

Penguin Press

District 33 PreK Program- Week of March 17, 2025



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
PRESCHOOL

WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS DISTRICT 33



District 33 PreK Staff Mission Statement

We are life long learners and foundation builders here to build relationships, empower and nurture a learning community.

We will partner with student families and each other to foster critical thinking and problem solvers who will make the world a better place.

Somos aprendices de por vida, cuya misión principal es construir fundamentos sólidos para el éxito académico, apoyar el desarrollo de relaciones significativas y la construcción de una comunidad de aprendizaje.

Trabajamos en colaboración con las familias y los colegas para fomentar en los estudiantes destrezas de pensamiento crítico y resolución de problemas que los equipe con herramientas para hacer del mundo un mejor lugar para vivir.

Celebrations!

Birthdays

March

10- Ruth

13- Josie

18- Gisel

21-Lucy

24- Yolanda

25- Lupe

27- Silvia

29- Rocio

31- Bria



For this week...

Monday March 17

10- Clerical team meeting
2:50- SST meeting

Tuesday March 18

Leah out at AP PLC all day
2:50-3:25- [PLC- Full day](#).

Wednesday March 19

3:30-5:30- Faculty meeting

Thursday March 20

1-PreK coaches and admin
1:45-MTSS lead team check in
2:10- [Self contained PLC](#)
2:50- [PreK half day PLC](#)

Friday, March 21

[Kitchen table in classrooms](#)
10AM- Attendance team
11-1- Brenda out

[Here](#) is the CODA schedule

[Here](#) is the library schedule

[Here](#) is the indoor gross motor schedule.

[Room 102 sign out sheet](#)

[Room 136 sign out sheet](#)

[Stem lab/ Welcome center sign out sheet](#)

March Spirit Week

**Monday
March 17**



St. Patrick's Day:
Wear Green and see if you were lucky enough to catch a leprechaun!

**Tuesday
March 18**



Sports Day: Wear a sports jersey, sports attire, or any fun sports-themed accessories

**Wednesday
March 19**



Lucky Charm Day: Dress like Lucky Charms cereal: unicorns, rainbows, four leaf clovers, stars, moons, etc.

**Thursday
March 20**



Wacky hair day: make your hair as outrageous as possible and be creative!

**Friday
March 21**



Down Syndrome Awareness Day: mismatched socks and clothes.

Semana de espíritu de marzo

**Lunes
Marzo 17**



Día de San Patricio:
Vístete de verde y treboles, aver si tienes la suerte de atrapar un duende!

**Martes
Marzo 18**



Vístete con ropa de deportes, uniformes de deportes, or accesorios deportivos.

**Miercoles
Marzo 19**



Vístete con un tema del cereal Lucky Charms: unicornios, arco iris, treboles, lunas, estrellas, etc .

**Jueves
Marzo 20**



Día de pelo loco:
lleva un peinado espectacular, creativo, o chistoso.

**Viernes
Marzo 21**



Día de reconocimiento del síndrome de Down:
ponte calcetines y ropa que no combinan.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...



PRESCHOOLERS

Build skills and develop good habits for showing up on time



ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Read well by the end of third grade



MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

Pass important courses



HIGH SCHOOLERS

Stay on track for graduation



COLLEGE STUDENTS

Earn their degrees



WORKERS

Succeed in their jobs

#SCHOOLEVERYDAY



Word of the Month!!!

Where

Up-on top/down-under

Dónde

Arriba-encima/abajo-debajo



ECERS weekly focus

Promoting acceptance of diversity

3 examples of racial/cultural diversity in materials are a regular experience for the children.

Diversity is shown in a positive way, and staff allow boys and girls to follow their interests despite gender stereotypes.

2 different types of dramatic play props representing different races or cultures are included

10 easily visible positive examples of diversity are visible with at least 1 example in each of the following: books, displayed pictures, and accessible play materials

Inclusion of diversity is observed as part of learning activities, in addition to diversity in materials (Ex. singing songs in more than one language, play music from various cultures, use sign language for some words) Observe once

Staff have positive conversations with children discussing the benefits of similarities and differences among people. *Observe once*



Program Resources

PreK Pioneer Dashboard 24-25

Please find our 24-25 data dashboard [here](#) with important goal, agenda and data updates.

Curriculum Updates for 24-25

- Our pacing guide is [here](#).
- Please note the 2 weeks given in January for a project. We linked in our PD on the project approach for reference.

SST assignments for 2024-25 [Here](#)

Revised 24-25 Pioneer Map and Handbook: [Here](#) and [bike duty](#).

[Social stories for expectations, safety drills, kinder, etc](#)

Parent Involvement

- [Here](#) is the plan for APTT for 24-25
- [Here](#) is the folder with all the Parent Child Days materials for 24-25.



Things you should know (info from morning emails)

Teachers only

Field trip

1. Consider a field trip that aligns to Unit 3 or 4

Leave at 9:10, return by 2PM-Full day

Leave at 9:10, return by 10:45AM- Half day

1. Complete [this form](#) and return to Leah
2. We will check date and get bus and nurse approval.
3. Once approved, complete aramark bag lunch request.

Re-enrolling current PreK students

- We will be sending [this letter](#) home to all current P4 students on Monday of next week. We are telling parents all P4s will be full day P5s next year. We wanted you to see it ahead of time as well. There is no slip to return this year. Let us know if any parents have questions or concerns.
- Half day teachers, in March we will share the list of P3 and get your input on whether we recommend full or half day next year. More info coming on this.

Clutter in rooms

Please also set aside some time this month to go through your office and classroom items to reduce clutter and storage items. #1. *Indoor space in ECERS* states we are to have a well maintained environment and avoid clutter and storage boxes in the room. Please consider how to store enough table toys and dramatic play to switch things out every month or two. Please discard additional broken or extra items. If you have items you feel would be valuable for other classrooms, please see Susan and she will help consider this further with you!

Week of Young Child

This will be the week of April 14-17. More details coming soon.

Parent teacher conferences April 7

[Here](#) is the schedule- make a copy. Call/ Parent Square most at risk parents.

- Spring Conferences are primarily for students who are at risk academically, behaviorally, or in regards to attendance.
- Teachers should have full schedules.
- You may offer a 30 min APTT Make up (after Thursday night)- indicate this and parents who attend on your schedule if you do this.

Getting organized

[Here](#) is a document that our coaching team created to help our newer teachers. Each "week of" line is a hyperlink to items for that week. This will be helpful to all of us!

Be on time to work and at arrival posts

We need to improve our timeliness to work. Please text Brenda any day you will enter the building after 8:30. As a reminder, all staff need to be at their posts ready to greet children at 8:33. Thank you, everyone!

[Pre-K Assessments 24-25](#)- this is a helpful document for data collection



From our nurse

Nurse passes

Please make sure you always complete a nurse pass when you bring a student to the nurse's office. This is important for student safety.

Lice

Our district follows a procedure when there is a suspected case of lice. The procedure is in alignment with current practice as set forth among the Centers for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the National Association of School Nurses. Here is some information from our district's process.

1. The teacher will send a student to the health office with suspected lice.
2. If the student has lice/nits, the parent will be contacted by the nurse with recommendation of appropriate treatment. The student will go home at the **end** of the day.
3. A "Lice Letter" is sent home with the student in a sealed envelope with the CDC Treatment handout.
4. A work order will be submitted for a thorough cleaning and vacuuming for the class.
5. The student is re-checked by the nurse at return to school and 10 days *after* lice was first identified.

To ensure prompt identification, parent education, and treatment if needed, please send the student to the nurse's office to be checked for suspected lice. If the student has nits, it is not necessary to perform a daily check.

Here is some CDC information on lice for schools:

<https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/schools.html>



Upcoming dates and Calendars for 2023-24

2024-25

[Here](#) is the Board approved 2024-25 school calendar.

[Here](#) is our contractual swap document for certified staff.

Our 24-25 PreK planning calendar has now been added to our PreK Program google calendar.

Please reference events on the PreK program google calendar.



Professional dress reminder

Please wear business casual attire on all PreK days when parents will be present in the building: APTT, Parent Child Days, conferences.

For other days:

- While we have some flexibility in the dress code in PreK and understand the unique needs of PreK staff such as needing to be on the floor with students, we do need to ensure staff are dressed professionally and appropriately according to our D33 dress code policy.
- Staff may wear bike shorts or yoga tights as long as they wear a shirt that would cover the same area as a dress would cover.
- Apparel may not be worn if they may cause a disruption to the school environment.



Internal subbing

Internal subbing

Hopefully we will not need to do much internal subbing, but here is [our shared internal tracking document](#) if needed.

- Internal subbing will occur when we have more positions needing coverage than subs. This would be a para or teacher role. We will typically ask for 1/2 day 8:30-11:30 and 11:30-2:30 the morning of an absence via email and/or text message.
- SST will be compensated 1 hour of plan time for every 3 consecutive hours of internal subbing.



Weekend Holiday Building access 24-25

Monthly Saturday Access hours are 8:00 am - 4:00 pm on the following dates:

- February 22
- March 15
- April 26
- May 17

Winter Break, Monday, December 23, 2024: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Spring Break, Monday, March 31, 2024: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Last week of School, Monday, June 10 - Friday, June 14: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 pm

Important safety reminders:

- Exterior doors cannot be propped open.
- If you open your windows, please close them at the end of the day.

- If you notice any maintenance issues, please report them to your building custodian or principal.
- A known and trusted adult may help you set up your classroom. Please have this person stay with you at all times while in the building.
- No children are allowed in the building during the after school or weekend access times.



Upcoming Professional Development Options

Upcoming Online Professional Development

- Feb 19 4:00-5:30 [Responsive Small Group Instruction in the Inclusive Classroom](#)
- March 3 4:00-6:00 [Using SMART Goals to Target Appropriate School-Based Interventions for Selective Mutism](#)

Early Childhood Professional Development in English & Spanish

- [Early Childhood Professional Learning YouTube Playlist](#)
- [Early Childhood Professional Learning Professional Development Opportunities](#)
 - [Developing Interactive Read Alouds to Enhance Literacy for Young Dual Language Learners \(English & Spanish\)](#)
 - [Creating Language Opportunities During Play-Based Learning \(Spanish\)](#)
 - [Creating Language Opportunities During Play-Based Learning \(English\)](#)

Early Childhood Investigations

Here are [upcoming webinars](#) or our [recorded webinars](#)

The Center: Early Learning webinars

<https://eclearningil.org/>

Starnet

Here is the website for Starnet PD recorded webinars: <https://starnetregionii.org/resources/pre-recorded-videos>

From ISBE:

- **March 3 (Virtual)**
 - [The Power of Shared Writing](#)
- **March 5 (Virtual)**
 - [Developing Interactive Read Alouds to Enhance Literacy for Young Dual Language Learners](#)
- **March 10 (Virtual)**
 - [Building Children's Resilience Through Literature, Part 2](#)
- **March 12 (Virtual, Presented in Spanish)**
 - [Creating Language Opportunities During Play-Based Learning](#)

D33 Statement of Professionalism

D33 aspires to be a district that represents the best of our profession. All District 33 employees are expected to maintain high standards in their professional relationships, demonstrate integrity and honesty, be considerate and cooperative, and maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students, parents, staff members, and others. Our actions and appearance contribute to how we are perceived in the local community and professional circles. Please be mindful of this as we interact with others in and out of the district and on social media.

Admin contact info:

Brenda Vishanoff, Principal

vishanoffb@wego33.org

(630) 589-9550 cell

Leah Nelson, Assistant Principal

nelsonl@wego33.org

(630) 589-9482 cell



Brenda Vishanoff

Brenda is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters