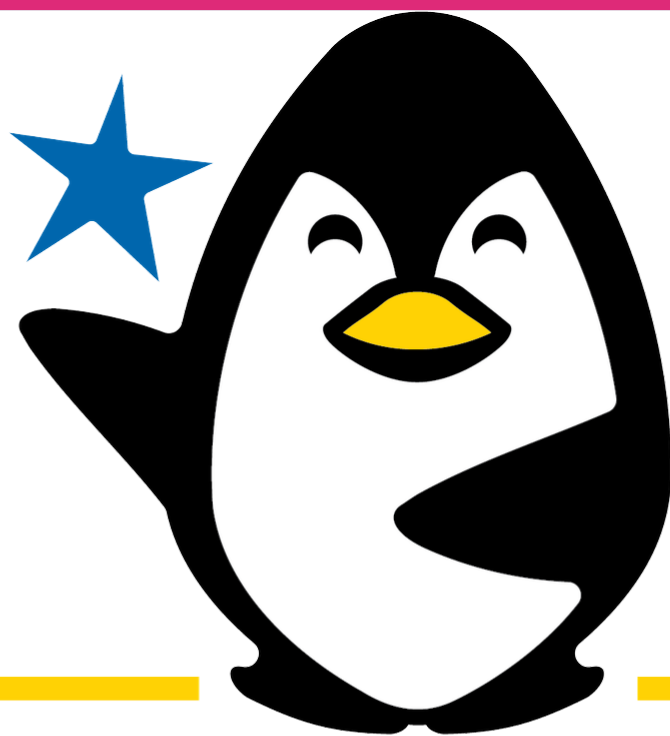


PENGUIN PRESS

District 33 PreK Program- Week of August 18, 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

August

1- Faby

11- Leah

13- Hiba

16- Yadira

18- Jen Billmeyer

27- Mayra Vega



The week ahead

Monday 8/18- 8-3

- Institute Days 8-3- [agenda here](#)

Tuesday 8/19- 8-3

- Institute Days- [agenda here](#)

Wednesday 8/20- 8-3

- Institute Days- [agenda here](#)

Thursday 8/21- 8:30-3:30

- Blended classroom home visits
- Self contained and SST CPI training

Friday 8/22- 8:30-3:30

- All classroom home visits
- Resource teacher meetings 2-3:30- see schedule (Taylor, Jen, MacLaine, Mary, Carrie)

Construction Updates

We can't wait for you all to see the renovations!

- Cubbies are installed and will be labeled for each classroom by the end of the day.
- Parking is open in the back drop off circle (12 spots), far back lot (72 spots). There will also be an additional 9 spots in front by next week.
- We have added FOB access over the summer to self contained classrooms and a few other spaces in the building.
- Bulletin boards will be added over the cubbies in the next week or two.



New hires for 2025-26

Katie Gehring, Self-contained teacher
Amy Bricco, Half day English teacher
Sarah Mischke, Half day English teacher
Mary Mcilvaine, Full day English teacher
Carolyn Jodelka, Full day English teacher
Monica Alfaro- Full day Bilingual teacher
Dalila Chavez- Full day Bilingual teacher
Iza Orozco- Full day Bilingual teacher
Joanna Hernandez- Self contained teacher
Mary Sorensen, Resource teacher
Tanya Bontrager- Psychologist
Mary Searce- Speech Language Pathologist
Amy Johnson- Instructional Coach
Catherine Espino, Paraprofessional
Julia Hernandez, Paraprofessional
Samantha Breninger, Paraprofessional
Evelyn Valerio, Paraprofessional
Marisela Espinal, Grant support clerical aide
Guadalupe Garcia, Lunch supervisor

PreK subs for 25-26

Jeanine Schueman
Robert Grothendick
Kervin Renfigo Zerpa
Sarah Strobe



Welcome back

Welcome back letter is [here](#)

Building access

Staff Building Access Hours starting August 11 from 7AM- 8PM

- If you are in the building to set up, children under the age of 18 are not able to come into the building at this time.
- Do not prop doors open, and please wear your lanyard while in the building. If you are missing items, need things (desks, etc), or need things taken away, please fill out this doc.
- **Do not put extra desks or other items in the hallway**
- Please note that work orders submitted in the spring for moving items may not yet be complete. Welcome back!!
- Keys/Fobs will be available for pickup on August 11th between 8 and 4. Please see Fabi in the office to sign out your keys/fobs for the school year. There were some updates to fobs due to a change in vendor over the summer. If your fob isn't working right, please contact Ed Fuentes
- The hallways are freshly painted, and our new cubbies will be installed in the hallways the week of Aug 11

Regular Hours Begin August 18th

- Building open 6:15 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

[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.

Labeling and ordering items for ECERS- Teachers and paras

- Teachers and para, please find these slides [ECERS classroom](#) from June's PD session on expectations for labeling and inventory/ ordering prep for Wednesday morning.
- All classrooms were packed up with labeling completed to help with the start of school!

Unwanted, missing or broken furniture

Please complete [this form](#) if you have any broken or unwanted furniture. Please keep the furniture items inside your classroom- do not put in the hallway or a storage room. We may not be able to remove all unwanted furniture due to limited storage space.

Class lists will be shared with certified staff by email by August 11.

Teacher/ Para assignments will also be shared by August 11.

Welcoming Parents and Students into our building

Our parents and students will visit our building for the first time on Monday, August 25. Please make sure rooms and cubbies are completely ready for students by this morning.

Classroom budget

Classroom teachers will have \$350 allocated per classroom for the start of the school year.

- \$100 of this is for general supplies needed.
- The other \$250 is specifically for learning resources needed for your room to be ECERS complaint (math games, blocks, etc).
- Remember that we may not purchase furniture or rugs through our building budget.

Please submit this through your Amazon business account. In order to use Amazon, you need to create your Amazon business account, submit your order through Amazon, and then I will approve it. If you do not have your business account, you can contact Ed Fuentes, fuentesese@wgo33.org.

Board maker

If you need to make visuals with Boardmaker, please see a resource teacher for access to their online subscription.

Estrellita training

- We will be adopting Estrellita as a half day bilingual resource for fall 2025.
- We would like for all bilingual teachers, coaches and resource teachers to be trained in Estrellita as many components could be used and incorporated into literacy play activities.
- This training is Thursday October 2 from 3-5:30. This training would begin during PLC time and you would be paid 2 hours for this training. Training would take place online from Pioneer School.
- [Here](#) is the link to the form to complete to let us know if you are able to make this training.



EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

You matter!

Please see our D33 Staff Wellness Newsletter [here](#).



WORDS
HAVE
POWER

Word of the Month!!!

Coming in August!



ECERS weekly focus

Coming in August!

[Here](#) is the document I will use this school year to provide weekly reminders to us on ECERS.

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](#).

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

August 18-20- [All staff Institute Days](#)

August 21-22- Preschool Home Visits

August 25- Orientation for all classes 9:30AM and 1PM

August 26- First day of school for PreK

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

This year's spreadsheet coming in August!

Weekend Holiday Building access and Safety reminders

Dates for 25-26 will be updated in August!

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

7/30- It's All Fun and Games! Individualizing and Scaffolding Skills Using Board Games to Support All Learners- in person

8/5-Integrating Speech Language Therapy into Early Childhood Classrooms: Strategies for Successful Implementation-in person

8/18 -ECSE Teacher cohort- webinar

8/28-Supporting IEPs Through Vocabulary and Inquiry: Practical Strategies for Early Childhood Educators-webinar

9/15 and 16 -Transdisciplinary Play Based Assessment II in Elk Grove Village - in person

9/17-Learning About SPP Indicator 7-Striving for Positive Best Practices in Early Childhood Outcomes-webinar

9/18 and 19 - Transdisciplinary Play Based Assessment II in Romeoville- in person

9/22-ECSE Teacher Cohort-webinar

October 2 through November 13, 4:00-5:30-Differentiation of Instruction in Preschool Series-webinar

10/7 and more dates- Preschool Pyramid Model of Social Emotional Support Cohort- Comprehensive Series-Tiers 1-3-webinar series

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

