



Quincy Public Schools Program Improvement Plan

Early Childhood Program

2017-2018



Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Quincy Public Schools to provide an enriching program for young children identified with special needs as well as their typically developing peers. The program uses developmentally appropriate practices which are aligned with the National Association for the Education of Young Children to provide a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment and the academic standards presented in the 2011 MA Curriculum Framework for ELA/Literacy and Mathematics.

In addition, the curriculum meets the social, emotional, cognitive and developmental needs of our young children. Our schools, families, and community work together to provide the foundations for life-long learning.

Program Description

- The Inclusive Learning Environment: Snug Harbor Community School and the Amelio Della Chiesa Early Childhood Center.
- Inclusive and currently service students of diverse needs and abilities including students identified in need of special education services.
- The remaining students are described as typically developing children.
- The ages of these students range from 3-5 years old.
- Quincy Public Schools offers free full day Kindergarten in each of our eleven elementary schools.
- Our Kindergarten programs are also inclusive and provide a diverse range of services based on students' individual needs.
- All classrooms are staffed with a teacher and a full-time paraprofessional

Curriculum and Instruction

Pre-Kindergarten

- Telian Lively Letters
- Handwriting Without Tears
(Readiness and Writing, Language and Literacy, and Number and Math)
- Literacy Express
- Foundations in Math
- Calm Classroom
- Tools of the Mind
- PBIS



Kindergarten

- Telian Lively Letters
- Handwriting Without Tears
- Journeys
- Go Math
- Foundations in math
- PBIS



Measures of Student Achievement

Pre-Kindergarten

- Early Screening Inventory
- Brigance
- Informal Assessments

Kindergarten

- Early Screening Inventory
- DIBLES Next
- Developmental Reading Inventory (DRA)



Reflection of 2016-2017 Goals

- **Goal 1:** The Kindergarten team successfully implemented the electronic standards based report card utilizing ASPEN. The Pre-Kindergarten team was successful in their implementation of a Developmental Checklist
- **Goal 2:** The Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten teams worked to align components of the Handwriting Without Tears curriculum with their current classroom practices. Both teams feel strongly that Handwriting Without Tears adds additional layers of supports and interventions to students across all content areas.
- **Goal 3:** The Pre-Kindergarten team participated in training in the administration of the PreLAS. The Pre-Kindergarten teachers administered the PreLAS to all students entering Kindergarten in Sept. 2017 that had been identified as speaking a language other than English in their home. The Pre-Kindergarten teachers shared this information with the Kindergarten teachers during their transition meeting. By Nov. 1 of every school year, the Pre-Kindergarten teachers will administer the PreLAS to all students who have been identified as speaking a language other than English in their home and who will be entering Kindergarten the following Sept.

2017-2018 Goals

- **Goal #1:** During school year 2017-2018, the Pre-Kindergarten team will participate in training in the implementation of PBIS and Calm Classroom in the Pre-K setting. Teachers will then embed the strategies and activities from PBIS and Calm Classroom into their current classroom practices based on the MA Standards for Social and Emotional Learning, and Approached to Play and Learning.

MA Standards for Social and Emotional Learning, and Approaches to Play and Learning

- Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Standards:
 - Self Awareness
 - Self Management
 - Social Awareness
 - Relationship Skills
 - Responsive Decision Making





- Approach to Play and Learning Standards
 - Demonstrate initiative, self-direction, and independence
 - Able to maintain focus and attention, and persist in effort to complete task
 - Demonstrate creativity in thinking and use seek multiple solutions to a question, task, and problem of materials
 - Cooperate with others in play and learning
 - Seek multiple solutions to a question, task, or problem
 - Demonstrate organizational skills
 - Able to retain and recall information

What is Calm Classroom?

- Program based on mindfulness
- With consistent use, it is our hope that taking a moment, a pause to reflect, becomes a habit
- Ultimately we want our kids to ***respond*** to situations, not ***react***

- **Goal #2:** During school year 2017-2018, the Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten teachers will utilize strategies and materials from Foundations in Mathematics course to further support student success in the content area of mathematics based in MA Curriculum Frameworks for Mathematics.

- **Goal #3:** During the 2017-2018 school year, the Pre-Kindergarten team will provide opportunities to further develop the collaboration between the home and school environments.

