

North Branford Public Schools

2017-2018 PreSchool Information Sheet

The North Branford Public Schools NEW Pre-School Program is partially funded through the CT Smart Start initiative and primarily designed to meet the needs of preschool-aged children at-risk due to economic, cultural or other disadvantages. Teaching and learning will be driven by the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards (CTELDS) and guidelines from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). 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.

Program Specifics:

- The program will be housed in the Jerome Harrison Elementary School (JHS) FRC Annex.
- The program will serve approximately 15 students (see eligibility requirements below).
- The program will follow the school-year calendar and JHS school day (181 Days, 9:00am-3:25pm). Children are expected to attend full sessions each day.
- Transportation will be provided according to the district's bussing guidelines.
- The classroom will be led by a PreK certified educator with paraprofessional support.
- 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.
- Families may apply to our Family Resource Center for before-school and after-school care for their preschooler.

Eligibility Guidelines:

- To be considered for the early childhood program, **an application must be completed, postmarked or hand-delivered by 4:00pm by April 28, 2017.**
- Child must be a resident of North Branford.
- Children born after January 1, 2013 and before January 2, 2014 are eligible to apply.*
*Children who are eligible for Kindergarten are NOT eligible for the Pre-K program.
- Applications will be prioritize 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).
- All public school health requirements must be adhered to.
- Documentation for the above mentioned criteria will be required for verification prior to registration.
- After priority students are offered a required percentage of enrollments, any available enrollment will be determined and offered based on an application lottery system.
- Children must be toilet trained in order to attend.
- Once applications have been approved, screening appointments will be arranged.