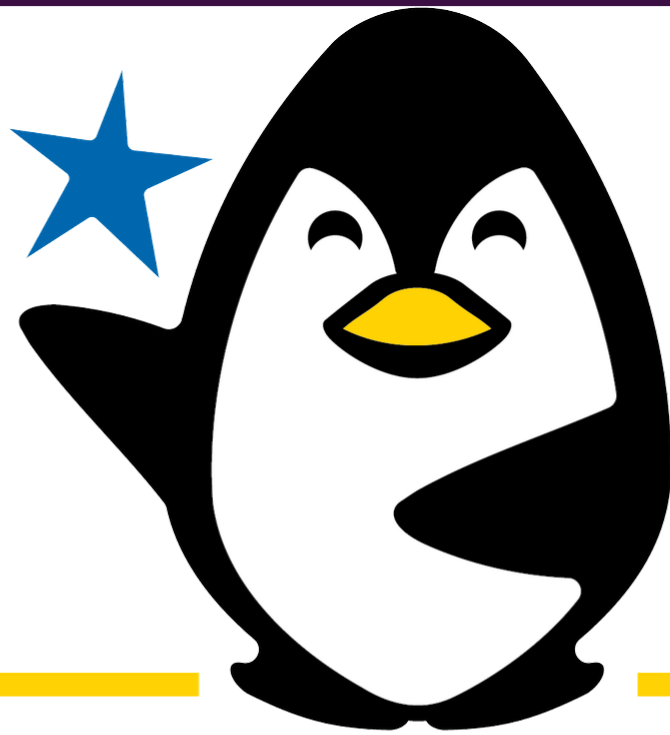


Penguin Press

District 33 PreK Program- Week of November 17, 2025



WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33

PIONEER PRESCHOOL



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.

All of Us for All of Them!

Our District 33 theme is “All of Us for All of Them” and is specifically focused on improving our students’ literacy skills. We will build safe classroom communities and then focus our attention to growing these early literacy skills with our students and families. “All of us” means we ALL are an important part of the team in supporting our goals for students. We had an amazing year last year and are celebrating that in Spring 2025, we met all of our program goals. We also saw substantial improvement in our Five Essentials data. We look forward to building upon these accomplishments to make a difference in each child’s life this year!

Celebrations!

Birthdays

November

4- Maria Vargas

7- Bernadette

19- Maria Corona

23- Tonya Bontrager

27- Monica Alanis



The week ahead

Monday 11/17

8:30- Portfolio and data due for all DRDP measures

10AM Clerical meeting

1PM- PreK coaches and admin meeting

3PM- ETAWC rep and PreK admin meeting

Tuesday 11/18

Brenda out today

3:30- Pyramid Committee

Wednesday 11/19

Brenda out today

El meetings

2:45- Behavior review meeting (library)

3- SST meeting in stem lab

Thursday 11/20

Brenda out in evening

10:30- Half day AM picnic in gym

1- Half day PM and Self contained picnic in gym

2:10- Full day Thanksgiving picnic in gy

PLCs

- 2:10- Self contained

- 2:50- Blended

4- dinner provided for certified staff

4:30-8- Parent teacher conferences

Friday 11/21

8-4- Parent teacher conferences

Our state audit window is Dec 2-17.

Attached you will find the [bike](#) and [faculty room](#) schedules



Notes from morning emails are included below:

Emergency weather days

PreK students/ families will utilize [our choice boards](#) on our school website in the event of an emergency weather day.

Plug ins and Holiday lights

- We may not have any scent plug ins anywhere in the building.
- Holiday lights may be used as long as they are LED lights and are not a tripping hazard.

Reminders for teachers, also in staff newsletter:

- We have extended the portfolio and data spreadsheet due date to Monday morning at 8:30AM, not today.
- Pioneer will be accessible to all certified staff on Saturday from 8-4 if that is helpful.
- If a student has been in your classroom for less than 6 weeks, you do not need to rate the student this rating period, Enter UR in your spreadsheet.

- If you have another student absence situation, please let me know and we will problem solve 1 by 1.
- Leah and I will be visiting classrooms and reviewing portfolios beginning Monday morning to ensure we are ready for the audit.

Send blankets and water bottles home on Fridays

Classroom staff, please send home water bottles and blankets (if needed) on Fridays so families can wash these and return on Mondays. Please include your process and directions for this in this week's classroom newsletter.

Incident IQ

Please complete an Incident IQ ticket for any computer or phone needs. Please note that our tech team may take a bit longer to complete work orders. It is a busy season for them.



**EMPLOYEE
WELLNESS**

You matter!

Please find our October district wellness newsletter

[October Wellness Newsletter](#) - English

[October Wellness Newsletter](#) - Spanish

Parent teacher conferences- from District Coach team



PREPARE FOR CONFERENCES

PREPÁRESE PARA LAS CONFERENCIAS

Before the conference

- Ask your child how she feels about school.
- Ask your child if there is anything that they want you to talk about with their teacher.
- Tell your child that you and the teacher are meeting to discuss his/her progress.
- Check your child's grades and ask your child questions about their assignments.
- Make a list of topics/questions that you want to talk about with the teacher.

During the conference

- Be on time for the meeting.
- Relax and be yourself.
- Ask the most important questions first.
- Take notes on what you want to remember.

After the conference

- Talk about the positive points of the conference with your child.
- Talk about the areas of concerns and help make a plan to improve in those areas.

Potential Questions

- Is my child reading at grade level?
- What is my child doing well in? What needs improvement?
- Is my child finishing classwork and homework?
- Does my child take part in class discussions or activities?
- How is my child doing in math? Are they on grade level?
- What can I do at home to support their learning?

Antes de las conferencias

- Pregúntale a tu hijo/a cómo se siente en la escuela.
- Pregúntale si hay algo que quiera que hables con su maestro/a.
- Dile que tú y el maestro/a se reunirán y asegúrese de que pueda asistir.
- Revisa las calificaciones de tu hijo/a y pregúntale sobre sus tareas.
- Haz una lista de los temas que quiere tratar con el maestro/a.

Durante la reunión

- Sé puntual a la cita.
- Relájate y sé tu mismo/a.
- Haz las preguntas más importantes primero.
- Toma notas de lo que quiera recordar.

Después de la reunión

- Habla sobre los puntos positivos de la reunión.
- Habla con tu hijo/a sobre las áreas de preocupación y ayúdalo/a a crear un plan para mejorar en esas áreas.

Preguntas posibles

- ¿Está leyendo mi hijo/a al nivel de grado esperado?
- ¿En qué está destacando mi hijo/a? ¿En qué necesita mejorar?
- ¿Está terminando su trabajo en clase y las tareas?
- ¿Participa en las discusiones o actividades de clase?
- ¿Cómo le va en matemáticas? ¿Está al nivel de grado?
- ¿Qué puedo hacer en casa para apoyar su aprendizaje?

WORDS

HAVE

POWER



Program Resources

PreK Hub

Our updated [PreK Hub](#) and other helpful resources will be available here by early August!

New Pioneer PreK website

Check out our new Pioneer Preschool website here: [Pioneer Preschool](#)

PreK teacher Master schedule

PreK teacher Master schedule can be found [here](#).

PreK staff list

[Here](#) is a list of PreK staff.

Here is the 2025-26 map of classroom assignments.

- We will have 6 half day classrooms (3 monolingual and 3 bilingual)
- We will have 13 full day classrooms (5 monolingual and 8 bilingual)
- We will have 3 extended day classrooms.

PLCs

ALL PLCs will be held on Thursdays.

- Full day PLCs will be 2:50-3:25 in the library
- Half day PLCs will be 2:50-3:25 in the IEP meeting room
- Self contained PLCs will be 2:10-2:45 in the front office

Special education meetings

- Wednesdays at 2:50PM- SST certified staff meeting
- Wednesdays will be our EI meeting day (most meetings will be scheduled on this day)
- Thursdays will be our IEP meeting day (most meetings will be scheduled on this day)

**Please note there are some EI evals and IEP meetings on other weekdays during the first 2 weeks of school.*



Upcoming dates and Calendars

Week of Dec 15-Gingerbread houses

Jan 29- Parent Child Day

Saturday access to building from 8AM-4PM- 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 12/13, 1/17, 2/21, 3/14, 4/25, 5/16

All 2025-26 dates have been added to the PreK Program calendar. All staff were sent an invitation for this calendar on Aug 11, 2025

[Here](#) are our PreK student non-attendance days for 2025-26.



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

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 8:30-11:45 and 11:45-2:45 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.

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 Professional Development Options

Here is information on valuable Early Childhood Learning Opportunities!

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 \(English\)](#)

The Center: Early Learning webinars

<https://eclearningil.org/>

Starnet

Here is the website for Starnet PD pre-recorded webinars:

<https://starnetregionii.org/resources/pre-recorded-videos>

Here are posted Starnet webinars and workshops for Fall 2025

[Website for upcoming webinars](#)

10/15-Foundations for Serving Multilingual Preschoolers with Disabilities-webinar

10/23, 4-6 pm Selective Mutism Advanced Skills for Treating Complex Cases - webinar

11/3- Assessing Multilingual Preschoolers with Suspected Disabilities-webinar

12/4-Interventions and Supports to Ensure That Multilingual Preschoolers with Disabilities Can Thrive-webinar

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.

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Brenda Vishanoff

Brenda is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

