

Welcome to Preschool @ F. L. Walther School

Florence L Walther School
56 Chestnut Street
Lumberton, NJ 08048
609-267-1404 x2000
Mrs. Coletta Graham, Principal

Lumberton Township School District

33 Municipal Drive
Lumberton, NJ 08048
609-267-1406
www.lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mr. Joseph Langowski, Superintendent

Office of the Child Study Team
609-267-9099 x3808
Mrs. Caryn Zweben,
Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services

Welcome to Preschool!

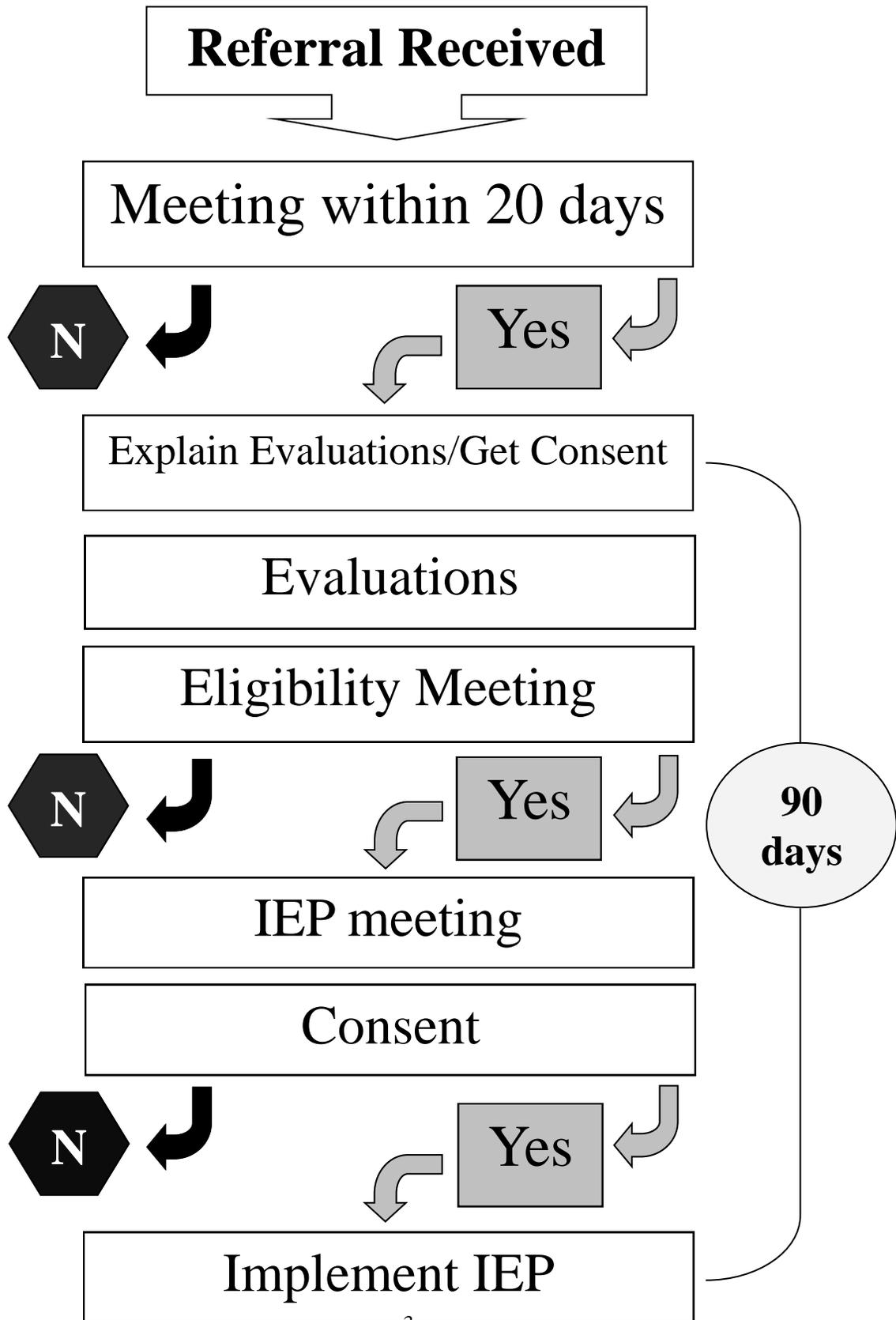
In the Lumberton Township School District, Preschool is available at the Florence L. Walther School. The F.L. Walther School is located at 56 Chestnut Street. The principal is Mrs. Coletta Graham. Mrs. Graham can be reached at the main office, 609-267-1404x2000.

F. L. Walther School houses students in Preschool, Kindergarten and Grade 1. "Walther Cubs," as they are called, participate in activities that are developmentally appropriate for the early childhood population; such as the school wide kindness initiative to be "a bucket filler." Students learn that everyone has an invisible bucket to hold their good feelings and when we are kind to others we help to "fill their buckets."

For three and four year old children who qualify through developmental testing, there is a preschool program. Qualifying preschoolers have demonstrated a developmental delay in one or more developmental domains: Cognitive, Fine Motor, Gross Motor, Language, and Self Help/Social. The preschool program is staffed by a multi-disciplinary team that utilizes both in-class support and pull-out therapy instruction. The Preschool program at F. L. Walther School is under the direction of Mrs. Caryn Zweben, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services. Mrs. Zweben can be reached through the office of Child Study Team at 609-267-9099x3808.



The Preschool Referral Process



How do I register for Preschool?

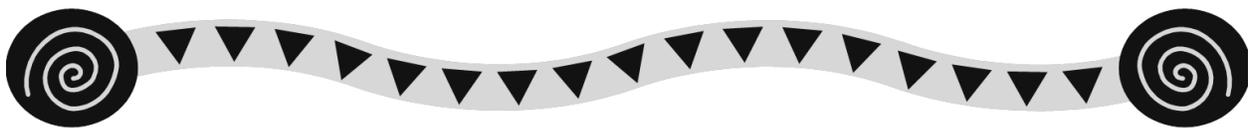
Parents or Guardians must call Cindy Wiverstad, EDC Secretary/Central Registration at 609-261-2974 and make an appointment to register your child. At the time of your child's registration appointment you **MUST** provide:

- Proof of residency (must be a current lease, deed, or agreement of sale) (Affidavits of Residency if parent/guardian name is not on the lease, deed, or agreement of sale)
- Birth certificate copy *with raised seal*
- Immunization records
- Custody or Guardianship documents, if applicable
- A letter referring your child to the Child Study Team.

Your child should accompany you to the registration appointment as he/she is required to receive a vision and hearing screening with the School Nurse at that time.

Within twenty days of receiving your letter requesting evaluation by the Child Study Team, you will be contacted to attend an Identification/Evaluation Plan Meeting. At this meeting you, along with the Child Study Team, a special education teacher, and a general education primary teacher, will review all information in reference to your youngster and determine what, if any, testing is warranted or what the next course of action should be.

If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please do not hesitate to contact the Child Study Team at 267-9099 x3808.

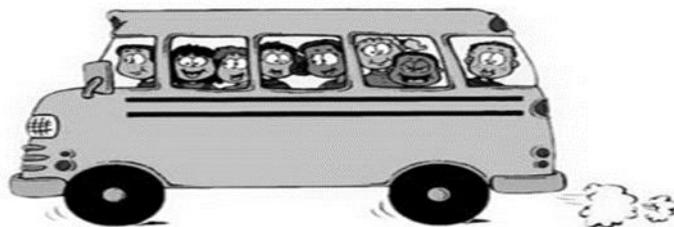


What are the Preschool Options for my child?

If your child is evaluated by the Child Study Team and determined to be “Eligible for Special education and Related Services” as a “Preschool Child with a Disability,” then an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed to determine the appropriate educational program to meet your child’s needs. Program options in the Lumberton School District at the preschool level are:

1. Self-Contained “Preschool Disabilities” program at F. L. Walther School – There are 2 in-district self-contained “preschool disabilities” classes that operate at the F. L. Walther School. These cases are limited in size to 8 students with a special education teacher and a classroom assistant or up to 12 with 2 assistants. These classes are described later in this booklet on page 9. The child receives educational and related services per their IEP.
2. Self-contained “out of district” preschool disabilities programs - There are several more specialized programs that operate in other schools, including approved public schools; approved public separate schools, such as Burlington County Special Services School District; or approved private schools. These programs are considered based on the child’s educational needs.

Transportation for all preschoolers is handled through the Office of Pupil Personnel Services in accordance with the Lumberton School District Policy for bus pick up and drop off at the home address only.



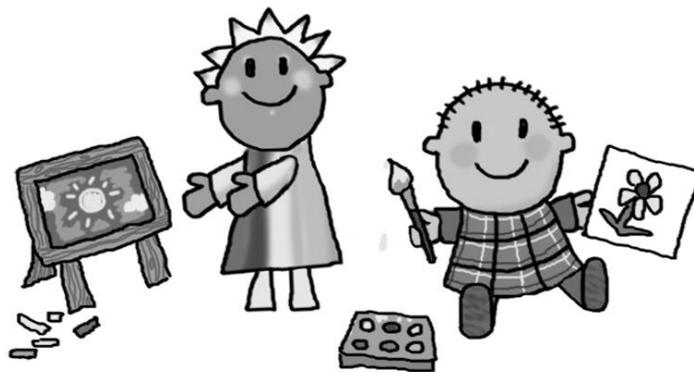
My child is coming to the F.L. Walther Preschool Program -

Now WHAT?

The purpose of preschoolers coming to our program is to begin to address the developmental delays discovered in testing by the Child Study Team in an educational setting. Goals have been made to guide the staff to address developmental delays through your child's IEP. It is our hope to work closely and cooperatively with parents and caregivers for a successful learning experience. We are available to advise you in addressing developmental delays in the home environment. Remember, YOU are your child's first and most important teacher. Please contact us and we will be happy to assist you.

We look forward to working with you this year!

The Preschool Team



The Preschool TEAM

There are a variety of ways to get in touch with the members of the Preschool Team if you have questions or concerns about the care your child receives while at F.L. Walther School. Email is the most convenient way to contact the members, as some of them travel between buildings within the district. Please allow time for team members to access a computer to respond to you.

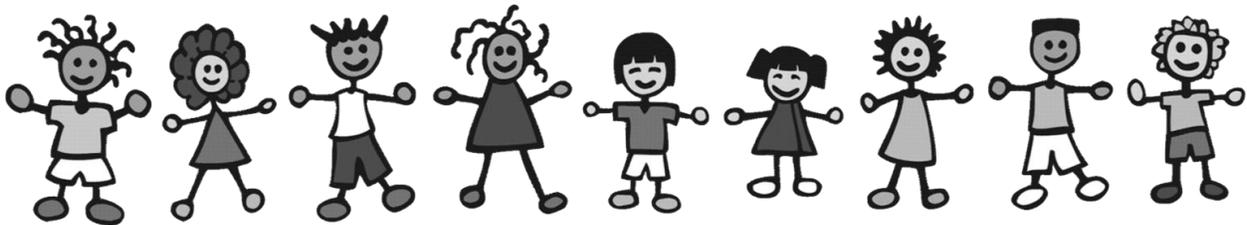
If it is URGENT that you get a message to a team member, please call 267-1404 X 2000 and speak to the school secretary. Here is the contact information for the preschool staff:

Name	Position	Phone Number	Email
Mrs. Lisa Burke (Miss Lisa)	Teacher	267-1404 X 2109	lburke@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mrs. Amy Corbett	Teacher	267-1404 X 2107	acorbett@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mrs. Christine Contiliano	Speech Therapist	267-1404 X 2117	ccontiliano@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mrs. Liz Corej (Pronounced "Corey")	Speech Therapist	267-1404 X 2118	ecorej@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mrs. Jennifer Gentile (Miss Jen)	Occupational Therapist	267-9099 (leave a message with the secretary)	jgentile@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mrs. Amy Hummel	FLW School Nurse	267-1404 option 2	ahummel@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mrs. Amanda Lamprey (Miss Amanda)	Learning Disabilities Teacher/Consultant	267-9099 x 3833	alamprey@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Mrs. Debbie Yuhas (Miss Debbie)	Physical Therapist	267-9099 (leave a message with the secretary)	dyuhas@lumberton.k12.nj.us
Ms. Kelly Zinn	School Social Worker, Child Study Team Case Manager	267-1404 X 2006	kzinn@lumberton.k12.nj.us

Preschool Classes @ F. L. Walther School

Students who qualify for preschool at the F.L. Walther School may be assigned to one of two classes. These classes are designed to meet students' needs as determined by testing (new students) or past performance (students already enrolled and participating in program). Placement determination will be discussed and determined at the Eligibility Determination Meeting or Annual IEP meeting.

Supportive Model – In the supportive program, we work on school readiness skills. These are the skills needed to become a successful learner in a school setting. Skills include, but are not limited to: shared attention (attending to a group lesson); communication, both receptive (following directions, answering questions, and vocabulary) and expressive (asking questions and verbal expression); and social language development, (asking for help, turn taking, and understanding the class routine). The promotion of gross motor and fine motor skills will also be addressed.



Foundational Model - In the foundational program, we work on “pre-academic” skills. These are the skills needed to become successful learners in a Kindergarten program. In the foundational program, we will work on continued development of “supportive” skills and pre-academic skills such as: phonological awareness and reading readiness behaviors, mathematic concepts, problem solving skills, story comprehension and journaling.

All classes utilize the High Scope Curriculum as the basis for instruction. This program is “based on the principles of active learning and support of a child’s positive interaction with adults and peers.” <https://highscope.org/>

Schedules

AM Preschool Class 8:25—11:00

PM Preschool Class 12:45—3:20

Speech, Physical and Occupational therapies currently follow a Monday to Friday schedule to allow for service provision in different settings. Adaptive Physical Education also follows a Monday to Friday schedule. It is best to make sure that your child is always prepared for gross motor activities by wearing sneakers daily.

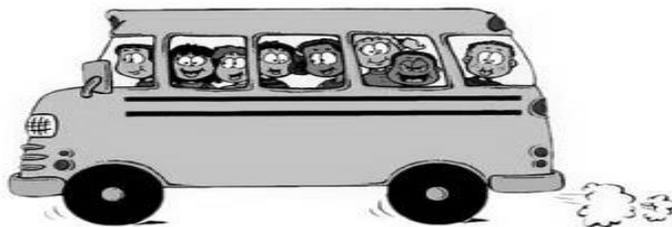
School Calendar: The calendar for the Preschool Program will be given directly to parents. Please be mindful of this calendar. **Preschool DOES NOT follow the Walther School Calendar.**

Inclement Weather: In the event of a **Delayed Opening**, AM Preschool will be cancelled. PM Sessions will meet. Likewise, in the event of an **Inclement Weather Related Early Dismissal**, AM Preschool will meet. PM Sessions will be cancelled.



Transportation

Transportation for all preschoolers is handled through the Office of Pupil Personnel Services in accordance with the Lumberton School District Policy for bus pick up and drop off at the home address only. Please contact them at 609-267-9099 x 3808.



Attendance

Attendance in the preschool program is highly encouraged in order for your child to make progress. As your child's IEP has been developed to address their developmental delays, the goals in the IEP cannot be addressed if your child is not consistently in attendance. If your child is not sick, they should be consistently attending school according to the Lumberton School District calendar. The School District calendar is posted on the district website. A special schedule for half days will be sent to parents in October of the current year, and as needed thereafter.

Reporting an Absence

If your child will be absent, please notify Walther School, 609-267-1404 option 2 to report. A note should be sent in upon return, which can be written or emailed to Mrs. Hummel. Teachers also appreciate an email, especially in advance of a planned absence.

"I don't feel good"

Sometimes children get to school and develop an illness during the course of the day. You will be contacted to come and get your child if they display:

- Vomiting in school
- Diarrhea in school
- Visible signs of breathing problem (with no asthma action plan or medication available)
- Fever over 100 degrees
- Unexplained lethargy
- Unexplained rash

The staff will use their best judgment to determine if/when contact with a caregiver is necessary.

As is true with all Walther students, students who vomited, had diarrhea or had a fever over 100 degrees should not return to school until they are 24 hours symptom free.

Influenza (Flu) Vaccine Information

Per the Burlington County Health Dept., the current seasonal flu vaccine is required for those children 6 months-59 months of age attending childcare/preschool. Children enrolled prior to December 31st must receive 1 dose of seasonal flu vaccine by Dec. 31. Documentation of the flu shot must be presented to Mrs. Hummel. Children entering after Dec. 31 must provide documentation of flu vaccine prior to program entry. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Hummel.



Dress Code

Preschool students are expected to adhere to the Student Dress code adopted by the Lumberton Board of Education. Please refer to the Parent Handbook (found on the website—Schools, F.L. Walther School tab- Scroll down and look for F.L. Walther Parent Handbook).

Preschool students LEARN while they PLAY. Therefore, help your child dress for school:

SNEAKERS or flat, closed toe shoes should be worn every day.

Shorts or briefs should be worn UNDER skirts.

DRESSY clothes are only for picture day. Please wear comfortable clothes that you don't mind getting dirty to school as we paint, have outdoor play, and have sand/water table exploration.

If your child has not 100% mastered potty training, do NOT put them in overalls or belts that take extra time to unfasten making it more difficult for your child to become independent. Elastic waist pants or occasional assistance needed with buttons and snaps are fine.

Milk Money

Milk money can be paid for by cash or check (made payable to F.L. Walther Cafeteria.) You can choose to pay for an entire year or on a month by month basis. Parents who pay monthly can expect to receive a note in their child's backpack at the end of each month with the balance owed for the remainder of the year or next month.



FREE/REDUCED LUNCH FORM: The free/reduced lunch form is also applicable for milk for preschool students. PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM in the first day packet, even though preschoolers do not eat lunch at Walther School. Your child may be eligible to receive his/her milk through that program.

If your child has a milk ALLERGY, you can send in an appropriate substitute drink. If your child “doesn't drink milk at home,” we encourage you to let us try to get them on the milk regimen at school. It's amazing what kids will do when they see all their friends doing it, too.

Snack time

The preschool classroom uses a community snack system in which every family contributes item(s) and we share them at the table. All parents will receive a note when more snacks are needed for the class.

Specific allergies will be addressed by the classroom teacher on an as-needed basis

Because of allergies, ALL donations are requested to be NUT FREE. Please read the labels.

Snack is:

Goldfish crackers

Pretzel sticks or circles

Letter cookies or crackers

Cheez-Its

Teddy Grahams

Graham Crackers

Vanilla Wafers

Cereals that can be eaten with the fingers (cheerios, apple jacks, fruit loops, etc.)

Occasionally, if parents would like to send in fresh fruit, cheese sticks or yogurt, we will be happy to use it for snack that day.

Snack is NOT:

Fun Fruits or Fruit Snacks of any kind

Marshmallows

Cookies such as Oreos or chocolate chip

Potato Chips

Cheese Puffs

Cupcakes

School Supplies

Here are the items that your child will need for school:

- A STANDARD size backpack. The small ones are cute, but projects, papers and “treasured art work” don’t fit in them.
- A COMPLETE change of clothes in a Ziploc bag. Each Item should be labeled.
- Diapers or pull-ups, if necessary.
- A picture of your family (or a scanned copy) to keep in the classroom. It will be returned at the end of the year.
- A box of snack for sharing (see SNACKTIME page for suggestions)
- Milk money (REMEMBER to complete the Free/Reduced Lunch Form in the first day packet).
- A package of Baby Wipes – we use these in the room frequently for cleaning up hands and faces quickly



10 WORDS YOUR PRESCHOOLER SHOULD UNDERSTAND

HIS/HER NAME Your child will meet lots of new friends and teachers/assistants/specialists so it is important that they can say their name and introduce themselves to others (bonus: their age).

YES Always a great word.... Good to work on for answering simple questions.

MORE Students usually like to have “more” snack, “more” paint, or “more” playtime!

WANT This word will be important to students to have their needs and wants met. We have many cooking classes during group speech lessons, so this word is used to request items and for all to help prepare snacks related to the preschool themes.

EAT and DRINK It’s all about snack time! It is a great time for students to work on requesting preferred items---especially milk and crackers.

HELP Sometimes your child will need help getting toy items, putting his/her art shirt on, or getting “help” from our staff.

HURT If your child gets hurt or bumps a knee; this word will help staff to help your child and maybe even make a trip to see Mrs. Hummel (our school nurse) for help.

PLAY This is a social word and will help your child ask classmates to play and engage in pretend play.

BATHROOM Some children will be using the bathroom independently, and others will need some help. This word helps in the training process.

STOP/NO At times, students need to say this word to friends or staff when playtime is over, a classmate is taking a toy, or to answer simple question.