

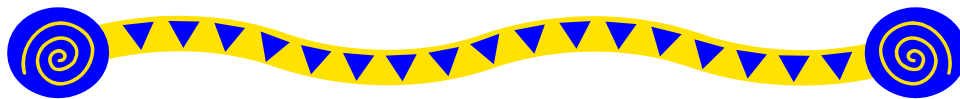


# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION



SCITUATE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Scituate Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer ensuring that its programs and facilities are accessible to the public. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, disability, national origin, race, or sexual orientation.



Dear Parents and Caregivers:

It is with pleasure that we present this Kindergarten Registration Booklet to you. We hope it will begin to answer some of the questions that will arise as you register your child for Kindergarten. Additional information regarding the Scituate Kindergarten Program will be provided as the year progresses and your child nears the opening day of school in September. It is our goal that all children in Scituate receive a high quality education appropriate to their needs. We look forward to meeting you and your child as he/she begins his/her educational journey in the Scituate Public Schools.

**CUSHING SCHOOL**

1 Aberdeen Drive  
781-545-8770  
Mary Ohrenberger, Principal

**HATHERLY SCHOOL**

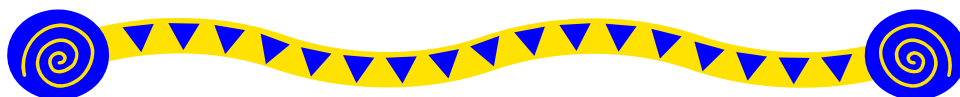
72 Ann Vinal Road  
781-545-8780  
Mari-An Fitzmaurice, Principal

**JENKINS SCHOOL**

54 Vinal Avenue  
781-545-4910  
Jennifer Arnold, Principal

**WAMPATUCK SCHOOL**

266 Tilden Road  
781-545-8790  
Linda Whitney, Principal



## **WHAT IS KINDERGARTEN ALL ABOUT?**

**KINDERGARTEN** is a happy, active place, rich in opportunities and a variety of experiences that will guide and help children:

- Become familiar with a group setting
- Develop self-control, independence and responsibility
- Develop an interest and joy in learning
- Develop a feeling of self-expression and creativity
- To be kind and courteous
- To respect the rights, properties and diversity of others
- To develop a sense of security
- To be curious about the world around them

## **OUR KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM INCLUDES**

- Experiences to develop investigative skills
- Many and varied occasions for speaking and hearing language
- Readiness experiences with numerals and quantity
- Readiness experiences that will bring meaning to the printed symbol
- A balance between strenuous motor activities and quiet pursuits
- A balance between individual, small group and total group activities

## **SCITUATE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' KINDERGARTEN PHILOSOPHY**

We recognize that each child is a unique individual who goes through stages in acquiring skills. The duration of each stage varies from child to child. The Kindergarten Curriculum is designed to provide appropriate experiences for each child in a nurturing environment that will promote each child's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. This is accomplished by actively involving the child in the learning process, allowing each student's unique learning style, and providing appropriate activities.

Parents are the children's first teachers and Kindergarten is a time of transition between home and school. Families are viewed as an integral part of the educational process. Therefore, a partnership between home and school is essential in order for children to reach their full potential.

Each classroom provides a secure, nonjudgmental environment where children may explore, experiment, discover, confirm, create, and learn. The children are encouraged to interact with each other, their teachers, and a variety of educational materials. The children are involved in a multi-sensory approach to learning. They are encouraged to talk, touch, manipulate, and inspect materials as well as to follow directions and classroom procedures. Through such interactions, the children apply their abilities in a variety of ways and settings. The developmental approach fosters understanding of the interrelated nature of learning and stimulates creative and critical thinking skills.

## **WAYS YOU CAN HELP AND SUPPORT YOUR CHILD IN SCHOOL**

It is important that we work together to build a strong home-school partnership to make this a positive educational experience for your child. We need your help. Some suggestions to help make this happen are:

- READ to your child! READ to your child! READ! READ! READ!
- Develop listening skills. Give directions to follow and be sure they are being followed.
- Give your child some responsibilities in the home, no matter how small.
- Have a reasonable bedtime hour and hold to that schedule.
- Be certain that your child can dress himself/herself (including tying shoes, putting on and taking off boots, and zipping a jacket).
- Prepare for this wonderful experience by discussing school in a positive manner. Whenever possible, avoid making comments that might cause fear or apprehension.
- Teach the good health habits of caring for a cold and covering the mouth when coughing or sneezing.
- Keep your child at home when ill (sore throat, diarrhea, skin rash, earache, swollen glands, or fever) to eliminate the spreading of diseases.
- Remember that most 5 year olds grow fast but their muscles develop slowly, play hard and need plenty of sleep, like to play with other children, and express themselves both verbally and nonverbally, so it is important for us to listen and watch.

## **REGISTRATION**

It is hoped that all parents whose children will be entering Kindergarten in September will register early to allow the schools to appropriately plan for the arrival of all Kindergartners in September. Registration for Kindergarten takes place during the week of November 28 through December 2, 2011. If you are uncertain which school your child should attend, please check the SPS Website ([www.scituate.k12.ma.us](http://www.scituate.k12.ma.us)) for guidance. Provided your child's registration is complete (birth certificate, medical records, proof of residency, etc.), letters will be sent to parents before August 1<sup>st</sup> to notify them of class and teacher assignments.

## **REGISTRATION - FORMS AND TIMELINE**

The 2012-2013 Scituate Public Schools' Kindergarten Registration will take place during the week of November 28 through December 2, 2011 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. This year's Kindergarten Registration will be centralized. For all schools, Kindergarten Registration will take place in the Scituate High School Library. Our

goal is to keep students in their neighborhood or "home" school, although potentially some students could be placed in other schools to maximize the efficiency of our Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) and Half-Day Kindergarten (HDK) programs.

- The following materials are required for registration:
  - Birth Certificate
  - Proof of Residency
  - Immunization Record
- When registering your child, the following materials must be completed before you leave the registration area. To expedite the process, the forms can be downloaded and completed ahead of time at <http://www.scituate.k12.ma.us/>
  - SPS Registration Form
  - Transportation Form
  - Home Language Questionnaire
  - DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) Ethnicity Form
  - Kindergarten Choice Form (FDK/HDK)
- Here are some **important dates** that you may wish to mark on your calendars with regard to the Kindergarten Registration Process:
  - **November 28 - December 2, 2011**
    - Kindergarten Registration (Half-Day K and Full-Day K)
  - **March 15, 2012**
    - FDK Lottery (if necessary)  
***Please Note: Only students with all paperwork submitted by 4:00 PM on March 1, 2012 will be eligible for the FDK Lottery.***
  - **March 31, 2012**
    - All deposits ***due*** for FDK (10% of tuition)
    - Sliding scale applicant packets for Full-Day Kindergarten ***due***  
***Please Note: Failure to pay your deposit (or provide financial documentation for the sliding fee scale) may jeopardize your child's placement in the Full-Day Kindergarten Program.***

## **ENTRANCE AGE**

Children entering Kindergarten **must be five years of age on or before September 1 of the year in which they enroll. A birth certificate is required as part of the registration process.**

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

In order for your child to be enrolled in Kindergarten, we are mandated by Massachusetts State Law to have documentation of the following requirements:

### **Immunizations**

- MMR: two (2) doses
- Hepatitis B: completed series of three (3) doses
- DPT: five (5) doses
- Polio: four (4) doses
- Varicella: 2 doses of Varivax vaccine or documentation from physician that child has had chicken pox

### **Screenings**

- Lead
- Vision (dated within one year prior to entrance or 30 days after entrance)

### **Physical**

- Dated within the year prior to entrance

An incomplete immunization record requires the school district to exclude any student until the requirements are met. Those students with documented medical contraindications or documented religious beliefs are the only ones exempt from the immunization requirement. Please feel free to contact the School Nurse with any questions regarding these requirements or any medical concerns.

## **Proof of Residency**

Before any student attends the Scituate Public Schools, the student's parent or legal guardian must prove legal residence in the Town of Scituate. Families whose primary residence is outside the Town of Scituate are not eligible to attend the Scituate Public Schools.

To attend the Scituate Public Schools, all applicants must provide at least two proofs of residency (one from each column) as indicated below. Documents must be pre-printed with the name and address of the student's parent or guardian and must be presented at the time of registration. These documents are also required for any change of address.

<b><u>Column A</u></b>	<b><u>Column B</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of deed and records of most recent mortgage payment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valid drivers license</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of lease and record of most recent rent payment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current vehicle registration</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal affidavit from landlord affirming tenancy and record of most recent payment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valid Massachusetts photo identification card</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A utility bill dated within the past sixty (60) days including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gas Bill</li> <li>○ Oil Bill</li> <li>○ Electric Bill</li> <li>○ Home Telephone Bill</li> <li>○ Cable Bill</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valid passport</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dated within the past year:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W-2 Form</li> <li>○ Excise (vehicle) tax bill</li> <li>○ Property tax bill</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

## **SPRING ORIENTATION INFORMATION**

Each school will host a Spring Orientation which will allow you time to visit a Kindergarten Classroom in your district and learn more about the Kindergarten Program.

CUSHING SCHOOL - May 3, 2012

HATHERLY SCHOOL - May 4, 2012

JENKINS SCHOOL - April 24, 2012

WAMPATUCK SCHOOL - May 2, 2012

Families will receive an invitation to Kindergarten Orientation from their respective building Principal to remind them of the date and time.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Scituate Public Schools' current Transportation Policy can be found on the Scituate Public Schools' Website ([www.scituate.k12.ma.us](http://www.scituate.k12.ma.us)). Rates and rules are subject to change. Transportation information will be posted as soon as determined (typically by mid-May).

## **CLASS ASSIGNMENTS**

You will be notified before August 1<sup>st</sup> as to which classroom your child is assigned. **Requests for a specific teacher for your child are not permitted.**

## **SCREENING**

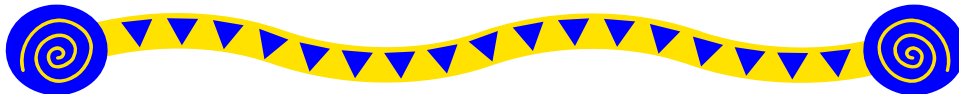
In accordance with state regulations, a developmental screening is conducted to determine potential academic needs. The results are shared with parents. However, any parents concerned about Kindergarten readiness should contact the School Psychologist assigned to their neighborhood school before June.

## **CONFERENCES/PROGRESS REPORTS**

- **Formal Conferences:** Parent/Teacher Conferences are held twice annually and follow the elementary schedule. If additional times are needed to speak with the teacher, please call the school and schedule an appointment.
- **Informal Conferences:** Parents are encouraged to visit and participate in their child's classroom during the year. It is recommended that such visits be arranged in advance between you and your child's teacher as defined in the Scituate Public Schools Elementary Handbook that you will receive once the school year has commenced.
- **Progress Reports/Report Cards:** Written progress reports/report cards are given to parents three times per year and follow the elementary schedule.

## **BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM**

In response to a need in our community for care and enrichment in a safe, supervised environment, a "Before and After School Care Program" is expected for the 2012-2013 academic year through the South Shore YMCA. This program's design will be to serve the needs of the family by offering a variety of activities and peer interactions for all children in the Scituate Public Schools. More information on this offering can be found on the South Shore YMCA web site at [www.SSYMCA.org](http://www.SSYMCA.org).



The Scituate Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer ensuring that its programs and facilities are accessible to the public. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, disability, national origin, race, or sexual orientation.