

August 2025

Dear Preschool Families,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year at Northwood Elementary. Our Early Childhood Team is excited to welcome back our preschoolers for a new year of learning and growth. My name is April McNeill, and I teach the Inclusive Developmental Preschool Class at Northwood. The students in my classroom are supported daily by two experienced & caring Paraprofessionals, Karen May and Clair Cullen. We are also fortunate to have a Multidisciplinary Team of Specialists, including Denise Knopp our Speech & Language Pathologist, Kara Ashpole our Occupational Therapist and Dr. Nicole Nelson our Physical Therapist.

As an Early Childhood Team, we work together closely to provide a daily routine of activities and experiences that generate opportunities for children to develop new skills across all developmental domains. We place a strong emphasis on building Social/Emotional skills because they are crucial in allowing children to participate fully in all other school activities. We believe that children learn best when they are engaged and excited. We work to build a warm, nurturing environment where each child feels safe and valued while striving to make each school day one that children eagerly anticipate.

I have been teaching as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher for the past 25 years. I truly love working with preschoolers and feel privileged to be a part of your child's early learning journey. I hope that you are able to attend our Open House on August 26th from 3:00-4:00 PM. I look forward to working in partnership with you and the rest of our Team as we work together to support your preschooler's growth throughout the 2025-2026 school year. Please don't hesitate to reach out with comments, questions and concerns.

Warmly,

Ms April

April D. McNeill, MSED

april.mcneill@misd.org

