



Weymouth Township  
School District  
**2025-2026**



**PRESCHOOL**

**Family Handbook**

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August 2025

Dear Weymouth Families,

I am thrilled to welcome you and your child to our preschool family. My mission is to provide a nurturing and stimulating environment where each child can grow academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. I believe that early childhood education sets the foundation for a lifetime of learning, and I am committed to partnering with you in this journey. Your child will engage in a variety of activities designed to foster creativity, curiosity, and a love for learning. Our experienced and caring teachers are dedicated to creating a safe and supportive atmosphere where every child can thrive. Whether it's through art, music, play, or structured learning activities, I aim to inspire a sense of wonder and discovery in each child.

Communication is key to a partnership between home and school. I value your input and encourage you to share your questions, concerns, and insights with me. Together, we can create a positive and supportive environment for a successful school year. Contained in this handbook is information that will help you understand our preschool program and what you can expect as a parent.

Thank you for choosing the Weymouth Township preschool program. I look forward to being by your side as your child begins or continues their educational journey. I am looking forward to working with you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns throughout the year.

Mrs. Michelle Mesghali  
Acting Superintendent/Principal  
Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction  
[mmesghali@weymouthtsd.org](mailto:mmesghali@weymouthtsd.org)



## **Weymouth Township Mission Statement**

As a National Blue Ribbon School, the Weymouth Township School District, together with our community, aspires to nurture, support, and empower the educational, social, and emotional needs, as well as the creative talents of our students. Our faculty and staff create a dynamic and challenging academic environment that encourages leadership and an ability for students to exceed the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). As our community's most treasured resource, our students will graduate prepared for high school, as well as college and career endeavors. Our school is a place of inclusivity, accountability, and positive morale for all Hawks.

### **Vision**

The district promotes a community of lifelong learners and leaders who strive to be **HAWK** proud:

**H - Hardworking**; Hawks work hard to learn, grow, and reach high levels of achievement.

**A - Amazing**; Each Hawk is unique, special, and belongs in our school.

**W - Wise**; Hawks make wise decisions so that all Hawks enjoy a safe, productive learning environment.

**K - Kind**; Hawks treat staff, students, and our school with kindness and respect.

**WEYMOUTH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**

Mrs. Michelle Mesghali - Acting Superintendent & Principal  
Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction

Mr. William Thompson - Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS  
2025 - 2026**

Patricia Doerr - President

Constance Anne Reymann - Vice President

Daniel Ardito

Desiree Brewer

Christopher Egbert

Henry Goldsmith

Paula Lechner

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS**

All meetings are held on the third Thursday  
of each month at 6:30 pm unless otherwise stated.

## **Important Contact Information**

### **School Address**

Weymouth Township School District  
1202 Eleventh Avenue  
Dorothy, NJ 08317

### **School Office**

Phone - 609-476-2412 Fax - 609-476-3966  
Email- WTSMainOffice@weymouthtsd.org  
Secretary, Mrs. Mickey Riordan

### **Administration**

Superintendent/Principal, Mrs. Michelle Mesghali  
Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction, Mrs. Michelle Mesghali  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. William Thompson

### **Teaching Staff**

Mrs. Lori DeFeo  
Ms. Lia D'Orio  
Mrs. Jessica Gallo

### **Nurse**

Mrs. Lauryn Hooven, RN, BSN

### **Pre-School Instructional Coach**

Mrs. Wendy Atkinson

### **Pre-School Intervention & Referral Specialist**

Ms. Katelyn Tobiasen

### **Community Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS)**

Mrs. Lauren Bakker

### **School Counselor**

Mrs. Lauren Bakker

### **School Website**

<https://www.weymouthtownshipschool.org/>

### **Social Media Accounts**

<https://www.facebook.com/WeymouthTSD>  
<https://www.facebook.com/WeymouthTwpSchoolSupt/>

## **Preschool Hours**

Full Day:

8:20 - 2:40

Half Day:

8:20 - 12:40

2-Hour Delay Day:

10:30 - 2:40

Before and After School Hours:

7:00 a.m. – 8:20 a.m.

2:55 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

## **Before Care and After Care Program**

Weymouth Township School offers both a before and after school program. The program's schedule is 7:00am-8:20am for Before Care and 2:55 pm-5:30 pm for After Care, Monday through Friday. Before School Care will not be offered on delayed opening days. After School Care will have sessions on early dismissal days except on the day before Thanksgiving Break, the day before Christmas Break, the day before Spring Break and on the last day of school. After Care is not provided on unplanned early dismissal days. Students must be registered for each program. **Please Note: Preschool students should be toilet-trained to attend Before Care or After Care.**

## **School Closing and Delayed Openings**

Regular sessions of school are canceled in case of emergency. Serious weather conditions that might cause a hazard to pupils are the primary reason for the emergency closing of school. Parents will be notified through Blackboard Connect. Notice of such closing will also be available on the school website and social media. Television coverage is available on ABC or CBS.

# 2025 - 2026 District Calendar



## Weymouth Township School 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR



1 - Labor Day 2, 3 - Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL 4 - FIRST DAY FOR STUDENTS 25 - Back to School Night - SINGLE SESSION  <p style="text-align: center;">19/21</p>	<b>SEPTEMBER 2025</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; font-size: 8px;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					<b>FEBRUARY 2026</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; font-size: 8px;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28								9 - Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL 16 - President's Day - NO SCHOOL  <p style="text-align: center;">18/19</p>							
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10 - Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL 13 - Columbus Day - NO SCHOOL  <p style="text-align: center;">21/22</p>	<b>OCTOBER 2025</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; font-size: 8px;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<b>MARCH 2026</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; font-size: 8px;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					13 - Conferences - SINGLE SESSION 13 - Conferences - afternoon  <p style="text-align: center;">22/22</p>							
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<b>KEY:</b> SCHOOL CLOSED SINGLE SESSION (12:50) TEACHER IN-SERVICE NO SCHOOL	<b>END OF MARKING PERIODS</b> MP1 - 11/11/2025 MP2 - 1/28/2026 MP3 - 4/13/2026 MP4 - 6/9/2026	<b>REPORT CARDS DISTRIBUTED</b> MP1 - 11/18/2025 MP2 - 2/4/2026 MP3 - 4/20/2026 MP4 - 6/16/2026	*Last day of school may be adjusted to reflect 180 student days. Additional days will be added or removed from the calendar in the event of emergency closings.  BOE Approved:																																																																																											
<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences: 11/24, 11/25 and 3/13</b>																																																																																														

# PRESCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

We are sure you and your child are anticipating the start of the school year.

Please see the list of items your child will need to smoothly transition into our classroom routine.

## SUPPLIES TO SEND IN WITH YOUR CHILD

- Rest Time Belongings- Blanket, Stuffed Toy, and Pillow: Must be able to spend the week in our room and fit in your child's cubby box.
- Book Bag- A standard sized backpack (no wheels)
- Plastic Folder- One plastic two-pocket folder (plastic are more durable and will last the whole year)
- Change of Clothes- Place a seasonally appropriate change of clothes including socks and underwear, in a ZipLock bag labeled with your child's name
- Baby Wipes- 1 or 2 packs. Our hands get messy and sometimes these are the quickest way to get them clean!
- Photo- of mom, dad or any family members to keep in the room to help with the first day fears
- Water Bottle- Refillable water bottle with water only. Please make sure it is leakproof and labeled with your child's name
- Art Smock- A large t-shirt to cover their clothes for painting (old shirts work best!)

Please write your child's name on the outside of your child's book bag & lunch box. The best place for this is where your child's back is so no one can see it when they are wearing it.

To assist with the organization of items that do not go home each day, please bring classroom supplies to Open House with you on **September 3rd.**

## **Creative Curriculum**

Weymouth Township Preschool utilizes the Creative Curriculum for all three and four year old students. The Creative Curriculum for Preschool focuses on project-based investigations and purposeful play as a means for children to apply skills. The curriculum addresses four areas of development: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language.



The curriculum is designed to foster development of the whole child through teacher-led, small and large group activities centered around eleven interest areas: blocks, dramatic play, toys and games, art, library, discovery, sand and water, music and movement, cooking, computers, and outdoors. Students learn through intentional structured play, modeling, and meaningful interactions with the adults and children in the class. The daily activities are carefully planned to encourage independence, self-confidence, and group cooperation through large group, small group, and one-on-one participation in a variety of activities.

At the start of each school year, the primary focus will be on school readiness skills, learning the daily routine, understanding classroom expectations, practicing appropriate social skills, and building relationships with teachers and peers.

## **Gold Assessment Tool**

The Teaching Strategies Gold assessment is a comprehensive tool designed to evaluate the developmental progress of young children across various domains including: social-emotional development, physical development, language and literacy, cognitive skills, and mathematics.

Through a combination of direct observation, teacher input, and documentation of children's activities and interactions, the assessment provides valuable insights into each child's unique learning journey. It emphasizes the importance of ongoing assessment to tailor educational experiences that support individualized learning goals and promote continuous improvement. By using data-driven insights from the Learning Strategies Gold assessment, educators and caregivers can collaborate effectively to create personalized learning experiences that optimize children's developmental outcomes.

Gold uses assessment checkpoints where teachers review and analyze collected data periodically to gauge children's progress. Teachers will generate individualized reports for each child, summarizing their strengths, areas of growth, and development across the different learning objectives and domains. Parents will be informed and updated periodically throughout the year on their child's learning progress.



## **Classroom Schedule**

Preschool-aged children thrive on a consistent routine that provides structure and a sense of security. Each classroom establishes a daily schedule tailored to their instructional needs. While specific timings may vary, every daily schedule typically includes the following components:

- **Whole Group Instruction and Daily Read Aloud:** Engaging sessions where all children participate in group activities and a daily story read aloud.
- **Small Group Instruction:** Opportunities for focused learning in smaller groups, tailored to individual developmental needs.
- **Play-based Choice Centers:** Rotating stations that encourage exploration and learning through hands-on activities such as art, sensory play, and pretend play.
- **Outdoor/Gross Motor Activities:** Time spent outdoors for physical play, which may include playground activities, games, and exercises to promote gross motor skills.
- **Music & Movement:** Interactive sessions involving music, dancing, and movement to stimulate creativity and physical coordination.
- **Daily Meal Times:** Meals in a social setting, promoting healthy eating habits and social skills.
- **Rest Time:** A period set aside for children to recharge through quiet activities or nap time, supporting their well-being and readiness for afternoon activities.
- **Closing Activities:** Calming activities to wind down the day, fostering a smooth transition for children as they prepare to leave.

## **General Preschool Policies**

### **Absences**

Showing up to school every day is important to your child's success and learning in preschool. Missing even one or two days every few weeks can make it harder for your child to develop early reading skills and missing school can develop a pattern for poor attendance that is hard to break. Being chronically late or absent can seriously impact students' academic growth in our preschool program. **Children are expected to attend school on a regular basis** - as it is in the best interest of your child for them to have consistency in their daily routines. Because daily attendance is critical for academic success, student attendance will be monitored daily. Please call the main office to report your child as absent or tardy. For an absence or tardy to be considered excused, you must provide a doctor's note.

**All doctor's notes must be received on the day your child returns from absence. If a child is out for more than 3 days due to illness they must have a note from the doctor stating that the child may return to school and list any restrictions if applicable.**

## **Tardiness**

The school day begins at **8:20 a.m.** Children are expected to attend school on **time on a regular basis**. Children who arrive at school after **8:30 a.m.** are considered tardy. Parent(s)/ Guardian(s)/ Caregiver(s) must bring their child to the main office and sign in the child.

**\*Students with excessive absences and/or tardiness (on pace to exceed 15 absences per year) will require a parent/teacher or administrative meeting to create an action plan to improve attendance.**

## **Buses**

Transportation is provided through Greater Egg Harbor Regional School District Consortium. It is expected that the assigned pick-up point will be the drop-off point unless a permanent and approved arrangement has been made. Bus changes must be processed through the Main Office. Bus concerns should be brought to the attention of an administrator. Please email or call Dr. Lewis or Mrs. Mesghali with any issues or concerns. All students will be expected to ride the bus unless we receive notice in writing from the parent/guardian. Please note: All requests for bus stop changes need to be updated each year.

At our Open House on September 3rd, students will take a short bus ride around the neighborhood to practice buckling, sitting properly and good manners. Please continue to remind your child about the importance of following rules on the bus throughout the year.

## **Car Riders**

Car riders may be dropped off for the day at **8:20 a.m.** and picked-up promptly by **2:40 p.m.**

Please use the preschool car line loop located in front of the school playgrounds. Students may not be dropped off or picked up from any other location, except when dropping off or picking up a student outside of arrival/dismissal times.

Please display the place card provided by the school in your driver's side window to assist staff in identifying your vehicle. A staff member will bring your child to your car. For the safety of all students, staff, and families please remain in your vehicle at all times. This is also the procedure for the K-8 car line, as your child continues their educational journey at Weymouth Township School.

## **Security and Visitation**

We believe student's families belong in our school and contribute to our vibrant school community.

Please cooperate when visiting by:

- Providing your **photo identification** each time you arrive at the school.
- Signing in at the main entrance for scheduled meetings, office visits, etc.
- All visitors must wear a "Visitor" badge while in the building.
- All visitors must be escorted by a staff member at all times. Visitors may not take phone calls or travel through hallways unattended.
- Leaving any items that need to be delivered to the classroom in our security vestibule. A staff member will ensure that the items are delivered to your child's room.
- Complying with designated parking requests to ensure the safety of our children during arrival, dismissal, and for special events.

## **Emergency Drill Information**

The safety of our students and staff is our highest priority. The Weymouth Preschool Program complies with all state and city regulations including monthly fire drills and lockdown, shelter in place, or evacuation drills.

## **Family/School Communication**

*We recognize that communication between school and home is essential.* We appreciate you sharing with us any insight into your child's life that could influence his/her progress at school. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher with any concerns or questions.

## **Class DoJo Communication**

Throughout the year, teachers will keep families updated and informed of classroom activities, important dates, school activities, upcoming events and skills/concepts being taught.

Classroom and school announcements will be sent home as well as be posted on your child's ClassDoJo. Please regularly check Class DoJo for up-to-date information about your child's school day experiences, special events, and their progress towards our school's HAWK character education pillars. We believe that all of our Hawks can soar!

## **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Preschool Parent(s)/ Guardian(s) /Teacher conferences are scheduled in accordance with the school district conference schedules and are offered twice per year.

When parent(s)/ guardian(s) take an active role in the conferences and their child's education, the child will flourish in the classroom. Here are some tips on how to be an active participant in your child's conference:

- Be willing and ready to share information about your child and family.
- Stay focused on your child.
- Attend every parent/ guardian- teacher conference.
- Arrive on time.
- Listen with an open mind.
- Be prepared.
- Keep the conversation focused on what can be done for your child.
- Stay involved.

### **2025 - 2026 Parent(s)/ Guardian(s) Conference Dates are:**

- Monday, November 24, 2025
- Tuesday, November 25, 2025
- Friday, March 13, 2026

Notices will be sent home before the dates to schedule appointments.

However, if you would like an individual conference with your child's teacher during other times of the school year, please do not hesitate to call and schedule a convenient time.

## **School Forms**

At the start of school, parent(s)/ guardian(s) receive a set of school forms that need to be completed and returned within one week. ***It is especially important that we have valid phone numbers for parent(s)/guardian(s), and emergency contacts.***

You may stop in the front office at any time to update your contact information or add/remove emergency contacts. Please contact the school **immediately** with any changes to your phone number(s) and address that occur during the school year.

## **Celebrations and Family-Involvement Activities**

At various times throughout the school year we will be celebrating numerous holidays and events in ways that are appropriate for our preschool-aged children. These events are designed to provide students and their family members with special opportunities to enjoy all that our program offers. We offer events that can be embraced by all cultures. Notices for celebrations will be sent home ahead of time - either through a printed flier sent home and/or on your child's online communication platform. If you choose not to have your child participate in any events, please inform your child's teacher.

Families are often invited to these special events. Specific information regarding activities will be provided throughout the school year. At this time, **families are able to send in class snacks and treats to share as long as they are prepackaged and sealed.** This includes any items for student's birthdays and other celebrations.

## **Field Trips**

Students will be participating in field trips for the upcoming school year. Look for more information to come directly from your child's teacher.

## **Food Service**

**Meals are available daily through Nutri-Serve Food Management Inc.** per federal and state guidelines. Prices and menu information is provided on the menu which is distributed monthly and may also be found on our school website. All students are issued a personal identification number (PIN). If desired, students may bring their own lunch. The cost for full-price lunch is **\$3.50/day**.

**Breakfast** will be served beginning at 8:20 a.m. The cost for full-price breakfast is **\$1.75/day**

**Lunch** will be served and eaten in the classroom.

Due to the number of growing students who have been diagnosed with peanut and other food allergies, which can be fatal to some, we ask that you be mindful of the existing food allergies among your child's classroom and remind them that the sharing of food is not permitted. Allergy concerns will be provided by the nurse and teacher, including specific allergies in each classroom and additional important details or precautionary measures.

## **Snacks/Food Sent Into School**

You may send in a bagged lunch and snack for your child, if you do not wish to purchase lunch. However, due to safety regulations and time constraints, our teachers are ***not able to refrigerate or microwave lunches***. Please use ice packs and/or thermos as needed in packed lunches. Please see the USDA recommended guidelines below, for assistance with making healthy choices when sending in lunch or snacks. For healthy and safety practices, students will not be able to share any food with other students unless otherwise approved.

## **Meal Guidelines based on the USDA Food & Nutrition**

Nutritious meals and snacks are essential for young children's optimal growth and development. During meals, preschoolers learn to make nutritious choices, discover a variety of different foods and develop healthy eating patterns. **Please follow the recommended guidelines provided below when providing breakfast/ lunch and or snacks for your child.** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/>

### **BREAKFAST**

<b>Food Components</b>	<b>Ages 3-5</b>
<b>1 milk</b> fluid milk	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup
<b>1 fruit/vegetable</b> fruit and or vegetable ( <i>juice must be full-strength</i> )	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup
<b>1 grains/bread</b> bread ( <i>must be whole-grain or enriched</i> ) or biscuit/ muffin ( <i>must be whole-grain enriched</i> ) or cold dry/ hot cooked cereal ( <i>must be whole-grain/enriched</i> ) or pasta or noodles or grains	$\frac{1}{2}$ slice $\frac{1}{2}$ serving $\frac{1}{3}$ cup $\frac{1}{4}$ cup $\frac{1}{4}$ cup

### **LUNCH OR SUPPER**

<b>Food Components</b>	<b>Ages 3-5</b>
<b>1 milk</b> fluid milk	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup
<b>2 fruits/vegetables</b> fruit and or vegetable ( <i>juice must be full-strength</i> )	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup
<b>1 grains/bread</b> bread ( <i>must be whole-grain or enriched</i> ) or biscuit/ muffin ( <i>must be whole-grain enriched</i> ) or cold dry/ hot cooked cereal ( <i>must be whole-grain/enriched</i> ) or pasta or noodles or grains	$\frac{1}{2}$ slice $\frac{1}{2}$ serving $\frac{1}{3}$ cup $\frac{1}{4}$ cup $\frac{1}{4}$ cup
<b>1 meat/meat alternate</b> meat/poultry/fish ( <i>must be cooked lean meat/poultry/fish</i> ) or alternate protein product or cheese or egg or cooked dry beans or peas or yogurt	$1 \frac{1}{2}$ oz. $1 \frac{1}{2}$ oz. $1 \frac{1}{2}$ oz. $\frac{3}{4}$ cup (1 egg) $\frac{3}{8}$ cup 6 oz.

SNACK: Choose 2 of the 4 components

Food Components	Ages 3-5
1 milk	½ cup
1 fruit/vegetables fruit and/or vegetable(juice must be full-strength)	½ cup
1 grains/bread bread ( <i>must be whole-grain or enriched</i> ) or biscuit/ muffin ( <i>must be whole-grain enriched</i> ) or cold dry/ hot cooked cereal ( <i>must be whole-grain/enriched</i> )	½ slice ½ serving 1/3 cup
1 meat/meat alternate meat / poultry/ fish ( <i>must be cooked lean meat/poultry/fish</i> ) or alternate protein product or cheese or egg or cooked dry beans or peas or yogurt	¼ cup ½ oz. ½ oz. ½ oz. ½ oz. 1/8 cup, 2 oz

## Support and Health Services

### Child Study Team - CST

The New Jersey Department of Education requires that the **Child Study Team** include a school psychologist, LDTC (Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant), and a school social worker acting in consultation with a school physician and any other professionals deemed appropriate by the Child Study Team or by the Chief School Administrator. Identification of students in need of special education services should be brought to the attention of Mrs. Mesghali or Dr. Lewis. Our Special Education programs are for children who have been identified as eligible for special education services. A full continuum of services is provided as per Administrative Code.

### Screenings

All children who enter the preschool program are screened to identify potential services (speech, OT, PT) they may benefit from. Children will be screened during in-person instruction in their classrooms throughout the school year.

The District uses the Early Screening Inventory (ESI) as their screening tool as the Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood, has determined that this is the most reliable tool for preschool aged children. Parent(s)/ Guardian(s) are notified through the mail the results of their child's ESI screen.

## **Social Worker**

The social worker serves the needs of preschool children and their respective parent(s)/ guardian(s) and families. Services provided include: family outreach, networking with community agencies, and parent(s)/ guardian(s) educational opportunities for all families in our preschool program. Our Social Worker, **Katelyn Tobiasen** may be reached by calling the main office or by emailing your child's teacher.

## **CPIS – Community Parent Involvement Specialist**

The Community & Parent Involvement Specialist organizes and oversees preschool parent & guardian involvement & activities, coordinating with teachers, instructional coaches, social workers, and family workers. The CPIS also assists teachers, social workers and family workers in referring families to various community based organizations as needed. Our CPIS, **Mrs. Lauren Bakker**, can be reached at: [lbakker@weymouthtsd.org](mailto:lbakker@weymouthtsd.org)

## **School Health Services - Information from our Nurse**

School health services are maintained to appraise and promote the health of all students and school personnel. Our school nurse, Mrs. Lauryn Hooven, is here to provide students maximum protection while they are entrusted to the care of the school. Please read the important information below from our School Nurse:

**IMMUNIZATIONS/ PHYSICAL:** Have your child's shot record and physical up to date. The State of New Jersey requires that a child MUST be kept home if his/her immunizations are not current or if a physical from a physician is not on file. (Student's less than 5 years old are REQUIRED to have an influenza vaccination prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>.)

**FOOD ALLERGIES:** If your child has any food allergies, including dairy, specific foods, dyes, etc. please have this documented by your child's doctor for our records. This is a state requirement for our food service department. You can send a note in with your child or have your doctor fax it to the school at 609-476-3966. The cafeteria will be made aware of your students' allergies listed on the emergency form.

**MEDICATION AT SCHOOL:** Medicine should be given at home, if possible. If this is not possible, you must pick up the proper forms in the nurse's office. **Students are not allowed to take medication of any kind in school**

without a physician's order. This includes "over the counter" medication (Tylenol, Advil, lozenges). A licensed physician must issue a note. Written orders are to be provided to the school from the private physician, detailing the diagnosis or type of illness involved, the name of the drug, dosage and time of administration. The medication should be brought to the school in the original container, appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. A new note is needed for any change of medication. You must also sign a parental permission form. **Medication is NEVER to be sent in with your child.** Any medication that is brought in without a doctor's note will be held in the nurse's office for the parent to pick up.

**SENDING SICK CHILDREN TO SCHOOL:** Students should NEVER be sent to school if they have a fever, are vomiting, have diarrhea, a continuous cough, or COVID-compatible symptoms at home. Students must be excluded from school if they have a temperature of 100°F or greater, or if they have had vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours. If your child has an open skin rash or red, itchy, draining eyes then they should also stay home until it has resolved. If your child is sent home with an unidentified skin rash or red, itchy, draining eyes then they will need a doctor's note to return to school. Please make every effort to keep your child home when they are sick. Not only will they be unable to learn, but they could also infect other children.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES** - Guidelines are on our website for exclusion from school provided by the New Jersey Department of Health. This is not an all-inclusive list of significant diseases or a comprehensive guide about the diseases or conditions for that please see your family doctor or contact your local. Please refer to Weymouth Township School Safe Return Plan 2021-2022.

**ASTHMA:** If your child has asthma, they should have medication available at school in case of an attack. Precious moments are wasted and could be life threatening if your child does not have asthma medication at school. Forms for you and your doctor to fill out for asthma medication are available in the health office. If we do not have the proper medication on hand, we will have to call 911 in the event of an emergency.

**EMERGENCY FORMS:** A Medical History Questionnaire, which was sent home on the first day of school, must be completed and returned. If there are any changes to this information throughout the school year, please contact me, as soon as possible, with those changes. It is very important that we have current phone numbers in the event that we need to reach you. A copy of

this form goes with your student on class trips and for sports/after school programs so the more thorough you are the more helpful in case of an emergency.

**YEARLY SCREENINGS:** Height, weight, and blood pressure are done on each child throughout the school year. Periodically your child will also receive a vision and/or hearing screening. If your child fails a screening or has a discrepancy in weight or blood pressure, you will receive a notice with suggested follow-up. Scoliosis screenings are done in 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. We also check your child's BMI (body mass index) in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

**Please note that INJURIES that occur outside of the school or school functions are the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Children will not be treated for any complaints or concerns that occur over the weekend or functions/activities that are not school related.**

Due to the number of students visiting the nurse's office on a regular day, it would be difficult to inform each parent as to every incident. The nurse uses a variety of ways to communicate from explaining the information to the student, to a nurse's note, email, and if needed a phone call. Please check your child's folder and remember to ask your child how their day was at school. Please keep your emergency information up to date and remember to have a backup plan in case your child needs to be picked up from school. I also strongly recommend parents/guardians to review the Weymouth Township School District Student and Parent Handbook. This contains important information under sections: Health Services, Medication Policy, Physical Examination Requirement, and Immunization.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these important matters. These guidelines are to ensure the safety and well-being of all of our students and staff. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our school nurse, Mrs. Lauryn Hooven.

## **Important Reminders For When Your Child is Sick**

Students with a suspected communicable disease are to be excluded from school. Please see the list below for communicable diseases that require exclusion from school. **Students must have a doctor's note stating that their condition is not communicable before they return to school. The following communicable disease requires exclusion from the program:**

### Respiratory Illness

Chicken Pox  
German Measles  
Haemophilus Influenzae  
Measles  
Mumps  
Strep Throat  
Tuberculosis  
Whooping Cough  
Influenza  
COVID-19

### Gastrointestinal Illness

Giardia Lamblia  
Hepatitis A  
Salmonella  
Shigella

### Contact Illness

Impetigo  
Lice\*  
Scabies  
Conjunctivitis (pink eye)  
Ringworm\*

\*Students with pediculosis (lice) live or eggs will be sent home for treatment and a parent/ guardian must bring them to the nurse when they return for a recheck of hair.

\*Ringworm needs to be under treatment and the area must be covered.

**\*\* Please do not send your child to school if he or she does not feel well or has had a fever in the prior 24 hours. \*\***

When your child is sick, please keep him/her home from school. For the protection of your child and others, please do not send your child to school with signs or symptoms of illness. Some important signs of illness are:

1. A temperature of 100 degrees or more orally
2. Nausea or vomiting
3. Stomachache
4. Diarrhea
5. Pale or flushed face
6. Persistent cough
7. Ear ache
8. Thick yellowish discharge from the nose
9. Sore Throat
10. Rash or infection of the skin
11. Red or Pink eyes
12. Loss of energy or decrease in activity
13. Draining sore that can not be covered

*\*\*\*Do not administer a fever reducing medication (Children's Tylenol or Advil/Motrin) and send your child to school. Your child must be fever free for 24 hours without receiving fever reducing medication before your child can return to school.*

If your child does come to school and complains of being sick or does not look well after he/she reaches school, we will contact you to come and pick up. Therefore, it is important that you provide the school with up-to-date information and phone numbers to call in case it is necessary to contact you.



## PREPARING FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

For some children, preschool is the next step from their child care setting. Playing and sharing with other kids is nothing new. For others, going to school is their first experience away from home.

### **Help prepare your child for this big and exciting adventure before the school year begins by:**

- Visiting the school for **Open House** (on September 3, 2025) and **Back To School Night** (on September 25, 2025) to meet the teacher and visit the classroom.
- Prepare a consistent bedtime. It is suggested that preschoolers go to bed at the same time every night and receive at least 10 hours of sleep each night.
- Check in with your own feelings. Are you feeling excited, enthusiastic, and apprehensive? Children will pick up on these feelings and transfer them to their own experiences. Remember if you are positive and excited at your daughter's/son's beginning school, your enthusiasm will most likely become part of your child's experience.

### **And on the first days of school remember:**

- Supply your child with a backpack and all items listed on page 9 in this handbook.
- Dress your child in comfortable clothing, avoiding anything that may be a challenge for young children (i.e. avoid buttons or belts on pants/skirts, laced shoes, etc.)
- **Have your child's name, classroom, and bus number written in the backpack.**
- Adjustments will be easier for your child if you accept any initial emotional reactions as normal and continue to reassure him/her of your love and interest.
- Never sneak off without saying goodbye - that only serves to reinforce a child's fear.
- Develop a "goodbye" routine. Children thrive on the predictability of rituals and routines. A "goodbye" routine will not always keep your child from crying, especially at first. Some children cry for days before they adjust. Once you have finished the activities in your routine, you may need the teacher's or staff's reassuring presence to help your child as you leave.

WEYMOUTH TOWNSHIP  
**PRESCHOOL**  
 and  
**Kindergarten**

SAVE THE DATE

**OPEN HOUSE**  
**September 3rd**

**2PM-3PM**



Join us to meet your child's teacher and school administration! Explore the classroom and introduce your child to preschool routines. Students will enjoy a short bus ride! Remember to bring your supplies. Please sign in at the office and wear a visitor badge; the office staff will guide you to the classroom.

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**  
**September 25th**

**6PM**

Visit on Back to School Night for more details on the curriculum, daily routines, activities and preschool academic skills

