



Meet and Greet

Beard Elementary School
Thursday, August 29, 2019
1:30-3:00 pm OR 3:30-5:00 pm

Classroom and Staff Introduction

Welcome to Meet and Greet at Beard School! We are pleased to be to meet you and explain our daily program in Room 106. There are 2 students in our classroom.

Classroom Teachers:

Michele Van Pelt

Yesenia Salgado

Classroom and Staff Introduction

School Staff to Know:

Principal: Manda Lukic

Asst. Principal: Joan Lynch

Office Clerk: Carmen Pacheco

Attendance: La'Toya Price

Counselor: Andrea Patrinos

Case Manager: Cristina Keps

Security Office: Mr. Dixon

Specials:

Gym: Julie Pomerantz

Art: Sarah Didricksen

Library: Rachel Karijolic

Second Step/STEAM: Maggie Sarti

Beard School Mission

Our mission is to provide students a common core aligned academic curriculum with high quality instruction through a supportive and encouraging environment. Holding high expectations for all students, staff will increase student achievement and obtain desirable student behavior. Highly trained and dedicated staff, Beard will utilize innovative and practices that ensure students have maximum opportunities to accomplish established standards. This will be accomplished through intensive professional development and a highly developed level of collaboration between school and parental partnership.

Beard School Vision

Beard School provides students Preschool through 3rd grade, with intensive early childhood academic supports along with behavior interventions so that all students can be successful when they transition to their next school setting.

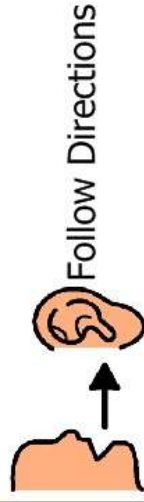
Classroom Rules and Expectations

We have a school wide PBIS program and classroom expectations:

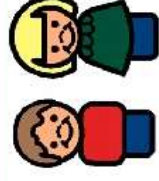
Be Kind



Be Safe



Be Responsible



Attendance

- School day is 7:30 - 2:30
- Attendance goal expectations are 95%
- There is a direct correlation to the success of your child and their daily attendance at school.
- In order for students to improve, they must come to school daily.
- You have signed an attendance contract. Please let us know if you would like a copy.
- We have an attendance incentive plan in the student parent handbook that rewards students for coming to school.

Attendance

Please be prompt.

- If you are tardy, please come to the office, log the information in the tardy book, (otherwise students are marked absent), a staff member will come to the office to escort your student to the classroom.

If your child is going to be absent because they are sick, you must do 2 things:

- Call the school office (773-534-1228) to report your child's absence.
- Fill out an absence excuse form and return it back to us.



Arrival and Dismissal

- School hours are from 7:30 - 2:30. However, due to congestion and traffic, preschool will begin dismissal at 2:20pm to give sufficient time for parents to sign out and touch base with the teacher.
- Students will only be allowed to be picked up by parents and adults who are listed on the release forms. If someone else is picking up your child from school, please put it in writing with the person's full name. They will be required to provide a picture identification (driver's license, state ID) upon pick up.
- When weather permits, we meet the students outside on the black top outside of the classroom. For dismissal, we ask the students to line up outside the classroom. We do not dismiss them until we have counted them. We do dismiss them one at a time to ensure they are leaving with an adult who is safe.

Parent Teacher Conferences

- Scheduled with all families through an app called Sign Up Genius
- Available time slots for meeting with us will be sent out to all the parents electronically at the same time
- Time slots are available on a first come first sign up basis.
- Emails are generally sent out two weeks prior to the parent teacher conference meeting dates in November and April of each year.



Income Form

- Applications for the Family Income Forms are sent home annually September. All applications must be returned to the school. The purpose of this form is for CPS to obtain information about families income to determine school funding.
- Every family is required to return this form to school.

Daily Schedule

Arrival/Breakfast/Bathroom

Morning Meeting: Student greeting, weather, question of the day

Calm Classroom/Sign In

Specials:

Monday: Library

Tuesday/Friday: Art

Wednesday: Gym (please make sure your child has gym shoes)

Thursdays: Second Step/STEAM

*** Tuesdays we also have Tiny Tune Makers which is our music program

Daily Schedule

Choice Time

Read Aloud

Small Groups: math, literacy, writing

Mighty Minutes/Go Noodle/Me Moves

Lunch/Bathroom

Quiet Time/Recess

Snack/Bathroom

Choice Time/Small Groups

Closing Meeting/Dismissal



Diet Restrictions, Allergy Free Zones, Food Policies

- Please alert us to any cultural restrictions, allergies or food sensitivities, other dietary restrictions such as no dairy, gluten free, etc.
- Allergies to Food or Medicines: Make sure that medical form is completed and turned in by the first day of school.
- Beard is an allergy sensitive school with designated allergy zones unless otherwise stated in the child's IEP.
- We do not heat up food for lunches
- Your child will be provided breakfast, lunch and a snack each day.

Toileting

- Per CPS policy, staff members are not allowed to help your child in the bathroom area nor are we allowed to change them.
- Please send in clothing your child is able to navigate independent in case they have an accident. If your child does have an accident and they are not able to change their clothing on their own, we will have you come to the school to pick up and/or change your child's clothing.

Celebrations

Due to CPS policy, we will not be distributing any edible treats. This includes birthday celebrations. If you bring in an edible treat for your child, it will **not** be accepted.

Screenings

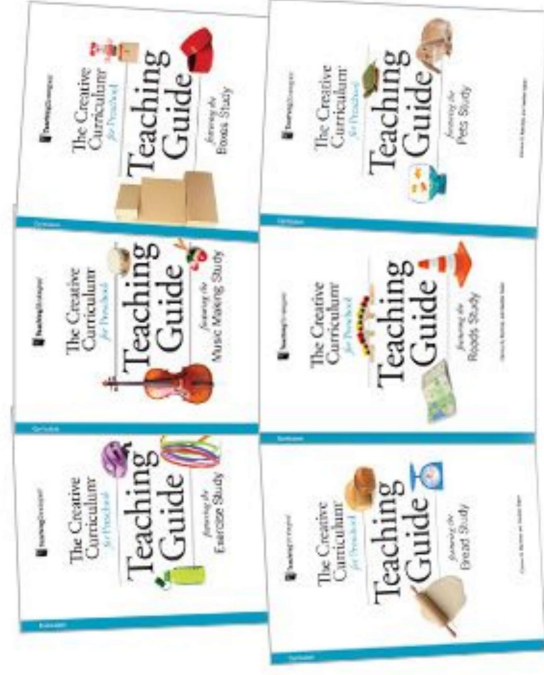
- **ASQ:** Due to our whole child approach to education and in accordance with Chicago Public School mandates, we are requesting that parents complete an ASQ social emotional screener that was sent home with parents. This screener provides the early childhood teachers with a greater understanding of the student's individual needs. Please return this to school as soon as possible.
- **ESI-R:** Teachers will complete an ESI-R cognitive and language screener for all child enrolled in the preschool program. This information will provide individual information to assist the teachers and staff in meeting the individual needs of students.
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Curriculum Overview



Creative Curriculum

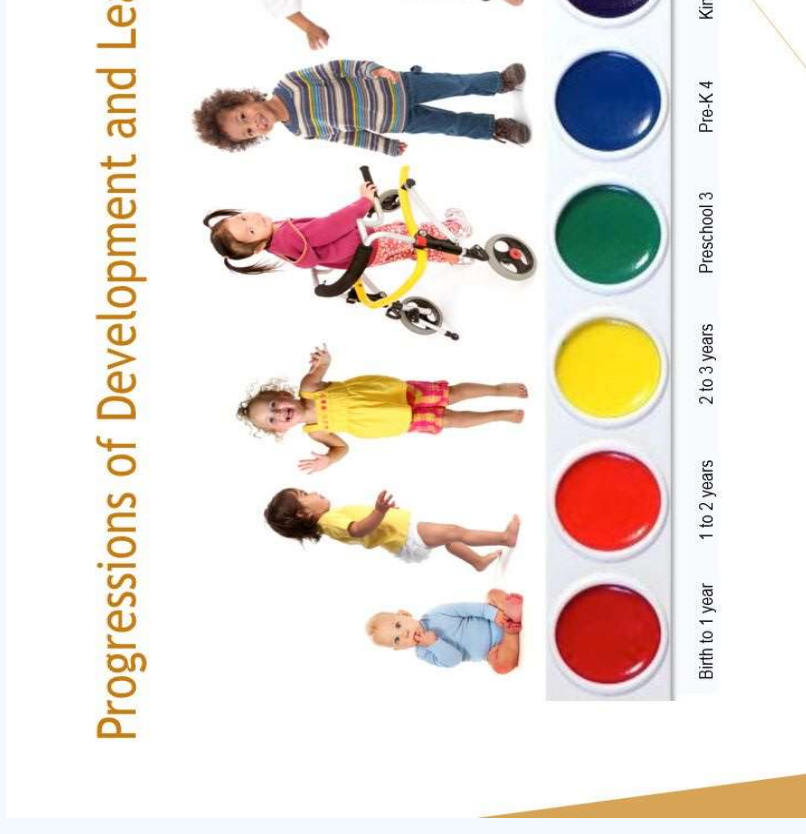
- Themed-based units. Some units from the past year: books, year, trees, bread, building getting ready for kindergarten
- At the beginning of each unit, home a letter/post to Classroom explains the unit, book suggestions, home, etc.



Teaching Strategies Gold

Assessment tool used in conjunction with Creative Curriculum.

Assessments are completed through teacher observations.



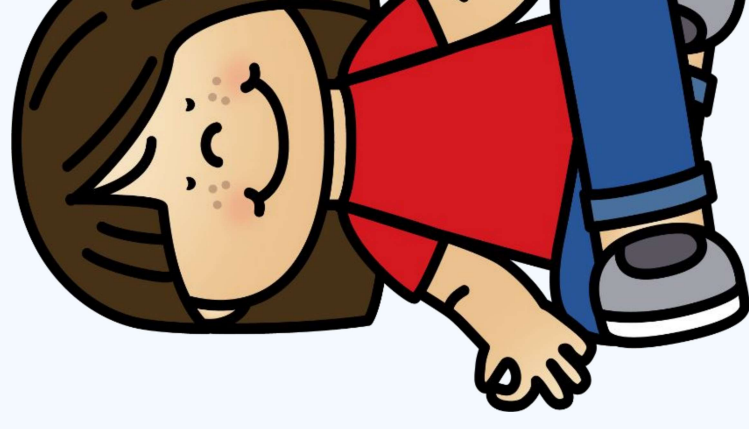
Other Curriculum:

Social Emotional:

Second Step and Calm Classroom

Technology:

Promethean board, ipads, desktop
computers



Participation From Home

- There will be a monthly parent project. This month is the All About Me book w due within the next 2 weeks if possible.
- There will be a take home journal with Pete the Cat. Instructions are provided. weekend 1 child will bring Pete home and complete a journal entry to be returned Monday to share with the class.
- We will begin working on letter of the week next week. We will go in ABC order Wednesday I will ask that each child bring in a small (2x2) picture of something starts with the letter. Please work with your child to find the picture.

Participation From Home

- Review classroom rules at home
- Read to your child at home for 10–15 minutes a night. Ask questions about pictures and text.
- When in community/home environment, ask questions about what is going on. Have conversations with your child.
- Practice counting, recognizing numbers, writing their name
- Please sign up for Class Dojo. We post here often and include updaters, photos

Beard Offerings

- Music: Tiny Tunemakers
- SEL Exemplary certified, Healthy School Silver certified, Fine Arts Excelling School, Gold ExceleRate preschool programs
- The Big Green - Community Kitchen Garden & Outdoor certified N Classroom Garden
- Sensory Garden - Newly redesigned outdoor garden that appeals children's sensory needs as well as allowing for outdoor art opportunities and nature exploration
- Sensory Room
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Volunteers

- We welcome parent volunteers. A sign up genius will be shared with all parents to sign up for monthly guest reader, room parent, activities throughout the year.
- We like to offer supplemental activities during the year for the students. We may ask for material donations during the year.
Cooking?
- We always need volunteers for the field trips. Field trip dates will be shared as soon as they are scheduled.

If you are interested in volunteering either on field trips or in the classroom please apply online to be a parent volunteer!



Parent Portal

- Parents have access to their child's grades and attendance at all times throughout the year using Parent Portal. Using your child's CPS ID and a PIN number which are provided by the school, you can keep track of your child's progress online at anytime.
- Preschool students do not receive grades, but Beard asks that you connect to the parent portal.

Donations

- There are no school fees at Beard for the 2019-20 SY. We are hoping for donations for all of our students.
- Donations of \$50 per student are requested at the beginning of each year to pay for programs that we may have such as school supplies program, field trips, student t-shirts, building supplies, or items needed to build student programs here at the school.
- We need your support for our school through fundraising efforts all year long! The profits benefit the purchase of school materials, such as laminating rolls and velcro. There are many school fundraisers throughout the year and we would love if your family could participate!



Donorschoose.org

- Donorschoose.org is a crowdfunding site for public school teachers. We have received many, many new materials, games, supplies, e from generous donors.
- I will be sharing projects throughout the year and would appreciate any donations or shares on social media. Sometimes there are matches offers where any donation is doubled so a \$10 donation doubles to \$20!
- If you search for a teacher on Donorschoose.org, I am listed as Melissa Pelt, Beard Elementary.



Beard School Website

- www.beard.cps.edu
- Has many of the forms you need throughout the year
- Has learning links for students to practice skills
- Has current up to date information on events
- Calendar of Events – important dates for the year
- Teacher’s web pages
- Emails of staff
- Fundraiser Information
- Access to Resources
- Transportation phone numbers

Forms of Communication

- Calendar of events on the Beard School Website & Newscroll (most current news will always be posted on the school website)
- Class Dojo (classroom communication tool)
- Weekly Newsletter
- Monthly Calendar
- Electronic Email
- Robo Calls from the school
- Facebook (Beard School has their own page, and one is for the Beard parents and community)

Forms of Communication

- Any time you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached:
- Phone: 773-534-1228
- Email: mrvanpelt@cps.edu
- ClassDojo messaging
- After dismissal - for quick meeting otherwise we can schedule a meeting