

Hoboken Public Schools

Kindergarten Day of Visitation

April 11, 2019





The philosophy of our Kindergarten program is to build a positive classroom community which supports social/emotional development while simultaneously facilitating cognitive growth. We are laser-like focused on establishing powerful learning environments which include the opportunity to learn through play. Lastly, but most crucial is the development of family partnerships to facilitate powerful connections both at school and home.

Testimonials from students

The Joseph F. Brandt School



I love being a part of the Brandt School because...

At the End of
School I like to do
computers phd frechoes
dh then my mommy
dh DADY won pick me
up. I like when Mr
Shairdin reads Books.
Sheridan

By KATHERINE JABE

2-20-18


Building brilliant, confident leaders...

williamD




I love being a part
of the Brandt school
because I am getting
smarter.

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It was hard
work, but very
exciting to be the
Brandt Student
of the month. I
hade to work hard
and leten to direkshons.
I am so happy
to be it and I
am very luke to
be the Brandt Student
of the month. Tank
you very much.

Thank you so
much this is
a dream come
true! I am also
very happy to be
in Brandt with
very kind techers
and amazing
frends. I am so
happy with all
of you!



A collection of colorful pencils and paper clips is arranged on the left side of a dark chalkboard background. The pencils, in various colors including green, blue, red, orange, yellow, and purple, are sharpened and point towards the center. Several paper clips in matching colors (orange, green, pink, blue) are scattered below the pencils. The overall composition is clean and educational.

Before & After School Programs

→ Breakfast Program | 7:30 AM

Our schools open each morning at 7:30 a.m. for those that engage in the breakfast program. Certified staff members are on hand to monitor students while they eat breakfast, which is served by the district's food service provider, or simply prepare for the school day.

→ Passport to Learning | Dismissal - 6:00 PM

The Hoboken Board of Education operates a comprehensive after school program, Passport to Learning, at each school location from dismissal until 6:00 p.m. The program offers enrichment, structured play, homework help, and dinner.

→ Pomptonian Food Service

Lunch is provided by Pomptonian Food Service. Point of sales system allows parents to electronically add lunch money to a child's account and to monitor both funds and chosen food.

→ Lunch period for Kindergarten is 11:15 a.m.

Children at Brandt eat lunch in the classroom and are accompanied by a paraprofessional. There is also a dedicated custodian to ensure that the classroom is clean and ready for an afternoon of learning. Additional staff members monitor hallways to supervisor bathroom trips.



Food Services

Acquisition of Gross Motor Skills

- Physical activity & gross motor skill development is critical for early childhood learners.
- Kindergarten children have access to the playgrounds, play equipment, and gymnasium.
- Children play outside daily, unless inclement weather prohibits.
- Indoor recess time is maximized to insure physical activity.
- All recess includes both free play and structured activities.



Kindergarten Program Overview



- NJDOE Guidance shares that Kindergarten classrooms be limited to 21 students. As a district we have maintained smaller sizes.
- All **Kindergarten** classes are assigned a full-time paraprofessional.
- Academic program consists of Mathematics, English Language Arts, STEM Infused Science, and Social Studies
- Specials programs consist of Physical Education, Art, Music, World Language, Theater Arts and an array of enrichment experiences that help children grow socially, emotionally, and academically
- Full-time school nurses, School Counselors, and access to the Child Study Team, as needed.

Highlighting English Language Arts

We deliver an integrated reading and language arts curriculum that focuses on literacy development, writing, communication skills and Library Media.

Curriculum

- 12, three-week units focused on a theme or topic.
- Units 1-5 focus on the alphabet and sight words until students transition to two letters and two sight words.

Glow & Grows

- Students engage in timed tasks aimed at growing the capacity of the writer and the data is used to inform the Challenge and Support (2x's a week) periods

English Language Arts:

Focuses on foundational skills of print concepts, phonological awareness, phonics & word recognition, and fluency.

Highlighting Mathematics

Mathematics approach is based upon the concept of fewer concepts at greater depth and these concepts are taught using a three-step learning process that includes concrete, pictorial and abstract strategies.

Curriculum

- Emphasizes problem solving skills and metacognition while fostering positive attitudes toward mathematical thinking.

Glow & Grows

- Students engage in timed tasks aimed at growing the capacity of the young mathematician, and the data is used to inform the Challenge and Support (2x's a week) periods.

Mathematics:

Focuses on hands-on, concrete activities to teach number sense, comparing numbers and data, flat and three dimensional shapes, patterns, and simple mathematical operations.

Highlighting Science & Social Studies

Science

- Science units are based upon the Next Generation Science Standards
- Focus is placed on scientific methods and processes, as opposed to the memorization of facts
- Science units are enhanced by Project Lead the Way's *Project Launch* hands-on STEM modules

Social Studies with Technology Infusion

- Social Studies units are based upon the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards
- Focus is placed upon the integration of reading and writing as students begin the journey of self-to-world study, across the five strands of social studies:
 - ◆ Geography
 - ◆ Civics
 - ◆ Economics
 - ◆ History
 - ◆ Multiculturalism

Promoting Readiness at Home

- Help prepare your child to take off his/her coat, use the restroom, and open lunch and snack containers independently
- Praise your child when he/she exhibits independence
- Read to your child daily
- Label your home
- Make math & problem solving activities part of your child's day
- Engage in rich conversations with your child
- Ask your child open-ended questions
- Allow your child to express his/her opinions in a respectful manner
- Let your child see you as a reader and problem solver
- Teach your child to reflect upon events and activities

Program Placement

Priority Placement Given to:

- **Sibling currently enrolled in K-12 District Placement**
 - The goal is for siblings to be placed in the same school
 - If preschool placements conflict with Kindergarten placement (i.e, Preschool sibling at Demarest) students are placed at the closest school for K (i.e., Calabro)
 - Does not apply to Charter and Private School placements
- **Individualized Education Plans (IEP)**
 - Documentation is provided from the Hoboken Child Study Team
 - Placement is in the Least Restrictive Environment as dictated by the IEP

Placement Factors:

- All students are placed at a school within *.9 miles* of their home
- All students have a walking time of less than *15 minutes* to their school
- No one is placed in the furthest school from their home unless directed by another factor (i.e., sibling or IEP)

Assessments

- **DRA 2**

Formative reading assessment enabling teachers to systematically observe, record, and evaluate changes in student reading performance.

- **Anecdotal Assessments**

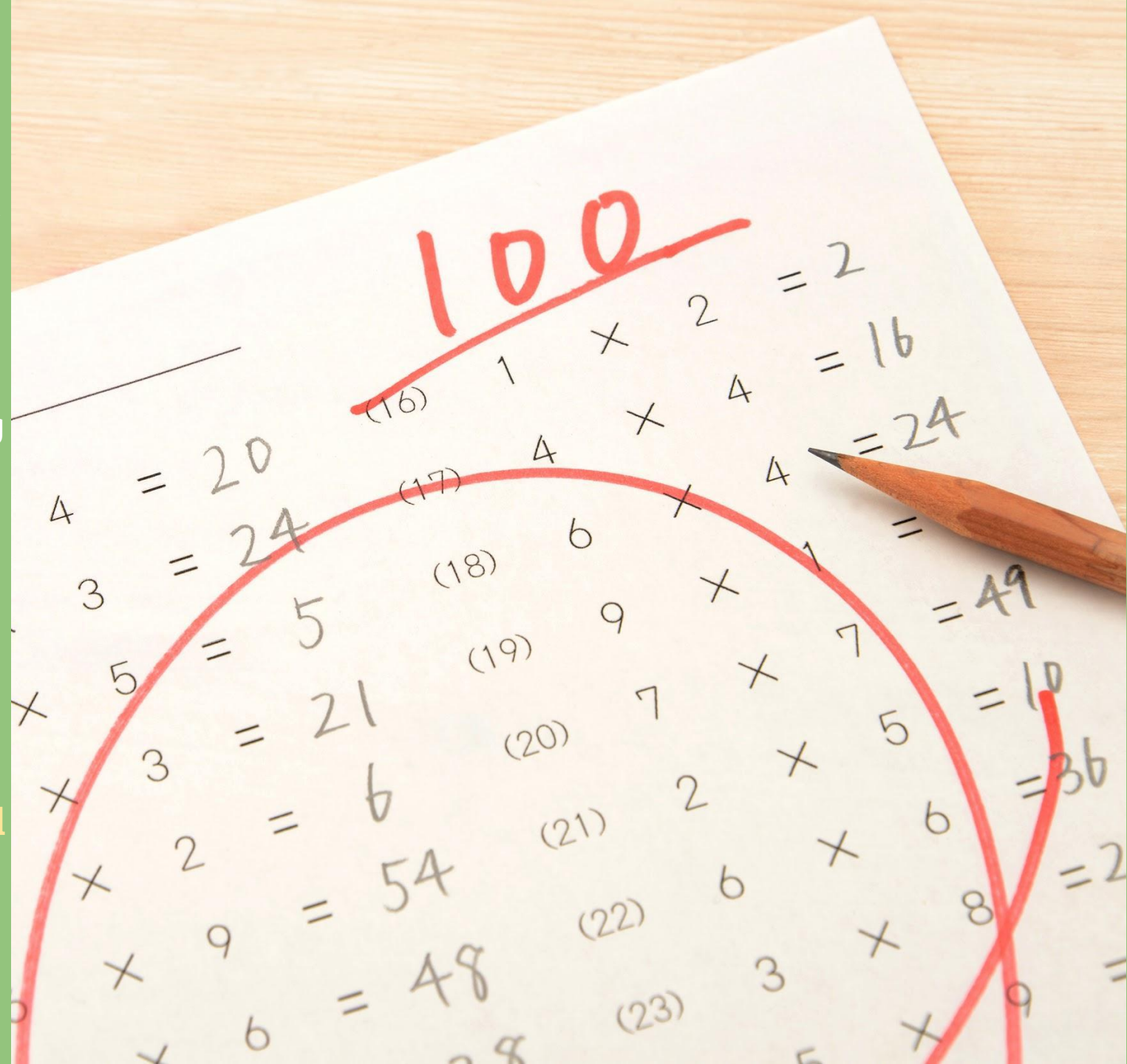
Organic, holistic assessments documenting growth in targeted areas as evaluated by teachers.

- **Benchmark Assessments**

Used in ELA and Math to ensure that we engage in rigorous differentiation and provide tailored challenges and/supports.

- **Challenge & Support/Gifted & Talented**

We approach identification of support and accelerated learning through daily school-wide enrichment informed with these data points.



Parent & Guardian School Involvement Information:

- Parents are encouraged to be involved
- All schools have a vibrant & growing Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Parents may serve as a classroom parent
- We love to hear about parent or guardian talents & skills and how we can use these in our classrooms
- Parent & Teacher conferences are held twice per year
- Teachers & administrators always stand ready to assist parents
- Homework and projects are often intended to be family activities

Stay in touch with us

Website: www.hoboken.k12.nj.us please see the “community relations” tab on the main page for more ways to communicate with us and stay up to date with information.

Mobile app: You can find us by searching Hoboken School District in the Apple Store or in the Google Play Store from any of your Apple or Android Devices. You'll be able to subscribe to push notifications for news and events from across the district, access resources such as our staff directory and district calendar, find links to our social media pages, and more.

Genesis: Please make sure all of your contact information is up to date in our Genesis system to receive all emergency info and weekly updates. A Genesis form will be sent home by your homeroom in order to review and update all contact information.

The Herald: The district's weekly newsletter is available on the website and contains a note from the Superintendent and Principals as well as specific articles from across the grade levels and schools.

Digital Backpack: Our Digital Backpack is a monthly listing of upcoming events, school calendars, and more. Be sure to check it often to stay up to date on all that is happening in our district!



Stay in touch with us via social media

Twitter:

Please follow us on twitter @hobokenschools to view pictures and see live school updates.

Facebook:

Visit us at www.facebook.com/hobokenpublicschools to see updates and stories from around the district. Be sure to visit and like our district page.