Collingswood and Oaklyn Public Schools

It's Where You Want to Learn

200 LEES AVENUE, COLLINGSWOOD, NJ 08108
SCOTT A. OSWALD, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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February 3, 2020

Dear Oaklyn Families:

Great News! With the help of Preschool Expansion Funding, the Oaklyn Public School is able to offer a full-day pre-kindergarten program for the 2020-2021 school year. This additional funding means we will be able to offer high-quality, full-day pre-kindergarten without charge to over 60 Oaklyn children. The Preschool Expansion Funding will cover the cost of teachers, instructional assistants, other professional personnel, supplies, and related expenses. The exact number of seats available will be determined by the New Jersey Department of Education.

High quality pre-kindergarten in Oaklyn is being planned for several classrooms in the Oaklyn Public School building. The program will follow many of the best practices known to result in the greatest learning for all children.

Please see below for answers to some frequently asked questions.

Q: Who is eligible?

A: Resident children who turned 3- or 4-years old by October 1, 2020 (birthdays Oct 2, 2015 – Oct 1, 2017). Children <u>must</u> be Oaklyn residents.

Q: What programs are offered?

A: Full-day 3- and 4-year old mixed-age pre-kindergarten classrooms will be offered to Oaklyn children. No half-day programs are available.

Q: How many full-day seats are available?

A: We are planning to offer over 60 seats to eligible 3- and 4-year old children.

Q: What hours does the full-day program run?

A: Full day pre-kindergarten runs from 8:25 am – 2:45 pm, 5 days per week when school is in session. Children may be dropped off between 8:15am and 8:25am and picked up at 2:45pm. Lunch will be served and nap will be provided in the afternoon. All programs follow the Oaklyn Public School district calendar.

Q: Will any tuition payment be required?

A: No, there is no tuition to enter this program.

Q: Are all Oaklyn children guaranteed acceptance into the full-day pre-kindergarten program?

A: While this is the ultimate goal, there are limited seats (about 60) available during the 2020-2021 school year. Seats will be awarded via a lottery process with results of the lottery shared as soon as the New Jersey Department of Education confirms our seat count on or around April 1. After the lottery, any remaining seats will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. As we expand our program over the next several years, we will strive to provide a program for additional Oaklyn children.

Q: How will the lottery work?

A: Upon receipt of your application (in digital or paper form) by February 28, your child will be considered entered into the pre-kindergarten lottery. We will randomly assign numbers to each application and award pre-kindergarten seats until all available seats are filled. Children will be awarded seats based upon order of drawing. Any seats that remain available after the lottery will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Q: My child is currently enrolled in the three year old program. Do I need to apply for next year?

A: No. Your child will automatically be enrolled in the program again next year as long as he/she continues to meet the eligibility criteria and you wish for him/her to remain in the program. A separate survey will be distributed for you to indicate your preference. Please do not register for the lottery.

Q: Do I get to choose my child's school placement?

A: Unfortunately, no. While we will consider distance from your home to our pre-kindergarten facilities and any existing sibling connections to our schools, pre-kindergarten is considered a "stand-alone" program and placement in the school of your choice is not guaranteed.

Q: What should I do next?

A: If you are interested in enrolling your child in the Oaklyn Pre-Kindergarten Program, please:

- Visit <u>www.oaklynschool.org</u>, click the "Kindergarten/Pre-K Roundup" button in the upper left section
 of the page, and complete/submit the "Preschool Lottery Online application"; OR
- Complete the "Application to enter the Pre-Kindergarten Lottery" and return it to the Oaklyn Public School Main Office any day school is in session.

Lottery applications (electronic or hard copy) are due Friday, February 28, 2020. Please follow the directions on the application carefully. The lottery will be conducted as soon as possible after confirmation of our seat count by the New Jersey Department of Education.

If you have any questions about enrolling in the pre-kindergarten program, please email Ms. Jennifer Boulden at jboulden@oaklynschool.org or call 856-858-0335 x226.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Oswald, Ed.D.

Sunt A Oswald

Superintendent

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Oaklyn Public Schools APPLICATION TO ENTER THE PRE-KINDERGARTEN LOTTERY DUE DATE: Friday, February 28, 2020

To enter the Pre-kindergarten Lottery, visit our web site www.oaklynschool.org, click "Kindergarten/Pre-K Roundup" and submit the online lottery application OR mail/deliver this application to: Pre-Kindergarten Application, Oaklyn Public School, 136 Kendall Blvd, Oaklyn, NJ 08107. Applications to enter the Pre-Kindergarten Lottery are due February 28, 2020.

1.	Child's Name:	☐ Male ☐ Female
2.	Child's Birthdate:	(between 10/2/15 – 10/1/17)
3.	Language Spoken at Home:	
4.	Parent/Guardian Name:	
5.	Full Address:	
6.	Cell Number:	
7.	Email Address (please print clearly):	
8.	ings in Oaklyn (please list names of other children currently attending the Oaklyn School):	
	Name:	School:
9.	Please list any prior preschool experience:	
	Name of Preschool:	
	Location/Town:	
	Number of years attended:	