



Southeast Delco School District
Kindergarten Center
1 School Lane
Glenolden, PA. 19036
610-522-4365
July 28, 2009

Dear Kindergarten Families:

Greetings from the Kindergarten Center! The staff and I would like to welcome our newest students to the Southeast Delco School District. Beginning school life as a Kindergartener is an exciting time. We promise to provide a safe and secure environment designed to support young learners.

Your child's education is the most important and powerful gift. Together with you, our parent partners, we will support your child on this wonderful journey. Here are some important information items and dates to ensure that the beginning of the journey is a happy one for your child.

- **OPEN HOUSE:** Plan to attend our Open House on Thursday, September 3rd, between 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. A flyer is provided giving the details. You and your child will be able to tour the school and meet your child's teacher. Please come to one of the information sessions in the cafeteria to hear about arrival and dismissal. We want to help you and your child to be prepared for safe passage on the very first day.
- **ID BADGE:** Please complete the identification badge in your August mailing and pin it to your child's clothing on the first day of school. The badge will help us as we learn your child's names and their dismissal plan for the first day.
- **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:** Our first day will be Tuesday, September 8th. If you choose to bring your child to school on the first day, you may escort him or her to the blacktop area at the rear of the building. This is where the children will line up with their teacher each day. *Because of security procedures, parents will be asked not to enter the building but to say goodbye in the line up area. The classroom day begins at 8:40 a.m. and dismissal is at 3:10 p.m. each day. Breakfast will be served between 8:20 a.m. and 8:35 a.m. so that children can finish eating and arrive in their classroom on time.*
- **BREAKFAST/LUNCH:** Our Kindergarten Center cafeteria offers breakfast and lunch to students, with free and reduced-price programs available for eligible families. Applications for free and reduced programs have been mailed and **must** be completed before students can participate. Plan to pack a lunch or purchase a platter until you are approved. The meal prices are:
 - Breakfast \$1.15/day and \$5.50/week or \$1.50/week for reduced cost (cash only)
 - Lunch \$2.15/day and \$10.50/week or \$2.00/week for reduced cost (cash only)All platters include milk. (White, chocolate, or strawberry)
MealpayPlus, an online student account system is available for convenient payment. See the enclosed flyer for details.
- **SUPPLIES:** A supply list is enclosed. You may bring the supplies to the Open House or, send them to school anytime during the first week of school.
- **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:** Back to school night will be Tuesday, September 15th at 6:30 p.m. Be sure to mark your calendar. You will not want to miss this partnering opportunity with your child's teacher. Teachers will explain school and curriculum expectations for the school year. **Parent attendance on this night is a must.**

- **BUSES:** The district transportation office will mail bus stop and bus time information to families by the end of August. Please note that the district provides transportation only if a child lives more than 1.5 miles from the school or if the child would have to follow a hazardous route. Bus schedules often take longer on the first days while our Kindergarten students learn the routine. Please be at the stop early and expect that the times may be off. By the second week the schedules will become predictable.
- **YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:** A welcome letter is enclosed from your child's teacher. Open House on September 3rd will be the time to meet your child's teacher and become familiar with the classroom. Open House will be held from 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- **CAR PICK-UP PROCEDURES:** Parents who will be driving students to and from school will use the car line. This line is to the right after pulling in the driveway and is marked by the arrows on the pavement. Students will be helped from the car in the morning until they become more independent, and brought to the car beginning at 3:10 p.m. at dismissal. The information sheet enclosed must be completed and returned by the first day of school stating all adults who will be permitted to pick-up your child. Southeast Delco School District signs will be handed out at Open House and on the first day of school. **These must be displayed in the window of the car. We will not release your child to a car that does not have the official sign. This is for your child's safety.**
- **WALKER PICK-UP PROCEDURES:** The walker pick-up entrance will be at the back of the cafeteria, located along the side of the building. Parents will be checked in by the teacher on duty and asked to sign-out their child. The information sheet enclosed must be completed and returned by the first day of school stating the names of adults who will be permitted to pick-up your child. We will not release your child to an adult without your permission. Walkers will be dismissed to the cafeteria to meet their designated adult at 3:10 p.m.
- **UNIFORMS** Students are expected to wear the Board approved uniform to school each day: .
 - Solid colored royal blue, white, or gray golf-type shirt
 - Solid colored khaki-style pants, shorts, skorts, or jumpers (no cargo pants)
 - Shoes or sneakers – no sandals or flip-flops
- **ATTENDANCE:** This first year of school is an important one and will set the tone for your child's school experience. Make sure that your child is on time and attends school daily. Students who attend school regularly stay in school and are more successful in school.
- **BEDTIME:** A good night's sleep is critical for little ones. They will need an earlier bedtime once school starts. Kindergarteners need a bedtime of 7:30 or 8:00 p.m. at the latest. Children who do not have enough sleep are irritable in the afternoon and sometimes fall asleep in class. Save the weekend for special bedtime privileges. You are doing the best thing for your child by giving a good night's sleep, even when they beg to stay up later.
- **NUTRITION** Eating a nutritious breakfast is a must. Whether eaten at home or in school, children need a high protein breakfast to have energy all day. Providing a good breakfast and hearing encouraging words from you at the bus stop, sends your child off to school with a positive ready attitude. It's another way our partnership can grow productively.

We promise to greet each child with a smile and words of welcome each day. Our days are filled with many creative and positive learning opportunities that we are eager to share. This is going to be a busy year filled with excitement and change. Join us and be a part of the best job on earth—educating the children of the 21st century!

As principal, I stand ready to serve you and your child. We have a wonderful School Counselor, Cathy Hammer, who can assist as well. Our team wants to hear from you about your concerns. Please be in touch when you need us.

Sue Vaites, Principal, Ext. 7230
Catherine Hammer, Counselor, Ext. 7208