

The Early Childhood
Department

Preschool Lottery Information Session

2026-2027 School Year



Your Child's Preschool Experience

General Questions:

You may remain on Zoom. At the end of our session, we will begin a brief Q&A. If you have a question that might help the whole group, please feel free to drop it in the chat or use the 'Raise Hand' feature. We will address all questions at the end of our session.



What to expect during our session:



The Lottery Process: How we assign random numbers today.

Notification Timeline: When & how you'll hear from us.

Placement Options: Understanding your offer & the waitlist.

Curriculum & Classrooms: A look at the preschool experience.

Please check your email for your lottery offer.
You must reply within **7 business days** or we may give your seat to another family.

Didn't get an email? Check your spam/junk folders.

If you registered for the lottery by April 2nd, 2026 and haven't heard from us, please contact the Early Childhood Department:

Phone: 978-967-0396 or 978-674-2051

Email: jrichardson@lowell.k12.ma.us

Who is Eligible for the Preschool Lottery?



Children turning **4 years old** on or before
September 1st, 2026 are eligible to register for
preschool for the **2026-2027** school year.

I will be



by September 1st.

Register me for:

PRESCHOOL



Your Child's Preschool Experience

Curriculum Overview



A Foundation for Success



Lowell Public Schools preschool curriculum is designed to spark curiosity & build the essential social, literacy, math, & science skills your child needs for elementary school & beyond.

Program Details & Staffing

Expert Educators:

Every classroom is led by a one PreK-2 Licensed Educator & a Paraprofessional.

Small Class Sizes:

Groups typically range from 12 to 16 children.

Integrated Learning:

We provide a high-quality, inclusive environment for all learners fostering social-emotional, physical, language & literacy development through content in science, social sciences, mathematics, the arts, & English Language Arts.

Scheduling Options

Half-Day Sessions:

Most placements are 2.5-hour sessions (Morning or Afternoon).

Full-Day Placements:

A very limited number of full-day seats are available through the lottery.

Need Full-Day? If you require a full-day schedule beyond our school-based seats, we proudly collaborate with community partners to help families find the right fit. Scan the QR code or visit the link.

<https://gqr.sh/9s9y>



A Glimpse Into Your Child's Day



A few more notes:

- Additional Small Groups held 2x week for 15 Minutes. Subjects include; ELA/Math & Friday RTI.
- Your child's day will follow a routine based on their preschool.
- A typical day consists of arrival welcome, breakfast/ lunch, transition, handwashing, bathroom, & departure.
- *Heggerty, developing social & emotional skills
*Second Steps, reflecting on individual & the classroom community's learning.

A Day in the Life at Lowell Public Schools Preschool



<u>Time</u> (will vary based on Full-Day & AM/PM Sessions)	<u>Activity</u>	<u>What They're Learning</u>
Morning Circle	Read-Aloud & Kickoff	Building speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.
Introduction to Centers	What is hands on learning?	Individual materials will be provided for drawing/writing/crafts. Educators & children focus on how to use material with intention & expectation for learning.
Centers & Small Groups	Hands-on Play & Small Groups	Educators focus on Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks Standards. (see link in chat)
Active Play	Outdoor or Gross Motor	Physical health & teamwork.
Closing Circle	Phonemic Awareness Social & Emotional Learning Community Building	Reflecting on the day & literacy fun. Identify & isolating sounds in word & letters. * Implementation of HQIM – Second Steps and Heggerty

Attendance Matters

Building a Strong Foundation,
One Day at a Time



Consistent attendance is the key to unlocking the full benefits of our program.



When your child regularly attends preschool, they are:

Forming Friendships:

Learning how to share, collaborate, and build social confidence through daily play.

School Readiness:

Developing the "classroom habits" & academic foundational skills needed for Kindergarten success.

Building Vocabulary:

Engaging in a language-rich environment to expand expressive & receptive language skills linked to later school success or reading achievement by Grade 3.

Our Goal:

To partner with you in creating a consistent routine that sets your child up for a lifetime of learning.

Family Engagement

Staying Connected

Getting Involved



Lowell Public Schools:
<https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/>



We believe that families are our strongest partners.



Here are some of the ways your family can join the Lowell Public Schools community:

How to Get Involved:



- **Parent Teacher Organization (PTO):** Join other parents to support school events and initiatives.
- **School Site Council:** Have a seat at the table to help with school-level decision-making.



Stay Informed:

- **Digital Updates:** Your child's school will invite you to their preferred method of communication. Such as Class Dojo or Remind apps. Follow Lowell Public Schools on social media platforms for daily/weekly highlights.
- **Direct Info:** Watch for District & School Newsletters & important updates via email, call, or text.

Transportation & Safety



Please Note:



Transportation for preschool students is NOT provided by the district.

Family Responsibility:

Families are responsible for drop-off and pick-up. Preschool session times vary depending on the school.



Safety First:

We will provide specific instructions on your school's arrival and dismissal procedures once your placement is confirmed.



Next Steps & Your Action Plan

How the Lottery Works

Eligibility: Every child pre-registered by April 2nd, 2026 receives a random lottery number.

Notification: Watch your inbox! We will email your child's lottery number and proposed school assignment by May 31st, 2026.

Your Required Response

Once you receive your email, you have **7 business days** to reply to the Early Childhood Department. You will need to choose one of these four options:

✓ **Accept:** You love the placement and are all set!

⌚ **Accept + Waitlist:** You'll take the seat, but want to stay on the waitlist for your #1 choice until Oct. 15th.

👉 **Waitlist Only:** You decline this seat but want to stay on the waitlist for your #1 choice until Oct. 15th.

✗ **Decline:** You are passing on this placement and seeking a different program.

⚠ **IMPORTANT: DO NOT MISS YOUR SPOT** ⚠

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If you registered for the lottery by April 2nd, 2026 and haven't heard from us, please contact the **Early Childhood Department:**

Phone: 978-967-0396 or 978-674-2051

Email: jrichardson@lowell.k12.ma.us

Preschool Lottery Questions

Thank you all so much for joining us today. We know that choosing a preschool is a huge milestone for your family. We are so excited to welcome your little learners into the Lowell Public Schools community.

-The Early Childhood Department



For General Questions:

You may remain on the Zoom. We will begin our 10 min Q&A in just a moment.



If you have a question that might help the whole group, please feel free to drop it in the chat or use the 'Raise Hand' feature.

Visit in person:

Lowell Public Schools
Family Resource
Center



151 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01852



A full list of "What if?" answers is available on the LPS website.

Frequently Asked Questions

Scan the QR code to be taken directly to the FAQs page.

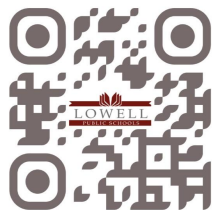
FAQs



Beyond the Classroom:

Support for Your Family

Visit the LPS Community Partners page by scanning the QR Code:



Supporting Your Child's Journey (Birth to Age 5)



Learn & Play Together

- Weekly Playgroups: Free, 1-hour sessions to sing, read, and make friends. Available in English, Spanish, Khmer, and Arabic!
- Community Events: Fun family outings and child-focused celebrations throughout the year.



Learning at Home

- Parent Child+ (Home Visiting): We bring the classroom to you! Receive free books and educational toys twice a week to support literacy at home.
- Parenting Workshops: Join our "Positive Solutions for Families" series to get new "tools" for your parenting toolbox.



Connection & Resources

- Community Partnerships: We link you with local providers to ensure your family has everything it needs to thrive.
- Home Visiting Programs: Personalized support tailored to your child's developmental milestones.

The Lowell Early Childhood Council promotes partnerships across the community to help all children and families thrive.



Staying in Touch



We are here to support your family's transition into Lowell Public Schools.

If you have a question about your child's school assignment, please reach out to the **Early Childhood Specialist**:

- **Jenn Richardson**
Phone: 978-967-0396
Email: jrichardson@lowell.k12.ma.us

If your child receives special education services, an Individual Education Plan (IEP) & you have a question regarding your child's school assignment please reach out to:

- **Susan LaCroix**
Phone: 978-674-2050
Email: slacroix@lowell.k12.ma.us

If you have a question about our ParentChild+ Program please reach out to the **CFCE TEAM Leader**:



- **May Mercedes**
Phone: 978-967-6784
Email: mmercedes@lowell.k12.ma.us

For any questions, **Early Childhood Coordinator**:

- **Lisa Van Thiel**
Phone: 978-674-2051
Email: lvanthiel@lowell.k12.ma.us