



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rumson School District's dedication to ongoing improvement continues with its development of new Early Childhood Transitional Kindergarten Program



Shellie Miller, Teacher and Diane Caulfield, Teacher

Rumson, NJ – The Rumson School District is proud to offer and announce the development of our new Transitional Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. Michael Snyder, district supervisor of special education stated “Our program offers a developmentally appropriate curriculum taught by credentialed teachers that will help our students prepare for Kindergarten.” He continues, “Our aim is for the child to learn the essential Kindergarten skills of literacy, math and cognitive skills, while helping to build their executive functioning skills, which aids in self-regulation and emotional/social development.”

Mr. Snyder explained “the Transitional Kindergarten program was designed to be a bridge between preschool and kindergarten. Children who are enrolled in transitional kindergarten will be enrolling in traditional kindergarten classes the following year.” The New Jersey Department of Education states that Transitional Kindergarten is meant to closely follow the Implementation Guidelines that have been developed by the NJDOE. Districts are expected to use those guidelines as a foundation for instruction.

Curricula: This program provides children with a well-planned program to build the academic skills that are necessary for success throughout their school careers. The program is based on the New Jersey Teaching and Learning Standards with strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy along with a focused instruction on self-regulation and social engagement. The daily schedule includes whole group instruction and activities, small group instruction and independent and “hands-on” learning.

Enrollment is open to preschool students (age 4) who live in Rumson at a tuition cost. The transitional Kindergarten is a 10-week program (April-June) and will be held between the AM and PM preschool sessions.

Mr. Snyder reinforced stated that “the goal of high-quality early education is to meet all learners where they are and support their development of new knowledge, skills, and abilities through integrated and differentiated instruction.” He adds, “It is important for academic success to have a child’s exposure to language and cognitive experiences to be rich and high in quality. The goal of our high-quality transitional kindergarten is to expose the students with extended opportunities for learning and socialization.”

For further information, please reach out to Mrs. Shellie Miller @ smiller@rumsonschool.org.