



WELCOME to Pre-K!

Presentation to the Board of Education
November 14, 2023
Dr. Paul Pietrantone and Jenifer Senn



History of Pre-K

- **2007** – Grant funded Pre-K program in Orchard Park began
- **2007-2019** – Half-day, 100 slots in community based settings only
- **2019-2020** – Brought first class into our schools, Eggert Elementary
- **2020-2021** – Increase in funding expanded to full day programs
- **2021-2022** – 162 Pre-k students (56 half-day)
- **2022-2023**– 214 Pre-k students (35 half-day)
- Currently receiving a total of **\$ 1,252,798** In grant funds





Snapshot of Pre-K

Community Based Partners	Orchard Park Schools
YMCA - 2 classes	Eggert Elementary - 2 classes
BrightPath - 1 class	Ellicott Elementary - 2 classes
Smarty Pants - 1 class	South Davis Elementary - 2 classes
	Windom Elementary - 3 classes

1 class = 18 students

Total Number of Students in Orchard Park Pre-K, 2023-2024 = **230**





Pre-K Process

- Registration - Open and Ongoing
- Parent Indicates Site/School Preferences
- Lottery - Scheduled for March
- Notification to Families
- Managing Waitlist
- Ongoing registration



Pre-k Curriculum

Summer 2023 Curriculum Projects

- Developed curriculum units based on content
 - Example: “All About Us” – a 6 week content unit
 - Key Vocabulary
 - Essential/focus questions
 - Student outcomes
 - Read Alouds
 - Shared Learning Experiences
 - Play centers
- Aligned curriculum to NYS Pre-Kindergarten Early Learning Standards





Pre-K Curriculum

Adopted Heggerty Pre-Kindergarten Phonemic Awareness Curriculum

- 35 weeks of lessons
- 10-12 minutes per day
- Builds a foundation of literacy skills through explicit and systematic instruction in phonemic and phonological awareness
- District and community based sites





Philosophy of Pre-K

- Affirm kids' multiple identities and invite them to start building critical consciousness
- Be grounded in play and exploration
- Foster social-emotional learning, fine and gross motor, and executive functioning
- Support language development, early literacy development, the building of background knowledge, and early numeracy development
- Provide space for inquiry questioning, and wondering
- Be child centered and child-directed, with teacher as facilitator rather than leader





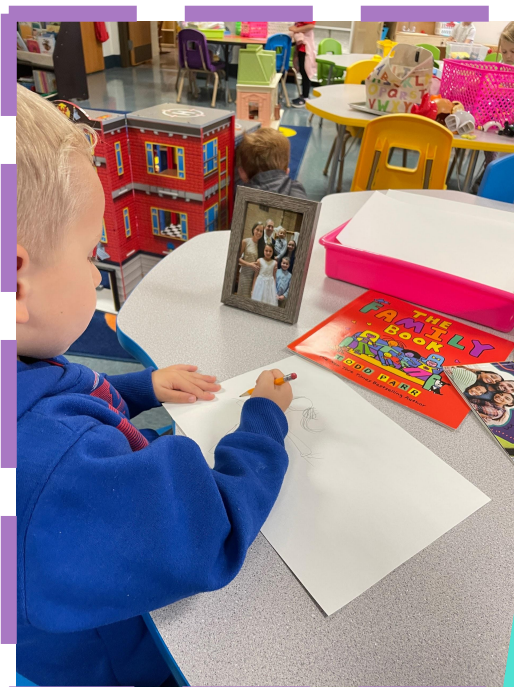
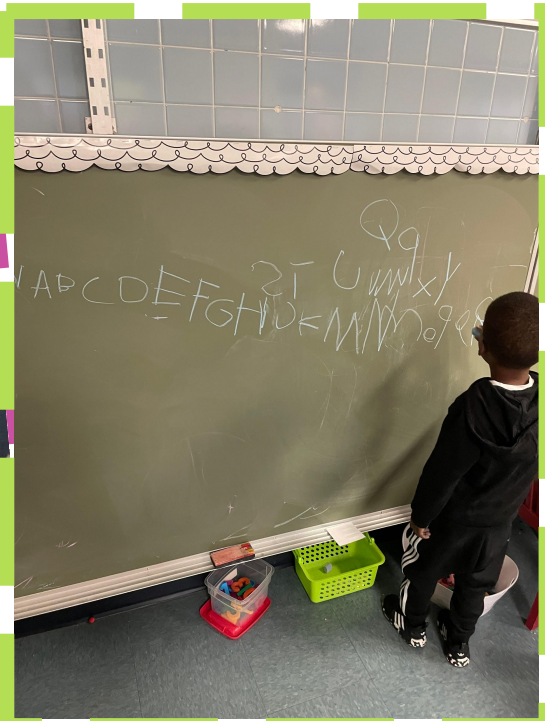
Philosophy of Pre-K

- Provide multiple opportunities for children to engage with materials and activities that are developmentally appropriate for them, especially when chosen by the child
- Invite kids into the world of school and foster a love of learning
- Provide many opportunities across the day for community-building, independence, and interdependence
- Facilitate connections between home and school





A Day in the Life



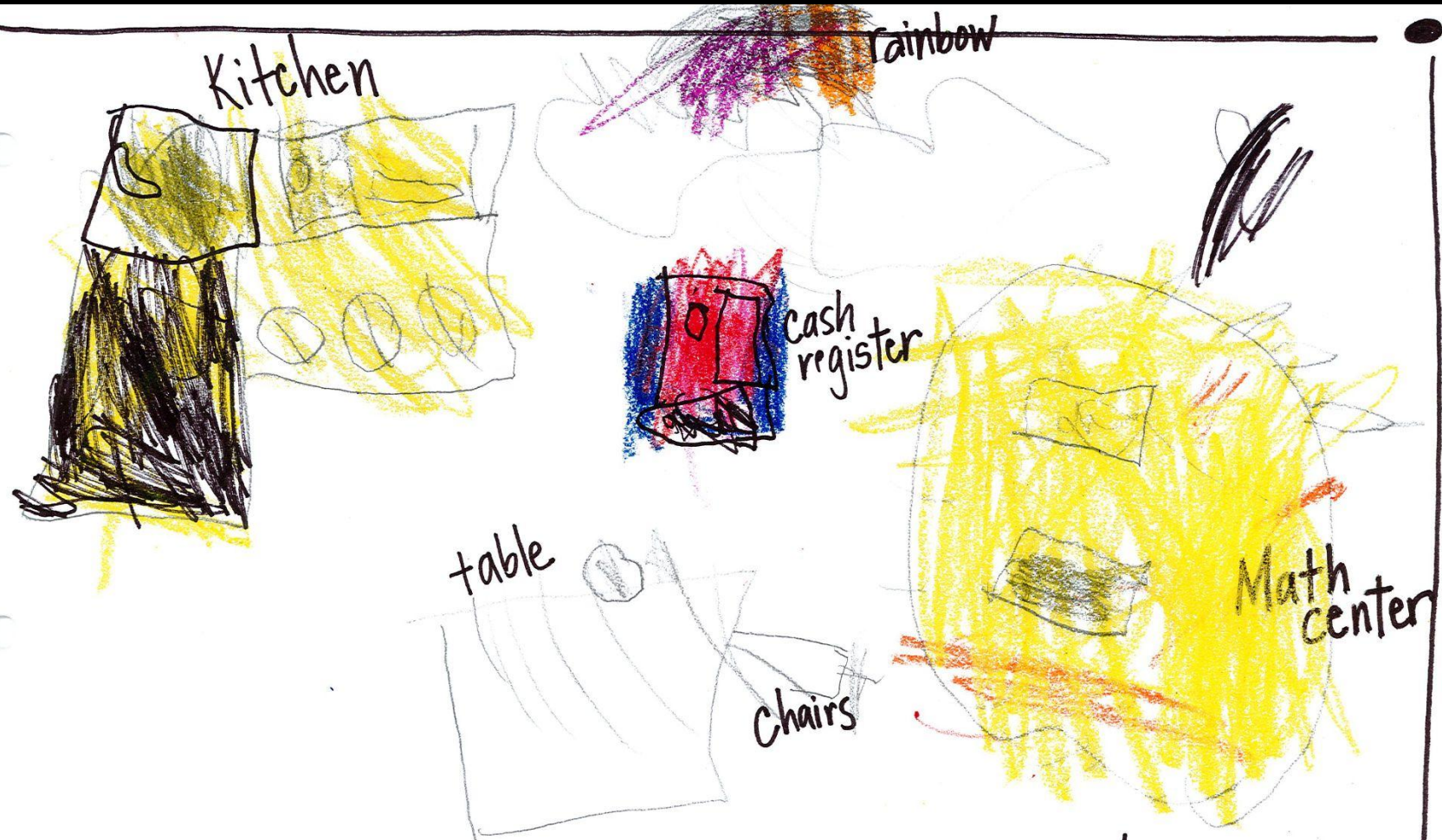


Pre-K here

We come!

by your Pre-K friends





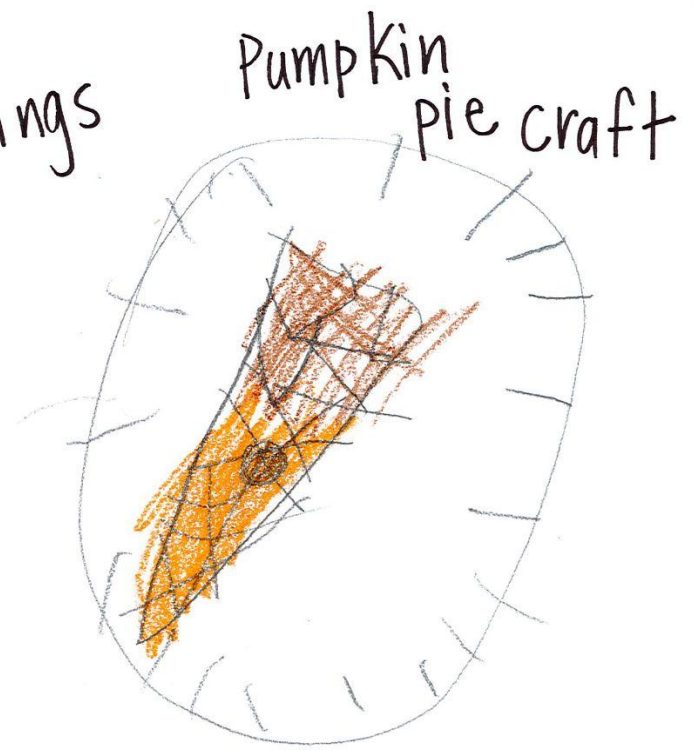
In the morning, we do
centers.



Our family drawings



tissue paper pumpkin



Pumpkin pie craft

We do crafts and lots of drawing.



Re-K goes on
the blue
part!

Thank
you! ♥

We also go on our new
playground.

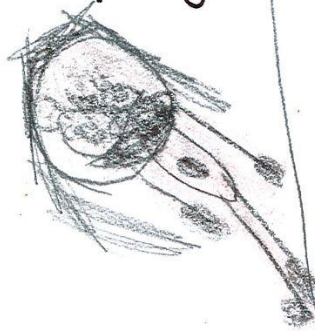
Mrs. Block



Mrs.
Love



Mrs. Glasgow



Rug

Miss
Ebling

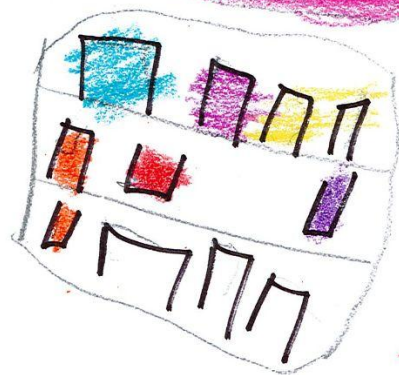


We go to specials.

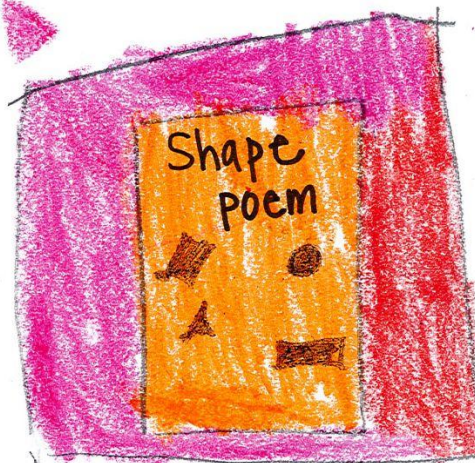


Mr. Fallon

Our favorite books
Elephant and Piggie



Book Shelf



We love to sing songs, read books
and learn poems.



Pre-K makes us happy and excited!