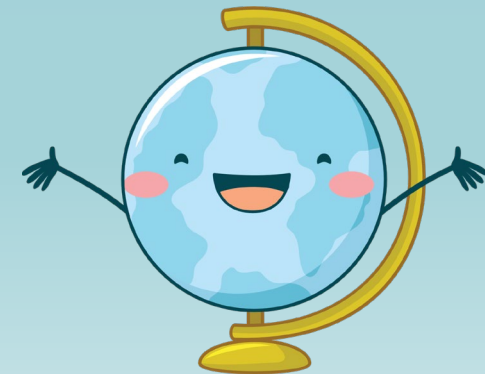


# Welcome to **PRESCHOOL**

Watkins Early Childhood Center  
Amy Gulick- Principal

Lyndon Hott – Assistant Principal



# A little about our program...

- ❖ Watkins is one of four preschool sites in the Newport News Public School system. The program is known as NNPS Preschool
- ❖ We are a full-day program for 4-year-olds who reside in Newport News, VA
- ❖ Each of our classrooms is taught by a fully licensed teacher and an instructional assistant



# School Information

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- 8:45-5:00 PM
- 757-591-4815
- I am Kind, I Am Smart, I am Important, I am a Watkins Star



# Our Preschool Staff

Amy Gulick – Principal

Lyndon Hott – Assistant Principal

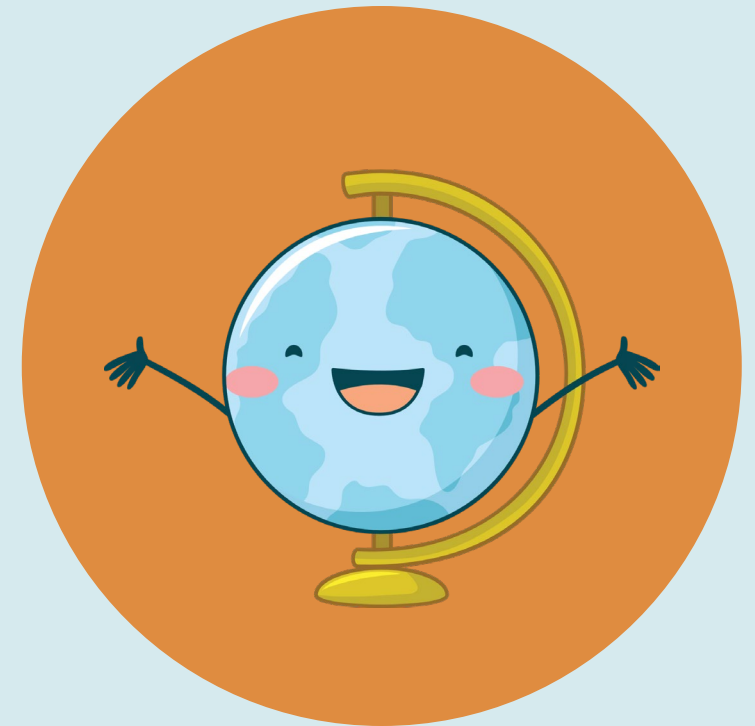
Dinora Rivera – Administrative Secretary

Maryann Holloway – Registrar

Whitney Hickman – School Counselor

Nyanda Koroma – Registered Nurse

Nicole Brightman – Treatment Nurse



# Our Preschool Curriculum



- We use The Creative Curriculum, which is built around 8 big units of study:
  - Beginning the Year
  - Trees
  - Buildings
  - Signs
  - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
  - Clothes
  - Balls
  - Insects
- Each unit incorporates elements of:
  - Reading and Writing
  - Math
  - Social-Emotional Development
  - Play and Discovery Experiences
  - Social Studies
  - Science
  - Music and Visual Arts
  - Health and P.E.
- The Creative Curriculum is aligned with Virginia's Early Learning and Development Standards (2021), set forth by the Virginia Department of Education

You will receive information in the coming weeks about programs to support you and your child:

★ **Seesaw** is the online learning system NNPS Preschool uses to communicate with families and provide additional learning opportunities for students (both in and out of the classroom!)



★ **Ready Rosie** is a family engagement tool that provides families social-emotional and academic resources and activities

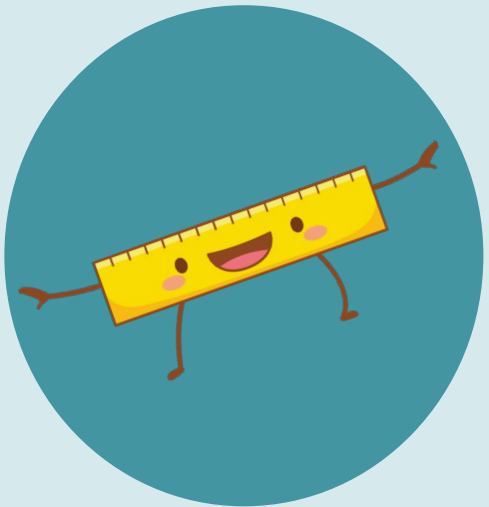


Your preschooler will be assigned an iPad, with built-in Wi-Fi, to support learning experiences in the classroom.



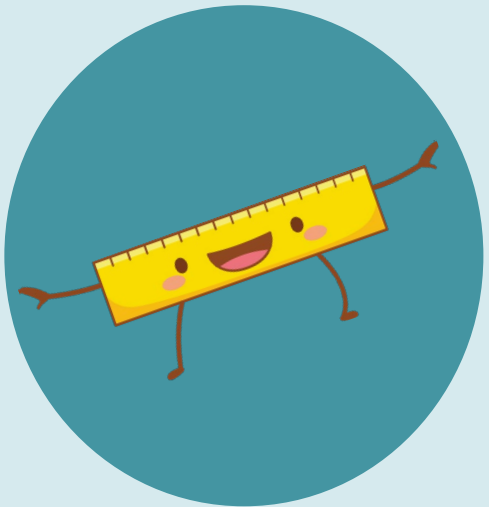
We work with students to develop and understand the appropriate way to use devices and how to use them as an educational tool

# Home-School Partnership

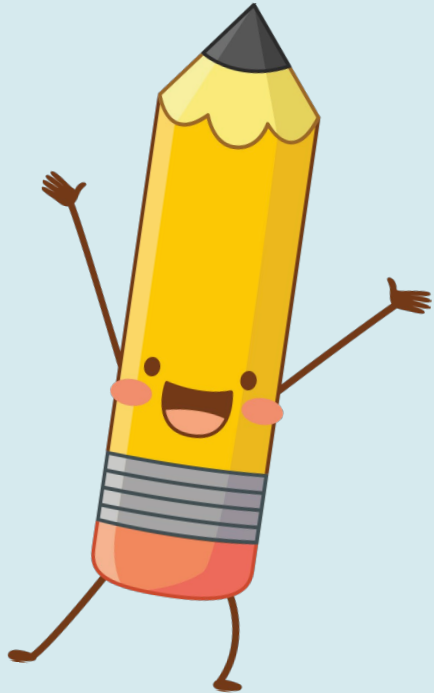




# Home-School Partnership



# School Supplies



## Newport News Public Schools Preschool School Supply List 2024-2025

**Please Bring Supplies To Open House August 22, 4-7pm**

2 Packs of crayons

2 Packs of “fat” wide- grip pencils

1 Pack of dry erase markers

4 Large glue sticks

Complete Change of clothes

**Optional community supplies:** tissues, hand sanitizer, or zip-loc bags (quart or gallon size), may be donated at any time.

# Attendance

- The NNPS Preschool program begins your child's attendance record, which is part of their permanent educational record.
- If your child is sick, your child must be symptom-free for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
- Please call the school or send a note with your child when he/she returns to school explaining the reason for the absence so the absence can be documented as excused.



*Welcome* Newport News Public Schools  
**PRESCHOOL**

**BUILDING GOOD HABITS IN PRESCHOOL: ATTENDANCE**

**Daily Attendance**  
Preschool is a wonderful opportunity for your child to learn new skills and establish relationships with other children and adults. Your child's learning and sense of security are supported by consistent daily attendance. It is important that children learn early in life the importance of attending school **every day**.

**On-Time Arrival**  
Just as an adult's day can get off on the wrong foot when one is running late, arriving late to school can have the same impact on a child. Ensuring your child arrives **on time** every day, and participates in a **full day** of instruction, supports your child's academic and social-emotional well-being.

**Home-School Partnership**  
In the preschool year, excessive and/or unexcused absenteeism can lead to your child being withdrawn from the NNPS Preschool program. Beginning in your child's kindergarten year, excessive and unexcused absences can have legal consequences based on NNPS division procedures.

Our goal is to work with you and your child to build successful school habits in preschool that set the stage for becoming *college, career, and citizen-ready!* Thank you in advance for being our **partner** in supporting your child as they embark on this journey.

[www.nnschools.org/preschool](http://www.nnschools.org/preschool)



*Excessive and unexcused absenteeism can lead to your child being withdrawn from the NNPS Preschool program*

# Attendance

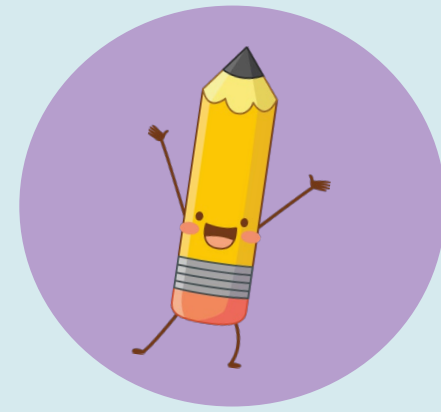
*Avoid late drop-offs and early pick-ups*

Missing small amounts of school on a regular basis adds up.

- Help your child get to school or the bus stop on time
- Avoid picking up your child early, unless it is an emergency
- Schedule appointments outside of school hours, when possible



# Meals



## *Breakfast & Lunch*

- Breakfast and lunch are served daily and provided at no cost to students
- Your child may bring a lunch from home if you prefer
- School lunch calendars are available on the NNPS website
- Parents are always welcome to have lunch with their child
- Please work with your child to begin learning how to independently open their food and drink containers

# Bathroom



**BUILDING INDEPENDENCE**

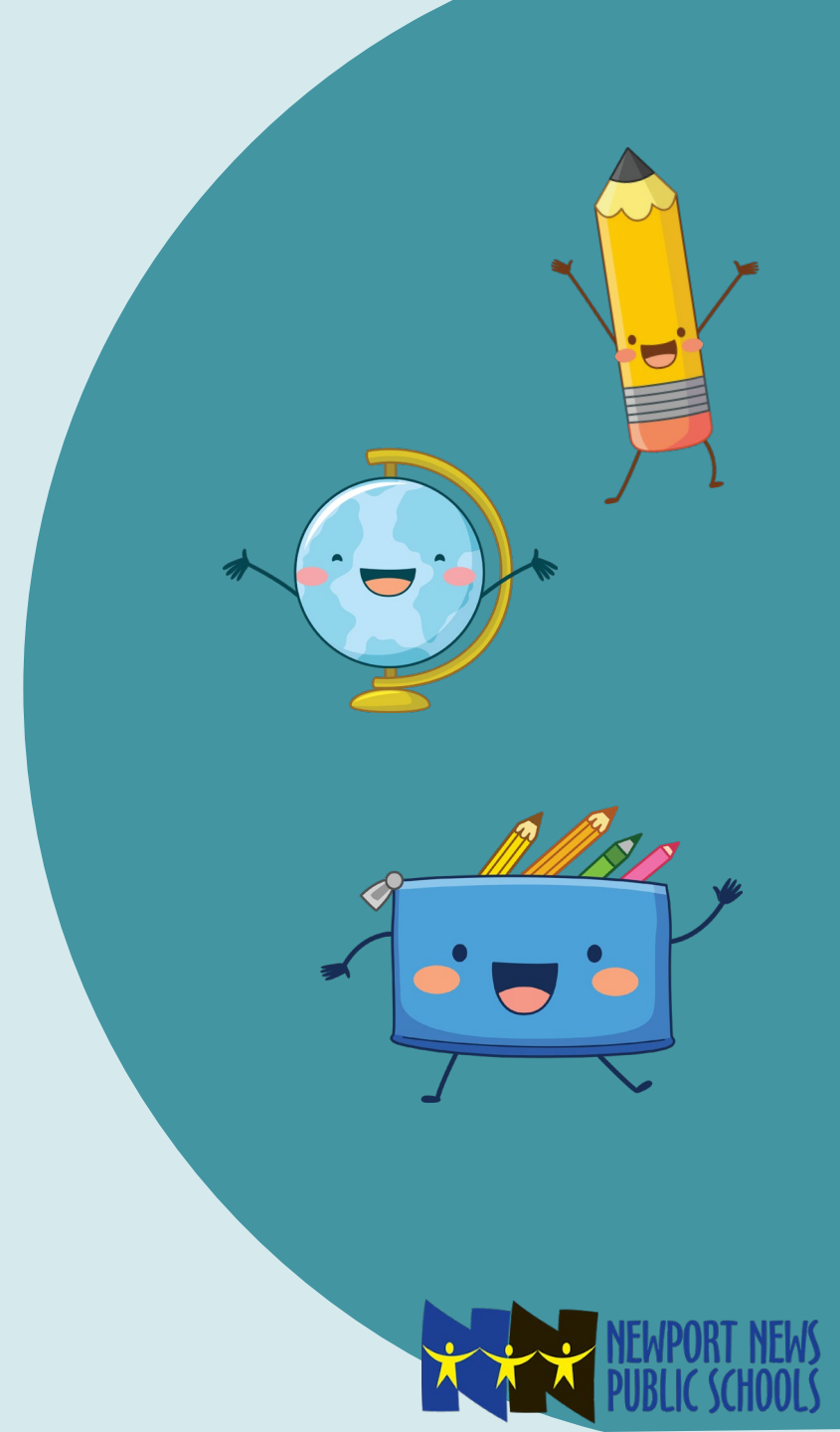
On their own, can your child...

- ✓ Unbuckle, unsnap, pull down pants, or lift dress to get on the toilet?
- ✓ Get toilet paper and wipe themselves?
- ✓ Flush the toilet?
- ✓ Redo clothing when they are done?
- ✓ Wash hands with soap, and dry hands with towel, after every use?

- School staff members work on helping children be successful and independent with clean, healthy toileting procedures
- Children are expected and encouraged to go to the bathroom and clean themselves independently
- Please practice and prepare your child as the school environment may be a new experience
- Teachers may reach out to families to talk to and work with their child if bathroom difficulties are noticed

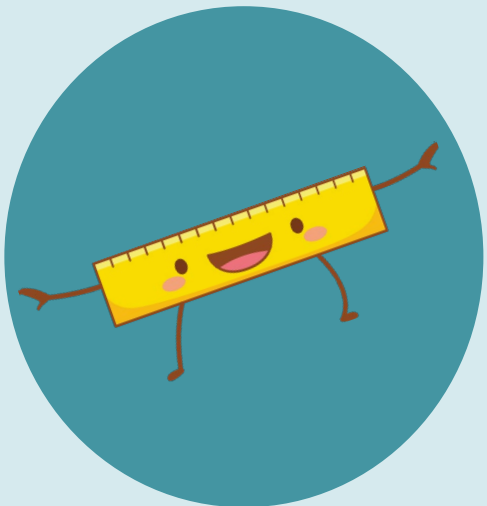
# Name Tags

- All preschool students will receive a personalized name tag and required to ***wear to and from school every day***
- Establish a safe-keeping spot at home for your student to easily access his or her own tag each morning
- Please send all notes and information to school in your child's name tag
- Remember to **check tags daily** for important information, such as:
  - School flyers and announcements
  - Correspondence from classroom teachers
  - Memos and information from the school office



# Drop-Off Procedures

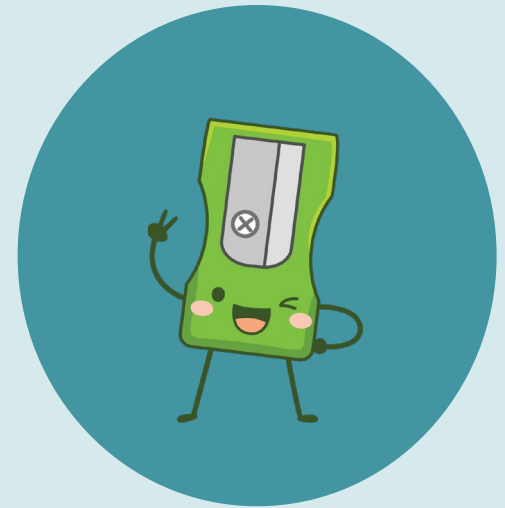
- All Drop-Off Procedures are for the safety and benefit of all students, families, and staff.
- We strongly encourage you to have your child ride the bus to and from school, beginning the first day.
- If you choose to drive your child to school, a staff member will receive your child in front of the school starting at 9:30 AM.
  - To keep all children and staff safe, please:





# Pick-Up Procedures

- All Pick-Up Procedures are for the safety and benefit of all students, families, and staff.
- Each family will be given a total of a **3 yellow** pick-up cards. This card will need to be presented to pick up your child.
- Students can be picked up in the cafeteria at 3:40 PM. Here you will show your yellow card and sign your child out.
- If a child needs to be picked up early, please call the office.
- Please ensure students are able to benefit from a full day of school as much as possible.



# Bus Information

- Bus assignments and bus stop information will be available at Open House.
- Please review bus rules with your child daily - students are expected to be able to sit throughout the entire bus ride and keep hands and feet to themselves.
- To keep your child safe, a **yellow** NNPS Identification Card **must be presented daily** in order to receive your child off the bus.
- **Bus drivers will return students to school if an authorized person is not present with the NNPS Identification Card.** Failure to meet your child at the bus 3 times may result in the loss of bus privileges for your student.



## For Inclement Weather Conditions

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Watch NNPS cable channel 47 or listen for NNPS on a local radio or television station

Check the NNPS website at [www.nnschools.org](http://www.nnschools.org)


Call the NNPS Information Line at (757) 283-7810

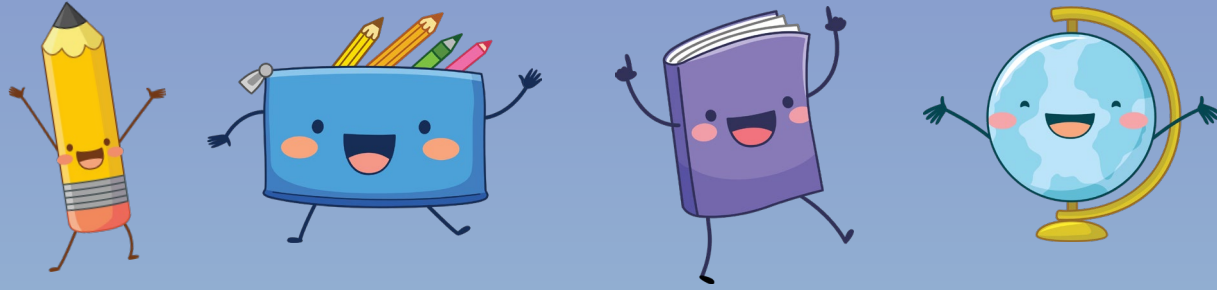
Follow NNPS on social media



# Save the Date!

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 **Open House:** August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4 to 7 PM -  
come meet your child's teachers, see the  
classroom, and tour the school!



Thank you for attending!

Any questions?

**NNPS PRESCHOOL**