



Preschool Handbook 2026-2027



**HERSCHER
CUSD2**





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HCUSD2 Mission Statement

The mission of Herscher Community Unit School District #2 is to educate each student to his/her highest potential, to instill in each student an attitude of social responsibility in a safe and orderly environment, and to provide each student with the goals, values and technology to successfully meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

Preschool Philosophy

We believe that all students can learn when using the best practices for young children. The school environment provides an active learning experience that supports diversity through highly qualified staff. We believe all children's learning, growth, and development are enhanced when families are an integral part of the school program.

Planning for a Positive Transition to Preschool

Going to preschool for the first time is a new experience for families with young children. In many families, preschool may be the first time their child will spend part of the day away from home. Often parents talk about feeling anxious when their child begins preschool, which is understandable.

Questions like "Will my child be okay?" or "How will the teacher know what my child wants?" are typical. Staff are happy to answer any questions or concerns you have.

However, in planning for a positive transition to preschool, we encourage parents to speak with enthusiasm and confidence in front of their child. This helps ease the uncertainty your child may feel, which sets your child up for success in starting this new experience and in separating from parent .



PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Before Enrollment in the Herscher School District Preschool, all children will be screened to determine their need of service and placement. The Herscher School District preschool is made up of 2 full day classrooms and 1 half day (AM and PM sessions) at Bonfield Grade School. Currently only students that are “at risk” as determined by the screening process are eligible for the program. Our program is funded by the Illinois State Board of Education’s Preschool for All Program.

Head Start

Bonfield Grade School also houses a full day Headstart preschool classroom through Kankakee School District #111. This program is a federally funded program for families that lack access to financial resources. For more information please contact Kelly Battrell at kelly-battrell@ksd111.org.

Income Verification Requirements

The Illinois State Board of Education requirement for entrance into an early childhood grant program requires us to collect proof of family income for every student prior to admittance in the program. Most income verification should have been provided at the screening process. One item from the following list may be used as evidence:

- Pay stubs (two most recent, consecutive)
- Proof of WIC benefit
- Proof of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit
- Proof of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Proof of Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Proof the family receives Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Tax return (most recent)
- Wage and tax statement (most recent W-2)
- Verification/letter from employer
- Proof that parent is enrolled in Medicaid (a medical card with the child's name does not prove income eligibility)





REGISTRATION

Before enrolling and attending preschool, the following is needed:

- County issued birth certificate (turn in at screening)
- Registration - On Line
- Emergency consent- On Line
- Home Language survey- On Line
- Certificate of health examination
- Immunization record (up to date)

PRESCHOOL PHYSICAL & IMMUNIZATIONS

Preschool physicals are due for all new students by **October 15, 2026** or within 30 days of the start of the program. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

If non-compliant, your student **will not be allowed to come to school until this is complete:**

- Illinois School Physical done within 1 year before the initial preschool start date
- DTP/Dtap or Td- 4 doses (1 dose after 2nd birthday)
- Polio (IPV/OPV)- 3 doses (1 after 2nd birthday)
- MMR- 1 dose after 1st birthday but before 2nd birthday
- Hib- 1 dose
- Pneumonia- 4 doses
- Hepatitis B Series- 3 doses at proper intervals
- Varicella- 2 doses or documentation of chicken pox by physician

New students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements.

If you have any questions please call one of our school nurses.



MEDICAL

Medications

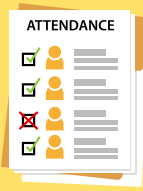
To help us keep your child safe and supported at school, parents/guardians are asked to communicate any important health information with the school nurse, main office, and classroom teacher. This includes medications your child takes, known allergies, medical conditions, and any changes that may affect your child during the school day. Timely communication allows staff to respond appropriately and follow care plans. Please notify the school as soon as possible if there are updates to medications, health needs, emergency contacts, or other important changes we should be aware of. If medication is required at school, it must be provided in accordance with school policy and accompanied by the appropriate medical documentation.

VISION AND HEARING

Vision and hearing screenings will be done as part of the screening process. Students will also be given screenings upon entry into the program, generally completed in September. Vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor.

Your child will not be required to undergo a vision screening if an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report indicating that an examination has been administered within the previous 12 months and the evaluation is on file at the school. If a vision examination report is not on file at the school for your child, then they will be screened.





ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to be present on all school days except for illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, or family emergency. Students learn best when they are in school every day. When your child is absent for one of these reasons listed please:

1. Call the school each day he/she is absent to report your child's absence. Our school has a voicemail if you want to call in the evening or before 7:30 AM. The office number is 815-933-6995.
2. Please provide your student's name, his/her teacher's name, the reason for the absence and your name.
3. When a student is absent or sent home with a highly contagious disease (impetigo, ringworm, undiagnosed rash, etc.) a doctor's note is required before the student can be readmitted to school. Questions or concerns please contact one of the school nurses.
4. If your student is sent home with a fever, they must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. If sent home vomiting and or diarrhea, they must be free of vomiting and/or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.

Attendance is important. If your student does not attend school regularly, staff may meet with the family to create an attendance intervention plan. Please refer to the attached school calendar or visit www.hcusd2.org for a list of holidays and breaks.

Anticipated Absences

The school discourages students from leaving school for family vacations or similar reasons. Requests for anticipated absence should be made in writing to the building administrator at least five school days prior to the absence. Requests may be denied, and the absence deemed unexcused, due to poor attendance record, poor disciplinary record, poor academic record and/or multiple trips during the school year. Special arrangements will be made for extended absences due to illness or family deaths.

Tardiness

A consistent morning routine helps students feel prepared and successful, while frequent tardiness can make it harder to transition into the school day and fully engage in learning. We appreciate your support in ensuring students arrive on time and ready to learn.

We understand that there may be unexpected and unavoidable delays that cause students to arrive at school after the day has started, but we expect these instances to be rare. Along with attendance, we monitor tardiness. If arriving late, a parent/adult must bring their child into the building and sign them in. Your student will be escorted to class by a staff member. Students who are late cause the class to be disrupted as the teacher has already begun teaching.





PRESCHOOL DAYS

Daily Schedule

Each teacher's individual schedule may vary but the following components are included in all classrooms.

-  **Whole Group Time**
-  **Choice Time (centers)**
-  **Snack**
-  **Gross Motor**
-  **Small Group Time**
-  **Lunch (full day program)**
-  **Rest Time (full day program)**

**Gross motor activities are scheduled daily and take place outdoors whenever weather permits. In Illinois the term "weather permitting" means temperatures between 25 and 90 degrees, taking into consideration the wind chill. For example, if the temperature is 30 degrees, but only 18 degrees with wind chill, it is not expected that children will have outdoor play time.

Nap/Rest

Per the State of Illinois any program longer than four hours per day we must offer a naptime for at least one hour. Students are not required to sleep but are required to lay/sit quietly on their cot. A nap is offered as an opportunity to participate in relaxation. Naps are offered at a regular time each day, with the environment set up to accommodate the nap period (low lights, quiet environment, and a cot per child).

Snacks

Daily snacks are provided through the Preschool for All grant. If your child is not hungry, they do not have to eat. However, we do encourage students to try various foods. Daily snacks consist of two components as advised by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) meal guidelines.

Lunch

Lunch is served daily for our full day students and is provided free of charge. Families will be required to fill out the free and reduced lunch application. The school lunch menu can be found on the district webpage hcsd2.org underneath the food service department, Bonfield Grade School. Milk is served daily with lunch. Preschool is only allowed to have white milk. Should your child have an allergy it must be documented with a doctor's note and on file in the office.

Bathroom



We encourage children to use the bathroom independently.

The term “potty trained” may have different meanings to different people. To make things clear for everyone, our definition of potty trained at school is when a child is able to:

1. Tell the adults in charge that they have to go potty BEFORE they need to
2. Pull down their underwear (pull-up) and pants and get them back up without assistance
3. Wipe themselves after using the toilet
4. Get off the toilet independently
5. Wash and dry hands
6. Postpone going (no more than a minute or two) if they must wait for someone who is in the bathroom or if we are outside and away from the bathroom.

We understand that accidents happen. We will always be patient and kind as your child learns this important part of self care. We are here to help.

Potty training can be a sensitive issue. Be patient and understanding that children are still learning. Working together we will help preschoolers develop “potty confidence!”

Assessments

Student progress will be assessed in several areas three times a year. These assessment results are shared with parents. If you have questions or concerns about the assessment results, please contact your child’s teacher.

Transportation

Transportation is provided unless you live outside the Herscher School District or you live in the Bonfield Village boundaries. If you live in the Village of Bonfield, your child is considered a car rider. You will not be provided transportation while your child attends Bonfield Grade School. Otherwise, your preschooler will be offered the same transportation as all other district students in grades K-12. All preschool children will be required to wear a five point harness seat belt provided by the school.

-  Children must stay seated and buckled while riding the bus
-  No food or drinks
-  No toys or small items
-  Listen to bus driver/ aide
-  An adult, 18 years of age or older must accompany child on and off the bus



COMMUNICATION

Home Folder

Each student will have a classroom folder (provided by the program) sent home, which will contain important information and materials. Folders will need to be checked every night and returned to school the next day.

Class Dojo

Parents and staff communicate through an app called Class Dojo. We ask that you download the app Class Dojo to be able to communicate with your child's teacher when needed. Class Dojo information will be provided at Preview Night. Classroom teachers will post information in the story section of Class Dojo for everyone to see. In the message section, you can privately message your child's teacher. Other forms of communication include newsletters, phone calls, emails, notes, and parent teacher conferences. Teachers try to check Class Dojo during certain times in the day, however if it is something important such as transportation change please call the office.

Picking up a Child during School Hours

To pick up your child during the school day, please go to the school office to request that your child be called from the classroom and to sign your child out. Teachers will not release the students unless they are notified by the office to do so. Children will be released from the school office upon parent arrival. Picture identification WILL BE REQUIRED by anyone who attempts to pick up a child from school. This person must also be 18 years old and listed on the emergency card. If a friend or relative is coming to pick up your child, please let the office or preschool staff know ahead of time in writing or by calling in. If the school staff does not have the parent/guardian's consent, they will not release the child.

It is very important that the school maintain up to date address and phone numbers. This information is critical for emergencies.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL WITH A CHANGE IN PHONE NUMBER. ➡📞

Inclement Weather

In the event of weather or other conditions that result in the closing of school, various methods of communication will be used to inform and update the public including School Messenger. It is extremely important to have a plan in the event of school closing.





BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS AND PLAN

Purpose:

To create a safe, nurturing environment where young children learn routines, social skills, and self-regulation through consistent expectations, teaching, and supportive, multi-tiered interventions.



Be Safe: Use walking feet. Keep hands and body to self. Use materials appropriately

Be Kind: Use kind words. Take turns and share. Help friends and adults

Be Ready to Learn: Follow directions. Participate in routines. Clean up and transition with the group

Expectations are introduced through visuals, modeling, role-play, and daily reminders.

Bonfield Grade School will:

- Create positive school climates and focus on prevention
- Provide professional development on social-emotional and behavioral health to all staff
- Have resources available to teachers to help for consultation and support.
- Incorporate social emotional learning in all preschool classrooms
- Form strong, supportive, and nurturing relationships with children and their families.
- Appropriately address challenging behaviors and communicate with families.

Expulsion & Suspension Policy

The beginning years of any child's life are critical for building the early foundation learning, health, and wellness needed for success in school and later in life. During these years, children's brains are developing rapidly, influenced by the experiences, both positive and negative, that they share with their families, caregivers, teachers, peers and in their communities. A child's early years set the course for the relationships and successes they will experience for the rest of their lives, making it crucial that children's earliest experiences truly foster- and never harm- their development.

In compliance with Law P.A. 100-105, Herscher School District #2 prohibits expelling any child from the program because of the child's behavior. Staff will take documented steps to address the behavior and any other issue in order to keep the child in the program.

Temporary Removal

In the event the child is posing a serious threat to themselves or others, they may be temporarily removed from the classroom/ group setting. Staff will document the incident and work with the family and/or other available resources to return the child to the group setting as soon as possible. Temporary removal can be a range of things, such as taking a break from the classroom, visiting the office, or taking time in another location to de-escalate. If a student's behavior continues to be unsafe and they are unable to return to the classroom safely, a parent/guardian may be contacted and asked to pick up the student for the remainder of the school day. Bonfield Grade School preschool staff knows that the best practice is any intervention that is developmentally appropriate with the goal of the child returning to the group setting as soon as possible.





STUDENT DRESS CODE

Clothing should be appropriate for all school activities and for the weather. Children should be comfortably dressed in simple, washable, and easy to manage clothing. Clothing should be suitable for tumbling, climbing, and crawling on the floor, as well as for messes with paint, playdough, markers, and glue.

Self dressing is also an important consideration as you purchase clothing for the winter season. One of the objectives at school is to encourage children to dress and undress themselves. This independence is an important part of learning at school. We do not expect perfection, but we do encourage progress toward self help since this enhances a child's feeling of competence.

Inappropriate clothing:

- High heeled shoes, shoes with wheels
- Spaghetti strap or backless tops
- Overalls or leotards (one piece outfits or onesies)
- Shoes that slip off (too big, flip flops, or open toed shoes). We have a mulched playground and it can get in the shoe.
- Hats and scarves in the building and/or classroom

Shorts are recommended under dresses and skirts

There should always be a complete change of clothes for your child at school. This should include socks, underpants, shirt, and pants. These need to be kept in a Ziploc bag with your child's name to be stored at school in their cubby.

Please label: Thank you for helping us by labeling everything brought or worn to school. This will help us return items to their owners.

PICTURE/VIDEO RELEASE

At various times images will be taken of students while they are in instructional settings at the school. These images may be used in district publications including electronic formats and may also be released to the local news media. At preschool screenings a release was signed granting permission for the school year. Parents should notify the school office and teacher in writing if they do NOT want their child's images used for such purposes.





PRESCHOOL SUPPLIES

Most supplies needed for preschool are provided through the preschool program. The following items are what you are asked to provide for your child.

BACKPACK

Please send your child to school with a backpack everyday. We ask that it not be a rolling backpack and that it is large enough to hold a standard sized folder. Label all backpack and personal items with the student's name.

CHANGE OF CLOTHES

Please keep one complete change of clothing for your child in a Ziploc bag to be placed in their cubby at school in the event of a spill or accident. The teacher will send home clothes when the seasons change to ensure that the appropriate clothing is at school. Please make sure all items are labeled.

DIAPERING NEEDS

If your child wears pull-ups or diapers please send in extra supplies, including wipes. The classroom teacher will send notes home through the home folder or communicate through Class Dojo when more items are needed.

BLANKET FOR NAP TIME

If your child is enrolled in the full day program please send a beach towel sized blanket to school that will be used at naptime during the week. The blanket will be kept at school and sent home on Fridays.

Please leave personal items at home. We do not want anything to happen to your child's special items. If any items are brought to school they will be placed directly into your child's backpack.



**Herscher Community School District #2
Preschool Program
Bonfield Grade School
522 East Smith Street
Bonfield, IL
815-933-6995**

Superintendent
District Director of Special Services
Principal, Bonfield Grade School
Preschool Parent Coordinator
District Psychologist
Social Worker
District Nurse
District Nurse
Speech Therapist
Speech Therapist
Occupational Therapist
Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant
Physical Therapist
Special Education Teacher
Special Services Admin. Assistant
Head Start Teacher
Head Start Preschool Assistant

Dr. Richard Decman
Jill Fulton
Molly Wepprecht
Ashley Summers
Stephanie Snowden
Britney Miller
Katherine Lamont
Emily Vollmer
Sarah Grob
Jillian Milton
Kelly Martin
Mary Belter
Traci Freitas
Nicole Mauritzen
Melissa Delong
Kelly Ladage
Brandi Elder

Bonfield Office Staff

Rhiannon Clark & Laura Travelstead

Preschool Teachers

Amber Bauer, Christine Buter-Bryant,
Maddie Mitsdarffer-Matuszewski,

Preschool Paraprofessionals

Mandi Anderson, Jackie Benoit, Jennifer Budreau, Dana Dittus, Kayla Harris, Hannah Jones, Danielle Klamann, Kristi Turner



Parent Preschool Agreement

When my child is enrolled in the Herscher School District #2 Preschool Program, I agree to play an active role in my child's education. I agree to:

___ Send my child to school every day unless he/she is ill. If my child is absent I will call the school and report my child's absence.

___ Call if my child will not be riding the bus. I will make sure that an adult (someone 18 or older) puts my child on the bus and meets the bus to take my child off.

___ Be on time when I drop my child off and when I pick my child up from school.

___ Check my child's bookbag and folder daily.

___ Spend time with my child everyday. I will read books, play, and talk with my child about their school activities.

___ Read the books that my child brings home from the library and return the book so they can check out another book.

___ Attend parent teacher conferences.

Yes, I have read and understand the Herscher School District #2 preschool handbook. I understand and support the information presented in the handbook.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between the Bonfield Preschool Programs?

A: The Bonfield Grade School houses 2 preschool programs. First, the Preschool for All Program which is provided by a state-funded grant. Second, the Head Start Program which is provided by a collaboration between the Herscher School District #2 and the Kankakee School District #111. Head Start is a federally funded, county-wide program.

What do the preschool programs cost?

A: Nothing. Both the Preschool for All and the Head Start programs are 100% grant funded. There are no registration, field trip or lunch fees for either program.

Are the preschool programs full-day or half-day?

A: Both! Herscher's Preschool for All program offers a 1/2-day program (both AM and PM sessions) for 1 classroom. The 2 remaining classrooms and the 1 Head Start classroom are full-day preschool programs. If your child qualifies for a preschool opening, the preschool staff (along with your input) will decide the best placement for your child, either full day or half day. The full-day Preschool for All and Head Start programs run Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. The half-day Preschool for All program will run Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for the AM session. The PM session will run from 12:35 p.m. to 3:05 p.m.

Where can I find a school calendar?

A: The Preschool For All Program follows the Herscher School District calendar located at www.hcusd2.org >District, >District PDF Calendar. The Head Start Program has a unique start and end date but then follows the Herscher School District calendar the rest of the school year. Head Start's school year starts approximately 1 week after Herscher and ends a few days before Herscher's last day.

Is there a school supply list?

A: Yes, see below:

- 1 full-sized back pack, large enough to hold a standard folder, (without wheels or rollers, please)
- 1 throw-sized or beach towel-sized blanket for rest/nap time (only for full day program). Blankets will be kept at school Monday - Friday and sent home every Friday for washing.
- Complete changes of clothes, labeled, and in a Ziploc bag. The teacher will email for you to send seasonally appropriate clothes as the weather changes
- Potty training supplies, diapers, wipes, etc. - as needed

NOTE: Labeling and Personal Items:

Please label your child's back pack, their blanket, all clothes and training supplies coming to school. This helps staff return items to the correct family. Please leave personal items at home. We do not want anything to happen to your child's special treasures. Personal items will be placed directly into their back pack for the day, and will be sent back home.

FAQ Continued

Does my child need to be potty independent?

A: No. Students will start a potty training schedule to encourage them to become potty independent for both school and home. Preschool students do not need to be potty independent in order to attend preschool. Until your student is fully independent, providing diapers, wipes, pull-ups and any other supplies, will be the responsibility of the parent. The teacher will notify you when supplies are running low.

What documentation does my child need to start preschool?

A:

- Copy of child's social security card
- Copy of birth certificate (collected at screening)
- Proof of Income (collected at screening): see details at www.hcusd2.org >Parents/Students, >Student Registration, >Forms, >Preschool Proof of Income Requirements
- Up-to-date immunization record
- School Physical
- Lead Screening-by your doctor or local Health Department
- TB Test is highly recommended by not required

All documents are required by the state of Illinois upon entrance to preschool. However, if through no fault of your own, you cannot acquire all documentation by the first day of school, a reasonable amount of time* to gather the above paperwork will be allowed. After such time, failure to provide all required documentation will result in a loss of your child's preschool placement.

*Medical records are due October 15th per state of Illinois law. See next question for more information.

What if I cannot get my child into their doctor or the health department before school starts?

A: Your child can still start school. All medical requirements are due, by state law, on October 15th or the next student attendance day if the 15th falls on a non-attendance day. Note: if you do not have your child's medical requirements completed by October 15th, per state of Illinois law, your child will be excluded from school until the state medical requirements are met.

What are the immunization and medical requirements for preschool?

A: Please visit our website at www.hcusd2.org >Parents/Students, >Student Registration, >Forms, >Preschool Medical Requirements

Will I need to send or buy lunch and snacks?

A: No. The grants provide 2 snacks and a hot lunch for all full-day preschool students. The half-day program students will receive 1 snack but will not be served a lunch.

FAQ Continued

Can I choose to pack my child's lunch and snacks?

A: No, and please let us explain why. The lunch program is part of the preschool experience. The preschool program is designed to expose your child to play-based academic stimuli, peer interaction, gross-motor play, art, physical education, music and new school experiences in general. This includes a balanced school lunch which introduces fruits, vegetables and other menu items. This is an excellent age to start expanding your child's palate for new foods. The only exception would be a food allergy or lactose intolerance. If you need to pack specific food items due to a food allergy, or your child cannot drink milk, the district will require verification from your doctor. If the food allergy is life threatening, an emergency action plan created by our District RN and approved by your doctor, will need to be in place.

Where can I find the lunch menus?

A: The Herscher District website www.hcusd2.org >"More . . .", >Departments, >Food Service, >Lunch Menus(click Read More), >Bonfield Grade School.

Is transportation provided for preschoolers?

A: Yes, unless you live outside the Herscher School District or you live in the Bonfield Village boundaries. If you live in the Village of Bonfield, your child is considered a car rider. You will not be provided transportation while your child attends Bonfield Grade School. Otherwise, your preschooler will be offered the same transportation as all other district students in grades K-12.

Will my preschool child ride the bus with older kids?

A: Yes. The preschool students are bused on the same buses and routes with the K-12th grade students. However, preschool students, by law, are required to sit in a school-provided car seat with a harness restraint. The car seats are located in the very front rows of the bus, closest to the driver. Half-day AM session preschoolers will be offered transportation home at 10:30 a.m. dismissal. Half-day PM session preschoolers will be offered transportation pick up for the 12:35 p.m. session.

Who can/will put my child on the bus and secure their car seat?

A: A parent or an adult (at least 18-years of age) must be present at the assigned bus stop both morning and afternoon. The parent/adult will be responsible for boarding and securing the preschooler in a harnessed car seat, as well as unlatching the child's harness and removing them from the bus at drop off. The bus driver, by law, is not allowed to leave the driver's seat and is not allowed to harness or unlatch your child.

½ Day PreK Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the program adding a half-day option?

Adding a half-day program allows us to serve more children and provide flexible options that better meet the needs of families in our community.

Will my child automatically be moved to half-day?

No. Families will receive communication about placement options. Any changes will be clearly explained, and we will work to support each family through the process.

Could my child have a different teacher?

It is possible. Some classroom adjustments may require a teacher change. If that occurs, we will ensure a thoughtful transition process so children feel safe, supported, and comfortable.

Will my child still be prepared for kindergarten with a half day preschool?

Yes. Half-day PFA programs follow the same Illinois Early Learning Standards and curriculum expectations.

Will my child still have play time?

Yes. Half-day preschool programs still include plenty of play time. Play is a core part of early childhood learning, whether a child attends half-day or full-day.

Is lunch still offered with half day preschool?

Lunch is not provided due to the shorter schedule. However, students will receive one snack following early childhood nutrition guidelines.

Will transportation still be provided for half-day preschool students?

Yes. Transportation will still be provided for students enrolled in the half-day preschool program.

How will transitions be handled?

Teachers and staff will work together to prepare students in advance, share information between classrooms, and provide extra reassurance and support during the adjustment period. All pre-school staff are familiar with all students in the program.

When will we know more details?

We will share placement information prior to the start of school.

Dear Preschool Families,

We are excited to share an update regarding our Early Childhood Preschool For All Program. As we continue to review how our program can best meet the needs of children and families in our community, we are making an adjustment to our preschool schedule beginning in the 26-27 school year.

In an effort to serve more children and provide greater flexibility for families, our preschool program will now offer a half-day sessions option, including both a morning session and an afternoon session. This change allows us to expand access to our program while continuing to provide a high-quality early learning experience for our youngest students.

Half-day programming is developmentally appropriate for many preschool-aged children and allows students to engage in meaningful learning experiences while maintaining a schedule that works well for many families. By offering both morning and afternoon sessions, we will be able to accommodate more students and ensure that children in our community have access to early learning opportunities.

Please review the attached FAQ page for additional information about this change. We also ask that families complete the brief survey by scanning the QR code provided. Your responses will help us better understand individual family needs and assist with planning session placements.

If you experience any difficulty completing the survey, please do not worry. We will follow up with families if additional information is needed or if we are unable to access a response. We are proud of the warm, engaging preschool environment our staff provides each day and look forward to continuing to partner with families to give children a strong start in their educational journey.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.