



North Branford Public Schools' Preschool Introduction and Registration

May 29, 2018

A long, long time ago.....



▶ PA 14-41 (effective July 1, 2014)

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2014/FC/2014SB-00025-R000750-FC.htm>

▶ Provide funding, standards, regulations, training and oversight to ensure that early care and education programs for young children

- ▶ are safe, healthy and nurturing;
- ▶ effectively support children's physical, social, emotional and cognitive development; and,
- ▶ are accessible to all children, particularly those facing barriers, risks or challenges to their healthy development and success.

- **Capital Improvements**

- not to exceed \$75,000 per classroom, one-time funding in year 1 or 2

- **Operations**

- \$5,000 per child (up to 15 children funded)
- up to \$75,000 per classroom / \$300,000 annually



- ▶ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood: Grant and Subsidies
 - ▶ Smart Start <http://www.ct.gov/oec/cwp/view.asp?a=4547&q=550948>
- ▶ Smart Start Cohorts I & II (I-14 II- 3 additional districts)
 - ▶ Cohort III- 6 Additional Districts including North Branford
- ▶ Changes at Jerome Harrison Elementary School
- ▶ Resources to compliment district programs
 - ▶ North Branford Family Resource Center (FRC)
 - ▶ PRIDE Program
 - ▶ K-12 Curriculum



Conditions for Funding

- ▶ Unmet need for preK for 3 and 4 year olds
- ▶ Local or regional board of education must serve as grantee
- ▶ Renovations in public schools only -- NO new construction
- ▶ Classrooms may be located in a public school
- ▶ Program must be Head Start, NAEYC accredited or able to become accredited within 3 years (unaccredited programs subject to interim quality measure)
- ▶ Proportion of children with an IEP per class = K-12



Priorities given to districts that:

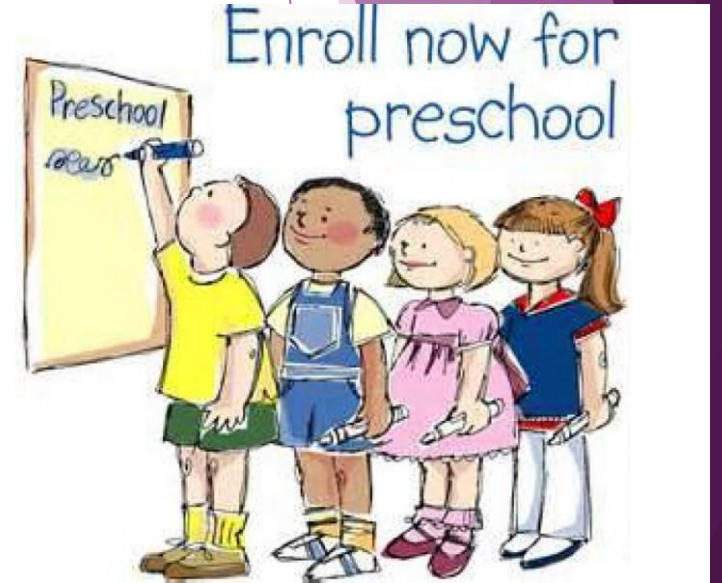
- Offer full-day kindergarten for all eligible children
- Allocate 60% of spaces to children \leq 75% of state median income or 50% of the spaces to children who qualify for free and reduced price lunches
- Demonstrate the greatest need for preK services
- Have (or develop a plan to create) a cohesive preK- 3rd grade continuum



Eligibility Guidelines

To be considered for the early childhood program:

- ▶ An application must have been completed, postmarked or hand-delivered by 4:00pm by March 23, 2018.
- ▶ Child must be a resident of North Branford.
- ▶ Children born after January 1, 2014 and before January 2, 2015 are eligible to apply.* *Children who are eligible for Kindergarten are NOT eligible for the Pre-K program.
- ▶ All public school health requirements must be adhered to.



- ▶ Applications were prioritized according to Smart Start Grant requirements:

Children in the following circumstances will be high priority for enrollment: poverty (children who are from families with incomes at or below 75% of SMI or receive free or reduced lunch), homeless, migrant, refugee, violence and neglect (DCF involved, in foster care), developmental delays, and/or challenging parental circumstances (teenage, incarcerated, in treatment for substance abuse, active military service).



- ▶ After priority students were offered a required percentage of enrollments, available enrollment was offered based on an application lottery system.

- ▶ Lottery was pulled

- ▶ All non-priority applications were placed in the lottery, randomly selected and assigned a position in order of selection (1-14).
 - ▶ Eight priority applications and 7 lottery-selected applications comprise our preschool population of 15.
 - ▶ Our waitlist begins with position 8 of the lottery-selected applications.



Program Specifics

- ▶ The program will serve approximately 15 students and be housed in the Jerome Harrison Elementary School (JHS) FRC Annex.
- ▶ The annex is the two classroom building in the back of the Jerome Harrison campus.
- ▶ The building was constructed during 2011-2012 using grant funds.
- ▶ As part of the Smart Start Grant Capital Funds Award, a free-standing covered walkway will be designed and created to connect the preschool building and the elementary school building. (pending bids)



Program Specifics

The program will follow the school-year calendar and JHS school day.

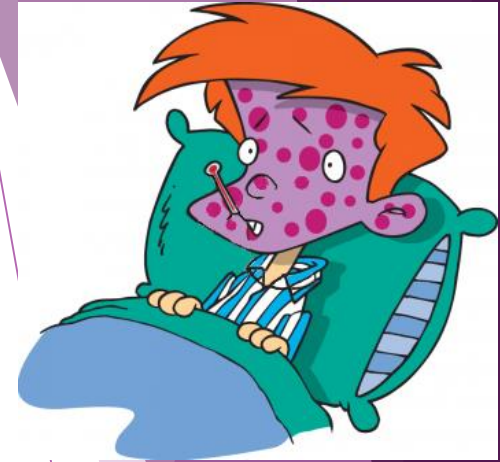
- ▶ Jerome Harrison Elementary School Day Schedule
 - ▶ Regular Full-Day Sessions 9:00am-3:25pm
 - ▶ Early Dismissal Sessions 9:00am-1:30pm

- ▶ 2017-2018 North Branford Public Schools Calendar Book
 - ▶ Directory At-A-Glance (Photo Copies)
 - ▶ In the event of inclement weather
 - ▶ School Messenger (Email and Phone)
 - ▶ Please make sure email and phone information are kept current with the district. **HANDOUT- Parent Employment Schedule**
 - ▶ Television (WSFB Channel 3, WTNH Channel 8, WVIT Channel 30), and
 - ▶ Radio (WELI 960 AM, WKCI 101.3 FM, WAVZ 1300AM)
 - ▶ **2018-2019 One-Page Calendar (181 Days)**



Program Specifics

- ▶ Children are expected to attend full sessions each day.
 - ▶ Health Guidelines **HANDOUT- Immunization Requirements**
 - ▶ Reminder- Forms need to be submitted before the beginning of the school year.
 - ▶ Absence reporting (Directory at a Glance and email) **HANDOUT-Keeping Students Home**
 - ▶ **Permissions Slips for First Aid, CPR Field Trips and Sunscreen**
 - ▶ **Parent Commitment**
- ▶ Transportation will be provided according to the district's bussing guidelines.
 - ▶ More Information will be provided regarding transportation
- ▶ There will be no cost for the program itself. (Parents will be expected to assume costs for field trips...)
- ▶ Snacks and lunch will NOT be provided by the district unless student is eligible for free and/or reduced lunch.



Program Specifics

The classroom will be led by a Pre-K certified educator, Mrs. Lisa Flannery.

- ▶ Mrs. Flannery has been teaching in North Branford for over 15 years.
- ▶ Upon reflection of her career, Mrs. Flannery notes, “...*my passion has always been working with younger students...to work closely with students and families as they transition to a formal public education setting is both challenging and rewarding.*”
- ▶ After Mrs. Flannery is very well-versed, knowledgeable and experienced supporting students, ages 3 to 10, through their continuum of development and learning.
 - ▶ She has taught Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade (current assignment), and Fourth Grade for the district as well as the PreK classroom this school year.
 - ▶ Mrs. Flannery has been a member of the Language Arts’ Curriculum and Mathematics’ Curriculum Writing Teams.
 - ▶ Prior to coming to teach in North Branford, Mrs. Flannery was the Head Teacher at a grant funded preschool in Hamden.

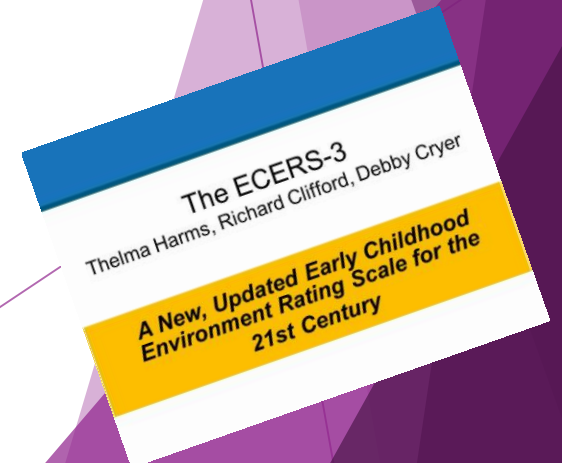
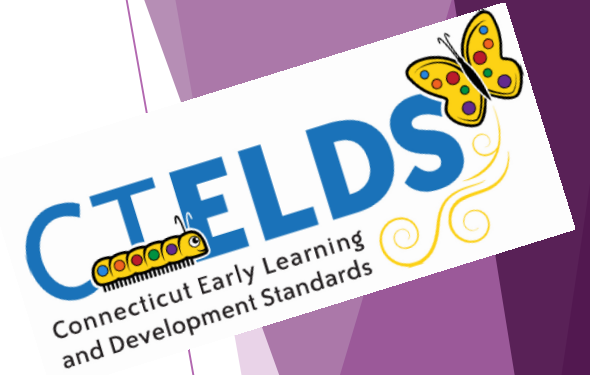


Program Specifics

Teaching and learning will be driven by:

- ▶ the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards (CTELDS) <http://www.ct.gov/oec/cwp/view.asp?a=4541&q=536726> and
- ▶ guidelines from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
 - ▶ <http://www.naeyc.org/academy/standardsandcriteria>
 - ▶ <http://www.naeyc.org/academy/files/academy/OverviewStandards.pdf>.

The goal of this early childhood program is to provide experiences that will promote social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive learning and development through a differentiated and integrated program.



QUESTIONS???

<https://www.northbranfordschools.org/Default.asp>

North Branford Office of Curriculum and instruction

203-484-1477

Mrs. Sherry DelGaudio

Administrative Assistant

sdelgaudio@northbranfordschools.org

Mrs. Tracy Wootton

Director of Curriculum And Instruction

twootton@northbranfordschools.org

Jerome Harrison Elementary School

203-484-1235

Mrs. Felicia Zaffin

School Nurse

fzaffin@northbranfordschools.org

Ms. Beth Parker

Interim Principal

cwelch@northbranfordschools.org

Mrs. Lisa Flannery

Preschool Teacher

lflannery@northbranofrdschools.org