

## 2018-2019 North Branford Public Schools' PreSchool Applications Being Accepted

The North Branford School District was awarded a Smart Start Grant prior to the start of the 2017-2018 school year to establish a pre-kindergarten program for approximately 15 of the district's youngest learners. The district is using that grant award to fund a Smart Start Preschool Program classroom at Jerome Harrison Elementary School.

The mission of the preschool program is to provide experiences that will promote social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive learning and development through a differentiated and integrated program. Superintendent Scott Schoonmaker describes the Smart Start Program as an entry point to North Branford's coherent PreK-12 continuum- a continuous, sequential, progressive, aligned set of learning experiences designed to provide students with the foundational knowledge and skills that are ultimately necessary to be prepared for college and career and be a responsible 21st Century citizen of the world.

Children residing in North Branford born after January 1, 2014 and before January 2, 2015 are eligible to apply. This program meets 5 days a week at Jerome Harrison Elementary School (JHS) following the North Branford Public Schools' Calendar (181 Days) and JHS school-day (9:00am – 3:25pm). The program is provided by the school district at no cost to parents.

Applications will be reviewed and considered according to Smart Start 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 are offered a required percentage of enrollment, any available enrollment will be determined and offered based on an application lottery system.

To be considered for this early childhood program, **an application must be completed and postmarked to North Branford Public Schools Attn: Tracy Wootton P.O. Box 129 Northford, CT 06472 OR hand-delivered to North Branford Public Schools CENTRAL OFFICE Attn: Tracy Wootton 1332 Middletown Ave Northford, CT 06472 by 4:00pm by March 23, 2018.**

More information on the NBPS PreSchool Program and Application Process can be found at:

- The district's website [www.northbranfordschools.org](http://www.northbranfordschools.org)
- NBPS Central Office (1332 Middletown Ave. Northford)

If parents have any additional questions, after reviewing the available information, they may contact the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at 203-484-1477.