



The Rumson School District Deane-Porter Elementary School

Preschool Orientation for 2021-2022





People to know:

Dr. John Bormann- Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Shari Feeney- Principal

Mr. Michael Snyder- Supervisor of Special Services

Ms. Laura Randazzo- Special Services Coordinator

Mrs. Rebekah Schneider (Johnson)- Preschool Teacher

Ms. Brianna Merriman- Preschool Teacher

Mrs. Beth Brister- Teacher Assistant

Mrs. Nancy Petrucelli- Teacher Assistant

Mrs. Sibel Zentai- Physical Therapist

Mrs. Janet Alter- Occupational Therapist

Dr. Ursula Glackin- Speech Therapist/ Case Manager

Mrs. Lindsay Kecker- BCBA, Behavior Analyst

Early Childhood Support Staff



Mrs. Schneider (Johnson)



Ms. Merriman



Mrs. Brister



Mrs. Petrucelli



Dr. Glackin



Mrs. Alter



Mrs. Keker



Preschool Requirements and Support Staff:

Each Preschool classroom has:

- Four half day sessions, in either the morning or afternoon.
- Our program integrates 3 and 4 year olds.
- There are approximately 15 students in each class.
- A certified teacher and instructional aide will be in the room at all times.
- Comprehensive curriculum meeting state and national standards.



How does the Rumson School District Ignite potential?

- Partnership with NJDOE-NJ Grow
- Tools of the Mind Curriculum
- Early Screening Inventory- Revised (ESI-R)
- Ongoing assessment using Teaching Strategies Gold
- Differentiated Learning



Program Operating Hours:

AM Preschool

8:30-11:25

1:00 Dismissal

8:30-10:30

Delayed Opening

10:10-12:10

PM Preschool

12:10- 3:05

1:00 Dismissal

11:00-1:00

Delayed Opening

1:05-3:05

It is very important to drop off and pick up your child in a timely manner!



What does a typical preschool day look like?

The typical preschool day contains a balance of small-group and large-group activities, including fine and gross motor skill development, while allowing ample time for routines, such as eating and toileting.



Sample Daily Schedule:

- Morning Meeting
- Make Believe Play
- Large Group Literacy
- Snack
- Small Group Math
- Outdoor Play
- Small Group Literacy
- Closing Group



Specials



Computers



Physical Education



Library



STEM



Music



Art



Science

Program Curriculum: Tools of the Mind



Central Focus:

The development of cognition and social-emotional self-regulation and executive functions.

Curriculum Goal:

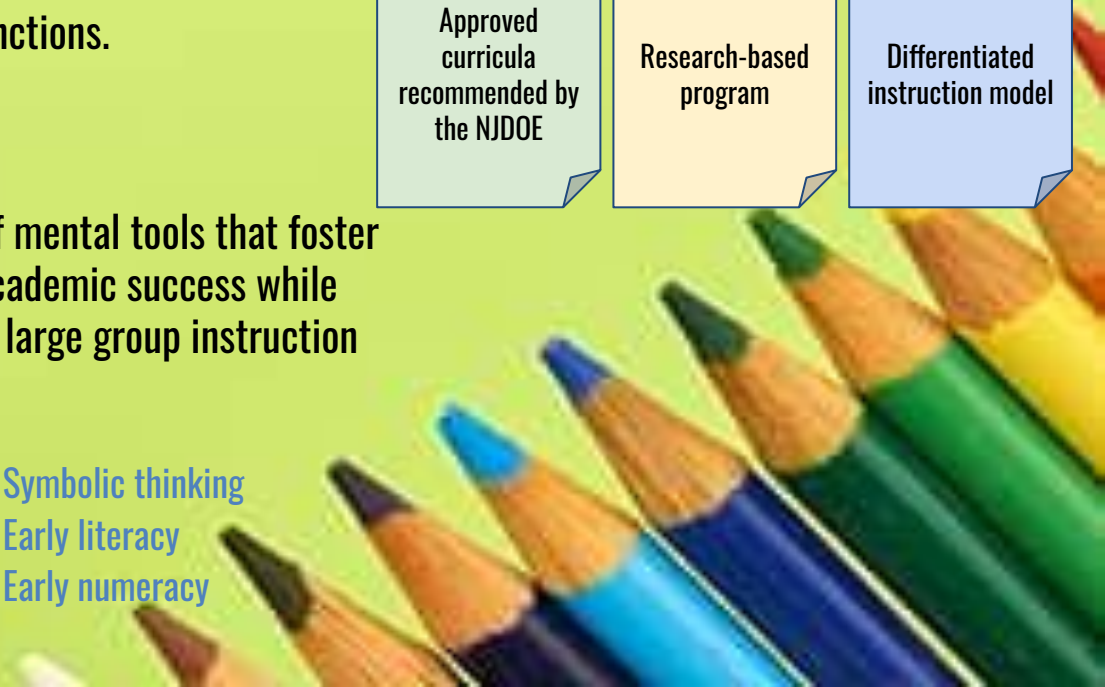
To help students acquire a set of mental tools that foster school readiness and enhance academic success while engaging in individual small and large group instruction to promote:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| → Self-regulation | → Symbolic thinking |
| → Focused attention | → Early literacy |
| → Deliberate memory | → Early numeracy |

Approved
curricula
recommended by
the NJDOE

Research-based
program

Differentiated
instruction model





Self Regulation Activities

- Academic activities
 - Environment
 - Schedule
 - Classroom practices
 - Specific scaffolding techniques
- for children who need more support



Screenings and Assessments

Early Screening Inventory - Revised



- Children are screened with the ESI-R upon entering the program and by the classroom teacher.
- This screening gauges several developmental domains and assists in identifying children in need of additional assistance.

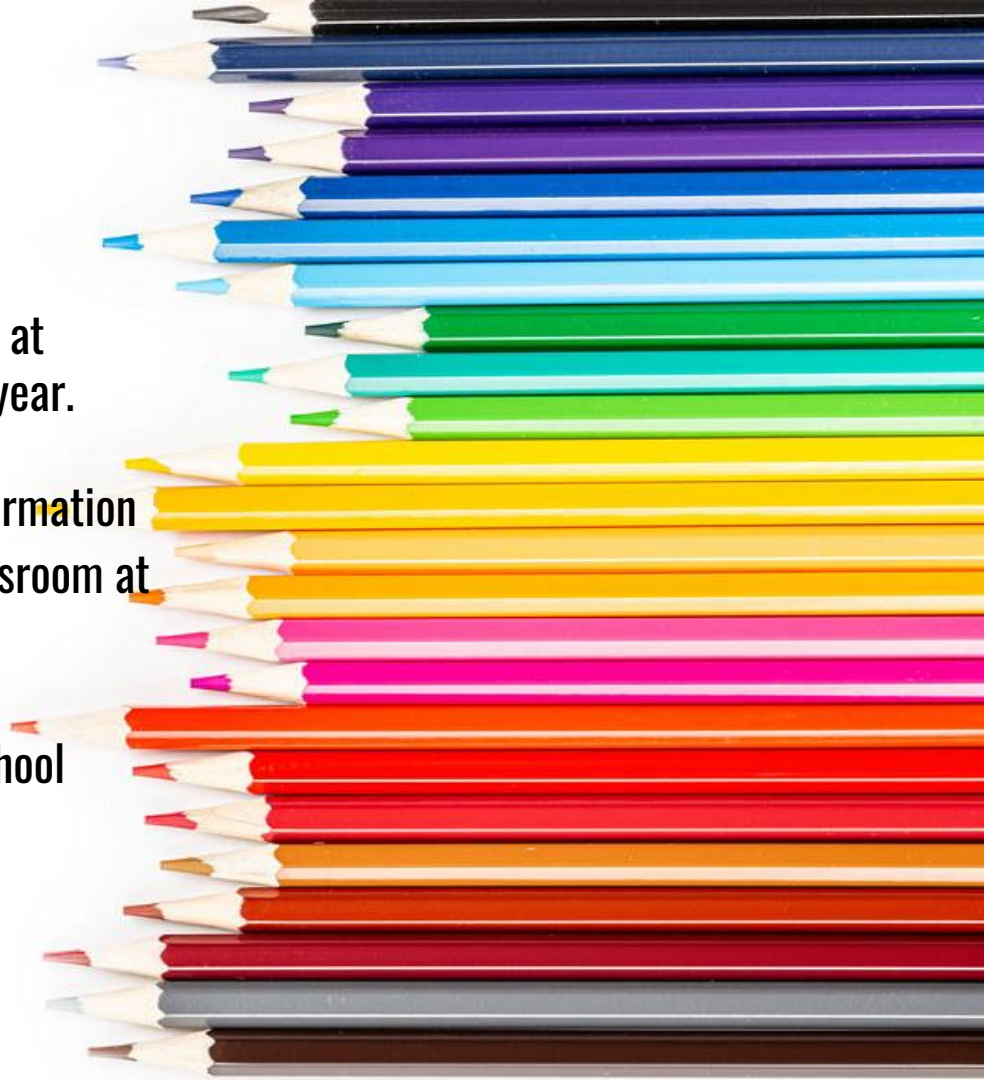
Teaching Strategies - GOLD

- We utilize Teaching Strategies-GOLD as an ongoing assessment tool throughout the year to track student's progress in all areas of development.



Student Progress

- Screening information is shared with parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences, held twice per year.
- Parents may ask their child's teacher for information regarding the child's performance in the classroom at any time.
- As part of our effort to promote the home-school connection, Play Plans are sent home.





Dates to Remember:

Thursday, **September 20th, 2021**- First Day of School

September 20th is a Full Day of School!

Tuesday, **October 14th, 2021**- Back to School Night

November 15th, 16th and 17th- Deane-Porter Conferences





Communication:

- The best way to reach us is through email:

bmerriman@rumsonschool.org or

rjohnson@rumsonschool.org

- Weekly Newsletters
 - Instagram
 - School Website

Medications and Allergies:

Any medications that your child may need must be given to the nurse. If your child has an allergy please be sure to notify the nurse and school.



Motor skills:

Preschoolers' fine, gross motor and sensory processing development is indicative of later performance on two key measures of kindergarten readiness;

- **Executive functioning**-the ability to listen, stay on task, follow directions
- **Social behavior**-showing empathy, participating in group activities, and communicating with others.

Sensory processing-organizing and responding to information from our senses.

Gross motor skills focus on the large muscles found in the body.

Fine motor skills focus on the smaller muscles found in the body.



Behavior Analyst's Role in Pre-School:

- Help to increase age appropriate functional skills and decrease skills that may be barriers to progress
- Work collaboratively with teachers and related service providers (OT, PT, SLP, School Counselor) to help students reach their goals and improve their skills sets
- Work directly within the classroom with staff and students on both a regular and consultative basis dependent on each student's needs
- Provide training to staff in order to provide consistent and effective practices

Lindsay Kecker, MAT-BCBA

Desirable Skills	Undesirable Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language/Communication• Play Skills• Self-Help Skills• Academic Skills• Social Skills• Toileting• Executive Functioning Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tantruming• Calling out• Inattentiveness• Toileting Issues• Inappropriate Social Skills



Frequently Asked Questions



- **Will my child be eating snack at school?**

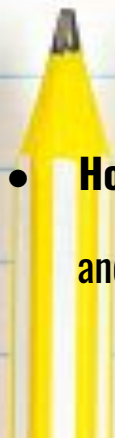
Yes, each day please pack a healthy snack for your child that is nut free. Please place food in containers that are easy for the students to open by themselves. We always encourage independence but will be trying to reinforce these skills even more during this time.

- **Can my children bring toys from home into school?**

No, we are asking that all toys and items from home be left at home. Not only can items from home be a distraction during the day, but we will be limiting any objects that are allowed in our rooms to limit germs.

- **How do you handle allergies in the classroom?**

We are a peanut and nut free school. If your child has additional allergies, the school nurse and teachers should be notified for further safety precautions in the classroom for your child's needs.





Frequently Asked Questions Continued:

- **Will the preschool classes have specials this year?**

Yes, the preschool classes will have specials this year. By traveling to the different classrooms, the students get familiar with the school and the Specials teachers who they will have throughout the years at Deane-Porter.

- **What can I do as a parent to prepare my child to get used to wearing a mask in school?**

Have your child practice wearing a mask that they are comfortable in or even a mask that your child has picked out. Talking about the importance of wearing it and how they will be wearing it at school with all the other students will make them feel more comfortable in the classroom.

- **How will the toys and items in the classroom be cleaned in between sessions and each day?**

Our Custodial Staff will be sanitizing classroom toys and items between the AM and PM sessions each day.

- **How do you celebrate birthdays?**

Birthdays are very special! We unfortunately cannot have food items for birthdays, but your child can bring in small toys for their classmates or donate a book to our class library.



Any questions?



If you have questions that were not answered in our orientation, or are not covered in the FAQ below, please let us know using our [Google Form](#). As we get questions, we will collaborate to answer your questions as best as we can, and share this information in a timely manner!



Thank you for coming!

