Swampscott Integrated Preschool 207 Forest Avenue Swampscott, MA 01907 781-596-8800 x385 <u>brothers@swampscott.k12.ma.us</u>

January 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your interest in the Swampscott Public School System's Integrated Preschool.

Integrating preschool programs are a priority of state and federal agencies governing special education. In keeping with special education laws and regulations, schools must provide special education services in "the least restrictive environment" meaning that children with special needs should be educated alongside children without special needs.

An integrated preschool consists of children with and without special needs. Children who are considered typically developing model age appropriate skills in the areas of speech, language, social skills, and behavior in addition to other developmental skill areas. Children with and without special needs benefit from the interaction.

Swampscott began integrating its preschool program over twenty years ago. School personnel, parents and children alike have delighted in its success. Staffing includes an early childhood special education teacher and two to three educational support professionals. Occupational, physical, vision, and speech-language therapists also work within the program. Additionally, student teachers and speech pathology interns from area colleges have worked within the program. A clinical psychologist and behavior analyst consult to the program and offer trainings and parent support meetings.

Financial support for the program is made possible through a combination of local funding, tuitions from the integrated children, and state grant monies. The tuition is projected to be \$4,200 for a 5 day program, \$2,520 for a 3 day program and \$1,680 for a 2 day program. Please know that the tuition is subject to change. The tuition is and will continue to be substantially lower than other private preschool programs.

Applications will be received through January 31, 2019. Children will be selected for the program through a lottery. Returning children and siblings of children already in the program have first preference for open slots. Most preschool programs open their enrollment in January. To insure a preschool position for your child the following year, it is recommended that you look at all possible

options both private and public. If selected, your child will then be screened for appropriate developmental skills. To complete the enrollment process, parents will be required to present proof of residency, your child's birth certificate and an updated health and immunization record. More specific information about the opening of school, the daily preschool routine, tuition payments, and other important program details will be sent in an information packet in the summer.

Following the screening and submission of other documents, if we are able to offer your child a slot in the program and believe it is an appropriate placement, you will be sent a contract. At that time, you will be asked to return the contract with a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 to secure your placement. This \$50.00 deposit will be subtracted from your first month's tuition payment.

Again, thank you for your interest in our Integrated Preschool Program. We look forward to meeting you and your child(ren). If you have any questions, please call us at (781) 596-8800 x1385 or email the Director of the Integrated Preschool, Alyssa Brothers, at brothers@swampscott.k12.ma.us.

Sincerely,

The Swampscott Integrated Preschool