023 - 2024
- Open House for Incoming Students

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Preschool Registration



Open House for Parents: May 8th & 9th 2023

Registration Window: May 5, 2023–May 17, 2023

Registration Closed: May 17, 2023

Notification Letters Mailed: June 5, 2023

Commitment by Families: June 12, 2023

Register on District Website: by June 19, 2023



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The Process - Path 2

- Educating Ourselves on the Preschool Expansion Grant
 - Attending information sessions
 - Working with NIEERS
- Visiting Local Preschools
- Collaborating with:
 - Business Office
 - Human Resources
 - NJDOE and County Office
 - Private Providers
 - Transportation



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Preschool Expansion Grant

Key Areas

- Eligibility and enrollment
- Classroom elements
- Mixed use private providers
- Financial
- Curriculum
- Timeline



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Preschool Expansion Grant

What We Know

- 5 years to implement
- Must service 90% of universe
- Maximum class size is 15
- 2:15 Teacher/ Student ratio
- All special education programs will be full day
- 6 hour instructional day
- Must use an approved State curriculum
- Application due in August, Notification in September



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Visits to Other Full-day Programs

Schools Visited:

- Dallago Early Childhood Center, Vineland
- Voorhees Preschool Program, Voorhees
 - Today's Learning Center (Private Provider Partnership)
- Pomona Preschool, Galloway Township
- Baldwin Early Childhood Center, Pennsauken
- Kingsway Learning Center, Voorhees

Discussions and Observations Included:

- Preschool expansion application
- All positions associated with preschool expansion
- Daily schedules
- Curriculum
- Private provider partnerships

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Intersecting Paths to Preschool



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What Will Be Taught (tentative)



Cherry Hill
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Arrival, preparation, and choice activities	30 minutes
Group Meeting	20 minutes
Choice Time	60 minutes
Cleanup, handwashing, and snack	20 minutes
Small Groups	20 minutes
Outdoor Choice Time	40 minutes
Read-Aloud	15 minutes
Lunch	40 minutes
Rest/Quiet Activities	45 minutes
Outdoor Choice Time	30 minutes
Read Aloud	15 minutes
Limited Choice Time and Small Groups	30 minutes
Group Meeting and dismissal	20 minutes

The Creative
Curriculum®
for Preschool



Transportation

- Bus routes need to be finalized (contingent upon location of students) before routes can be put out to bid
- Anticipated July bid dates for busing
- Starting and end time of program may impact availability of buses
- Contractors need appropriate buses to transport preschool students
- Car seats
- Routes will have aide to assist with loading and unloading students

In the Know



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In the Know

- Information will be shared (as in all major projects) - to the BOE, Teachers, Community, etc...
- The preschool program will continue to be play based
- The dedication, commitment, and advocacy for students with Individualized education plans will be unwavering
- The times for the 2023-2024 academic day have not been determined
- There will be a Preschool Committee (when appropriate)
 - Teachers, administrators, community members, experts from the field



In the Know

- There will be no aftercare programs (SACC) offered at Malberg
- Transportation will be provided for eligible students based on District policy for grades K-12 (revisions in process)
- We will be applying for the Preschool Expansion Grant when it becomes available
- We will continue participating in NJPSA/FEA's Transforming Early Childhood Leadership Institute in partnership with the NJ DOE Early Childhood Services Division



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Questions

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