

Lowell Public Schools

Preschool Lottery 2024

May 8, 2024



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Agenda

- Welcome
- Lottery Timeline
- Random Assignment of Lottery Numbers
- Overview of Preschool
- Questions and Answers





Lottery Timeline

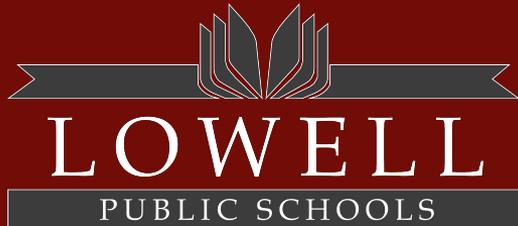
- May 8, 2024 Randomly Assigned Number
- May 9, 2024 Lottery posted on LPS website
- May 15, 2024 Send out **placement offer letter** via email to families in the lottery
- June 2, 2024 Will send out **official assignment letter** to families who were in the lottery and responded to placement offer
- After June 2, 2024 Will place families who were not in the lottery





Random Assignment of Lottery Numbers

All pre-registered children will be assigned a random lottery number if completed registration as of April 19, 2024





Next Steps

- **May 15, 2024** Lottery families will receive an email notification with the child's lottery number and **Pre-K placement offer**. *Families MUST respond* to the email within the stated number of days by selecting one of the following options:
 - Accept placement
 - Accept placement and remain on waitlist for preferred school
 - Reject placement and remain on waitlist for preferred school
 - Reject placement and seek alternative preschool programming
- **June 2, 2024** The Early Childhood Department will email an **official assignment letter** to families who were in the lottery and responded to placement offer
- **In August**, families will receive notification from child's school with the teacher assignment



Overview of Preschool



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4 Years Old



By September 1

Who is Eligible for Preschool?

Children turning 4 years old on or before September 1, 2024 are eligible to register for preschool. If registration was complete on or before, April 19, 2024 child will be entered into the lottery.

Children not registered by April 19, 2024 are placed into Preschool based on date of completed enrollment after the lottery.





Curriculum Overview

In the Lowell Public Schools preschool program, your child will develop the social, language, literacy, math and science skills needed for kindergarten, elementary school and beyond.

- Lowell Public Schools offers a two and a half-hour integrated preschool program and limited number of full-day placements.
- Each session (morning and afternoon) is staffed by an early childhood teacher and paraprofessional.
- Class sizes vary from 12-15 children per classroom.
- Pending budget approval, full-day space may be available in partner programs. Currently, we partner with Community Teamwork and Lowell Day Nursery





Curriculum Overview

Half – Day Schedule

Breakfast/lunch 20 minutes

First Circle – Dialogic Reading 20 minutes

Introduction to Centers 60 minutes

Small group Second Circle – Science, Social and Emotional Learning, and Songs Words and Letter Play 20 minutes

Bathroom 10 minutes

Outside 20 minutes

Full-Day Schedule

Breakfast - 30 minutes

First Circle – 20 minutes

Center Time – 60 minutes

Outdoor play – 30 minutes

Small groups – 30 minutes

Bathroom – 10 minutes

Lunch 30 minutes

Rest 50 minutes

Second Circle 20 minutes

Second Centers 40 minutes

Bathroom 10 minutes

Outdoor 30 minutes



What does your child need for Preschool?

Backpack

Extra set of clothes that matches the season

Layers of clothes

Home - School Folder



Lunch or snacks from home (optional)

Water bottle (optional)

Independent skills – toileting, eating, and requesting help

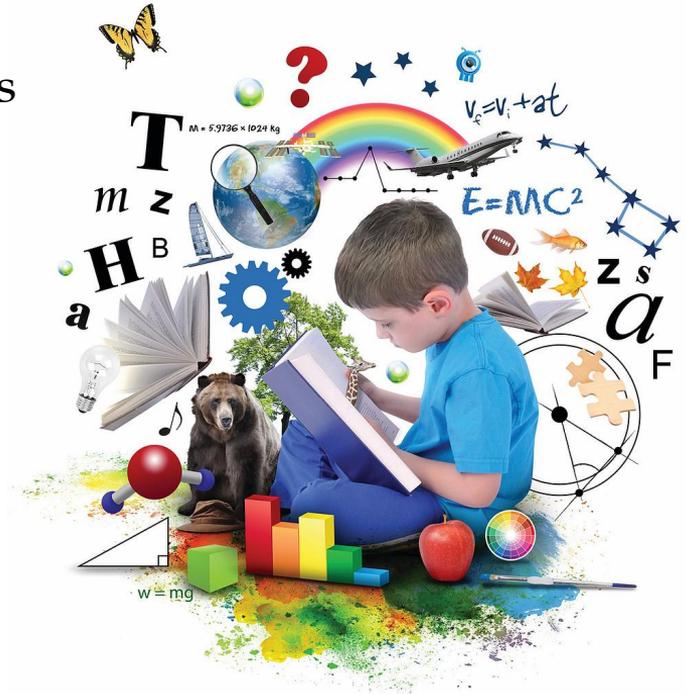
Focused attention





Attendance Matters

- Forming friendships
- Building vocabulary
- School readiness
- Policy - Cannot miss more than 10% of total days attendance
- Link to calendar
- First day
- Early Release





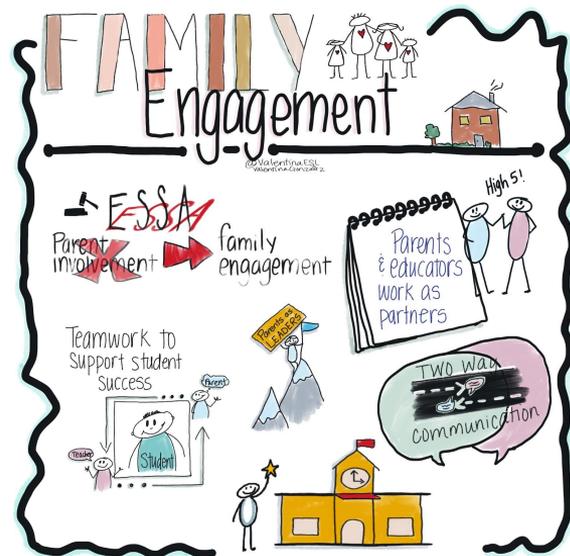
Family Engagement

Parent Teacher Organization
(PTO)

School Site Council

District Outreach

- Social Media
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram
- Email, calls & texts
- Monthly newsletter





Transportation

Transportation for preschool students is NOT provided by the district. Families are responsible for transporting children.





McKinney-Vento

- The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act is a federal law enacted to ensure that homeless students and youth have equal access to the same free and appropriate public education as provided to other children and youth.
- The McKinney-Vento staff at the Family Resource Center are available to help families facing homelessness or housing instability.
- Contact us for assistance, guidance and or direction:
 - If you are living with a friend, relative and have no lease, mortgage or utility bills
 - If you are living in a hotel, motel, car, tent or camper-trailer on wheels, or if you are unaccompanied (couch-surfing/living in different houses).
- If you are living with a Lowell resident, you will need to complete a third party affidavit. Please have a conversation with us if you are unable to produce sufficient documentation or if your housing is insecure.
- Email: mckinney-vento@lowell.k12.ma.us



Summer Opportunity

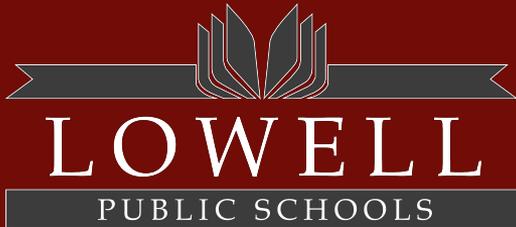
Support your child with independence skills & activities like

- Toileting
- Eating
- Asking for help
- Library
- Playgroups
- LowellSummerMusic.org (Free Fun for Kids)





ParentChild+
Equal Possibilities From The Start



Lowell Public Schools Early Childhood Department

- Connection with Community Programs and providers
- Parent Child +
 - Home visiting program
- Weekly playgroups
- Community family/child events
 - Pumpkin Palooza
 - Kaleidoscope Kids
- Family workshops
 - Positive Solutions for Families
 - Family Leadership Opportunities
 - Opportunities to talk about child development
 - ASQ

*The Lowell Early Childhood Council
promotes partnerships across the community
to help all children and families thrive.*



LOWELL'S EARLY CHILDHOOD
ADVISORY COUNCIL
Working together for young children and families



Frequently Asked Questions



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Stay in Touch

Early Childhood Department

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- Lisa Van Thiel, **Phone:** 978-674-2051 **Email:** lvanthiel@lowell.k12.ma.us

Family Resource Center

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