

# District 20 Pre-K/3-K Centers

# The Parent Connection!



Autumn Newsletter



Meisha Porter, *Chancellor*  
David Pretto, *District 20 Superintendent*  
Dianne Gounardes, *Principal*

A Message from Dianne Gounardes,  
*Principal, District 20 Pre-K/3-K Centers*

Greetings to all our Pre K and 3-K Families

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our families to our District 20 Pre K Center Program. This year we celebrate our seventh year of providing outstanding education to our youngest learners. We are also very excited to add 3K to our offerings in 7 of our sites.

We want our families to know that we value our relationships with parents and guardians and that together we can work to provide our children with meaningful activities that will enhance their learning and will create life-long learners with a yearning to explore and discover new and exciting things in our world. We are proud of our dual language programs in Arabic, Mandarin and Spanish which provide our children with the ability to learn or expand on their speaking a second language. Our focus on the Reggio Emilia philosophy, the most highly regarded Early Childhood philosophy in the world, along with the Department of Education's Units of Study provide a wide ranged focus on important topics for our learners.

We have an outstanding staff of administrators, teachers, para professionals, site coordinators, related service providers, nursing staff, food service workers, custodians, secretarial and parent coordinator that devote their all to the betterment of our program. So many of our families have told us they wish they could stay in our program because of the dedication and commitment of our staff and our activities.

We value your input. Please let us know if you have any concerns or questions that we may be able to answer for you. We also value any time you can devote to our program as a volunteer for our PAC (Parent Advisory Committee). Please reach out to our incredible Parent Coordinator, Camille Loccisano ([cloccisano@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:cloccisano@schools.nyc.gov)) if you are able to participate in any capacity.

Wishing you all a good school year ahead. We welcome you all to our District 20 Pre K and 3K family.

With best wishes,

Dianne Gounardes  
Principal, District 20 Pre K Centers

[www.District20Prek.org](http://www.District20Prek.org)

**Z011**

1258 65<sup>th</sup> Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11219

**Z013**

1668 46th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11234

**Z067**

1355 84th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11228

**Z072**

8501 5th Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11209

**Z073**

7415 Ft. Hamilton Pkwy  
Brooklyn, NY 11228

**Z074**

140 58th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11220

**Z075**

21 Bay 11th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11228

**Z094**

2165 71st Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11204

**Z099**

550A 59th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11220

**Z111**

369 93rd Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11209

**Z112**

1423 62<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11219

## Our Program-Wide Events

We happily recognize that our 11 centers each have their own unique set of qualities that make them special places for our students to thrive. We are also proud to be a single program under one dedicated administration and comprised of so many talented educators working in our 11 locations throughout District 20.

It is in this spirit that we take the opportunity to host program-wide events that bring us together in unity as we teach and as we learn. In the first half of the school year our centers come together to raise awareness for important causes- gold for childhood cancer, pink for breast cancer and blue for juvenile diabetes. We also host an annual program-wide toy drive for the Olivia Boccuzzi Foundation. This results in hundreds of children in New York hospitals gifted with a toy during the holiday season.

There is more to come in the second part of the school year! We will host our annual Spring Fling in support of Pietro's Fight! Pietro's Fight is a local organization founded by the Scarso Family in honor of their son Pietro. Their mission is to raise awareness and to fund research for DMD. All students are invited to wear pajamas and families may offer a non-mandatory donation. In addition to Spring Fling, we also host special breakfast events for our moms on Mother's Day week and for our dads on Father's Day week.

Finally, we are proud participants in Relay for Life as we host a mini-relay during the month of May in support of the American Cancer Society.

To learn more about our future events or to volunteer, please reach out to your center's office or our parent coordinator- [Cloccisano@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:Cloccisano@schools.nyc.gov)



# NYCSA

All parents will be asked to sign up for their NYC School Account in the beginning of this school year! Signing up is an easy process and only a few basic details are needed. Once parents have their account, they will be able to track important information about their child's school journey and they will receive important updates and news.

To learn more, please go to <https://mystudent.nyc/>

## Learn about the District 20 Community Education Council !

Go to [www.CEC20.org](http://www.CEC20.org)

and

<https://www.nycparentleaders.org/>



## Follow us on Social Media!

Facebook

@PreKCentersDistrict20

Twitter

@District20PreK

Instagram

@District20PreK

YouTube

District 20 Pre-K Centers

# You're Invited!

We are glad to invite all Pre-K parents and 3-K parents to attend our monthly Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings. Meetings will be held virtually on Zoom during the first week of every month. Parents will receive a monthly email with meeting information and the current agenda. For meeting times and dates, please view our Parent Meeting page on our website [www.District20Pre.org](http://www.District20Pre.org)



**SchoolFood**  
Feed your mind

- ◆ Breakfast and lunch time not only provides fulfilling and healthy meals for our students, but they are structured to allow them light socializing while enjoying their favorite foods.
- ◆ The DOE employs professionally trained chefs to make smart menu choices that meet USDA standards, and the choices are nutrient rich and tasty.
- ◆ The students are offered fresh milk, whole grain cereals and breads, fruit, snacks and a menu that holds a lot of variety.
- ◆ One healthy offering that our Pre-K and 3-K students may enjoy is kale salad. A survey conducted by the DOE has found kale salad to be one of the favorite lunch items among NYC students!
- ◆ To learn more about the menu offerings and DOE food program, you may go to [www.schoolfoodnyc.org](http://www.schoolfoodnyc.org)



## Reading for Kids!

**"Don't Blink!"** By Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by David Roberts. This interactive book is specially designed for little readers who have trouble falling asleep at night. Each time you blink, you must turn a page!



## Reading for Parents!

**"Fun on the Run!"** This is a great book filled with creative ideas for parents to do with their children anywhere! Whether waiting at the doctor's office, restaurants, car rides, and air flights. It's an essential!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Thursday, September 16 Yom Kippur –No School**

**Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup> Italian Heritage Day/Indigenous People Day- No School**

**Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>- Election Day- No School for Students**

**Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>- Veterans Day- No School**

**Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>-**

**Thanksgiving Recess- No School**

**Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>- Holiday Recess- No School**