### MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT P.E.A.K. (PRESCHOOL EDUCATION FOR ALL KIDS) 2019-2020 PROGRAM BROCHURE



Beechwood School 1497 Woodacres Drive Mountainside, NJ 07092



# **Overview of P.E.A.K. Program** (**Preschool Education for All Kids**)

The Mountainside School District offers an integrated full day preschool program. This general education inclusive program offers early childhood experiences that promote positive development and independence while encouraging the uniqueness of each child. Our Preschool Curriculum is aligned with the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Expectations: Standards of Quality. There is a teacher and paraprofessional in each preschool section with appropriate supplemental aids and services for students with learning disabilities.

Approximately one-half of the program's population may consist of students with disabilities. Students with disabilities are automatically admitted into the program as determined by the District Child Study Team.

The P.E.A.K. program will consist of both three and four year olds in each classroom with limited availability to general education children. Children who will be three or four years old on or before October 1, 2019, are potty-trained, and are children of Mountainside residents are eligible. This program offers five full days a week – 8:30 a.m.-3:10 p.m. Program services will be provided each day school is in session. It is to be noted the times of the session are subject to change when we experience delayed openings and early dismissals. Transportation to and from the P.E.A.K. program is the parent's/guardian's responsibility.

Tuition has been approved at \$750.00 per month for 10 months. Parents/Guardians of general education children will be responsible for paying a **nonrefundable deposit** made payable to the Mountainside Board of Education in the amount of \$200.00. This deposit will be applied toward the last month's tuition. Monthly tuition payments will be billed directly from the Board of Education Office.



If you have a three-year-old child currently enrolled in our PEAK Program your child will remain in our program for next year. However, you will have to complete a confirmation form, which will be sent to you, and remit the non-refundable deposit of \$200.00. The deposit will be deducted from your final monthly payment for June.

If you have a four-year-old child currently enrolled in our PEAK Program who will not turn five on or before October 1, 2019, your child will remain in our program for next year. However, you will have to complete a confirmation form, which will be sent to you, and remit the non-refundable deposit of \$200.00. The deposit will be deducted from your final monthly payment for June.

General education students will be selected through an email first come/first serve basis. Please see the procedure below:

#### Step One-Email

Beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, parents/guardians may send an email to <u>peakregistration@mountainsideschools.org</u>. Your email should include your child's name, date of birth, and address. <u>Please note</u>: only emails received on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 a.m. or after will be considered. Emails received prior to February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 a.m. will not qualify.

Parent/Guardian emails will be honored by earliest date and time the email was received. **Emails received prior to 6:00 a.m. on February 12<sup>th</sup> will not qualify**.

Inquirers will either receive an email with a congratulatory letter and Confirmation Form or an email stating your child is on the waiting list.

Those parents whose child is accepted into the program will also receive the following information to complete:

Step Two-PEAK Student Online Registration Step Three-Submit Required Documentation

• All three steps must be completed by 3:30 pm on Friday, March 1, 2019 or your child's placement will be forfeited and the next child on the waiting list will be contacted.

Should you have any questions in advance of registering, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Christina Orozco at (908) 301-9104, ext. 200.







# **Preschool Curriculum Guidelines**

The purpose of the P.E.A.K. program is to provide a preschool education for all participating children. Lessons are designed around the following domains:

- 1. Approaches to Learning
- 2. Literacy
- 3. Math
- 4. Social and Emotional Development
- 5. Creativity
- 6. Language Development & Communication
- 7. Physical Health & Development



Lessons are developed around particular themes (*ex. all about me and school, winter animals and hibernation, community helpers, etc.)* Each week classrooms have weekly focuses including letters, numbers, shapes, and colors.

### Day at a Glance

School days are organized to include both large and small group activities, which provide a wide range of active learning experiences. Small and large group instruction follow weekly focuses and designated themes. A variety of language, mathematics and cognitive skills are emphasized throughout the day, as well as social skills and building confidence.

Each day begins with circle-time (large group) to discuss shared experiences and study-related topics, sing songs, build community, rehearse number & letter skills, and observe weather patterns.

Throughout the day, students participate in several academic centers (small group) including reading, writing and mathematics. The teacher and instructional aides work closely with children to support and extend skills and knowledge.

Students also participate in play centers each day. During this time, children have the opportunity to choose between multiple play centers. Some of these include: dramatic play, blocks, manipulatives, art, iPad, sensory table, drawing/writing, and the classroom library. Center-time provides students with engaging hands-on experiences while learning through play.

P.E.A.K. students receive instruction in Art, Library, Music and Physical Education from teachers certified in those "special" areas.

Children will have lunch together in the cafeteria each day. All students are offered the option to purchase lunch through the school, or pack lunch from home. Children are also required to bring a healthy snack. After recess each day, children are provided with rest time to allow their bodies to rejuvenate.

