

# Camden Central Schools

## *Universal Pre-K Program Personnel*

### **Pre-K Coordinator**

Patricia Fallon - [pfallon@camdencsd.org](mailto:pfallon@camdencsd.org)

### **Annsville Elementary 334-8030**

Jill Nobis - [jnobis@camdencsd.org](mailto:jnobis@camdencsd.org)

### **Camden Elementary 245-2616**

Gail Young - [gyoung@camdencsd.org](mailto:gyoung@camdencsd.org)

### **McConnellsville Elementary 245-3412**

Tracy Veit - [tveit@camdencsd.org](mailto:tveit@camdencsd.org)

### **Pre-K Reading**

Jennifer Snow - [jsnow@camdencsd.org](mailto:jsnow@camdencsd.org)

### **Pre-K Speech & Language**

Kaitlin Regan - [kregan@camdencsd.org](mailto:kregan@camdencsd.org)

### **Parent Teacher Coordinator**

Gail McEntire - [GMcentire@camdencsd.org](mailto:GMcentire@camdencsd.org)

**Education is the most powerful weapon  
which you can use to change the world.  
-Nelson Mandela**



# Parent Teacher Coordinator

Our Parent Teacher Coordinator acts as a liaison between parents and school. Parental involvement is essential and has a direct influence on a child's success and attitude toward school. Her goals are:

- To serve as an advocate for parents and their families.
- To encourage strong communication between the school and parents, to promote a solid partnership.
- To provide information for parents through resources and community agencies to meet the various needs of our families
- To support parents and their children and make Pre-K a year in which each child experiences both social and academic success

Each family will receive a home visit from Mrs. McEntire to:

- Welcome new families to the school community
- Report on student progress at school
- Collaborate with families to build strong home school partnerships
- Demonstrate home-learning activities to support your child's academic success.

You may contact Mrs. McEntire by e-mail:  
[GMcentire@camdencsd.org](mailto:GMcentire@camdencsd.org)  
or call your child's elementary school.

## What is expected of parents?

Parents and community members are encouraged to actively take part in the education of their children. We appreciate and value the partnership of parents as they help enrich learning opportunities for students.

Please remember:

- In order to participate in the classroom or on field trips; all parents, grandparents, and family members must be board approved.
- Complete and return the necessary forms to your child's teacher.

## Why is the blue card important?

You will be required to complete a blue emergency card. The card will tell us who to contact in an emergency situation such as; illness, building emergency or inclement weather. **It is extremely important that the phone numbers are up to date.** Notify your child's teacher and the main office of your child's school with any changes.

## What does the program look like?

Pre-K classrooms are designed to provide children with numerous opportunities to learn and grow at their individual rate. In addition to numerous literacy activities, there will be various learning centers such as: I-pod, reading, writing, arts, crafts, sand, water, and dramatic play to name a few. Each Pre-K classroom is equipped with the latest technology.

- There are a maximum of 18 students per class. Each class has a highly qualified NYS certified teacher and a teacher's assistant.
- You will be scheduled for parent teacher conferences throughout the year.
- Your child will be assessed three times per year. You will receive a report card in January, April and June.
- You will be notified as soon as possible if there are any concerns about your child's progress.
- Home visits by the Pre-K Parent Coordinator.
- Reading bags with books to borrow.

## What should my child wear to school?

- Encourage your child to be independent. Provide them with clothing and footwear that they can put on and take off with ease.
- Weather permitting; the children go outside everyday, please dress accordingly. In the winter we go out if it is 20 degrees or above.
- Make sure to label all of your child's belongings.
- Backpacks are required. Look for daily notices from school.



## How is my child disciplined?

Your child's teacher will provide you with classroom discipline policies and rules. They are posted in the classroom and will be shared with you.

- Faculty and staff will work with parents in guiding young children to develop self control, responsibility, and cooperation.
- Children who experience clear and consistent rules at home often have a much easier time adjusting to school.
- Appropriate bus behavior is expected. Parents will be contacted if a problem on the bus occurs.
- Please be involved, support the school and we can support one another in our efforts to maintain appropriate behavior and discipline. Parent resource books are available upon request.

### **\*\*\*Suspected child abuse\*\*\***

**School personnel are mandated reporters according to The New York State Social Service Law and will report it whenever there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been abused or neglected.**

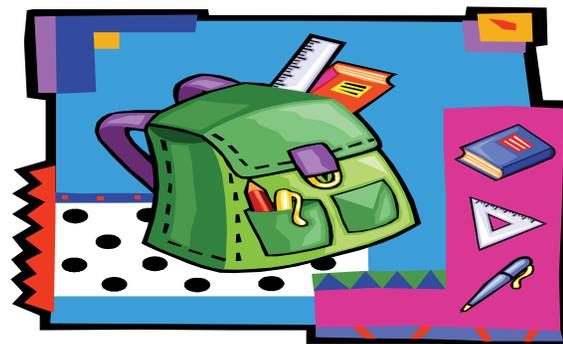


## Are meals provided? Breakfast/lunch

- Breakfast will be provided, free of charge, in the classroom for students who attend in the morning.  
Lunch will be provided, free of charge, in the classroom for students who attend in the afternoon.
- Notify your child's teacher if there are any dietary restrictions or allergies.

## What supplies will my child need?

- Each teacher will provide you with a list of supplies.
- All children will need a backpack. It is important that you check the backpack daily for current information.



## Will there be special events?

Throughout the year there will be several opportunities for your child to attend field trips. Some of the trips may be walking field trips.

Important reminders:

- You will be notified in advance of all upcoming field trips.
- In order to ensure the safety of all of our children, we must have written notification 24 hours prior to the field trip if you plan to sign-out your child from the site of the field trip.
- **We can not release a student to anyone other than a child's parent or guardian at the site of the field trip (even if they are on the blue card).**
- Once the bus returns to the school, the child may then be signed out to someone listed on the blue card.
- Occasionally you will be required to provide transportation home.
- Any baked goods that are brought in during the course of the school year need to be purchased from a store, not "homemade."
- There will be several family events planned throughout the year. Your child's teacher will keep you informed as they are scheduled differently in each school. Some of the celebrations include;

**Holiday Celebrations**  
**Seasonal Celebrations**  
**Mother's Day**  
**Father's Day**  
**Pre-K Picnic**  
**Graduation**



## Does my child attend on a half day?

There are several staff development days and parent teacher conference days throughout the year. Please find a tentative schedule\* below which will indicate which class will attend during these times.

**SEP 22 AM CLASSES**

**OCT 30 PM CLASSES**

**NOV 5 AM CLASSES**

**NOV 6 PM CLASSES**

**NOV 16 AM CLASSES**

**FEB 4 PM CLASSES**

**MAY 4 AM CLASSES**

**MAY 20 PM CLASSES**



- **This is subject to change.**

**The last week of school there will be some half days.  
We will rotate accordingly.**

## What happens when school is delayed or closed?

When it is necessary to close schools because of weather or emergency conditions there will be an announcement on the following radio and television stations.

Camden's Activity Hotline.....245-7777  
WSYR.....Syracuse  
WTLB/Rock 107.....Utica  
WIBX..... Utica  
WTKW.....Bridgeport  
WKTU.....Utica  
WFRG.....Utica  
WIXT-TV.....Syracuse  
WMCR.....Oneida  
WSTM-TV.....Syracuse



- Whenever there is a one-hour delay of school, all students will still attend.
- When there is a two-hour delay, morning students will not attend. Afternoon students will attend.
- **If a decision is made to close school before the morning students leave the building (11:30 am), due to inclement weather, it may be necessary for us to keep the students in the building until dismissal.**
- The decision to cancel afternoon Pre-K will be broadcast on television, radio and on our hotline. You may also receive a call from School Messenger, our automated messaging system. **Please make sure we have your most current home and cell number.**

## Is transportation provided?



Camden Central School provides our students with transportation to and from school.

- If your child's pickup/drop-off location is within .2 of a mile of the school, your child will be considered a walker.
- A designated responsible adult must be there to put your child on the bus and take him/her off the bus. If there is no adult there to meet the bus, children will be returned to school.
- Children, who are three years old, must sit in a car seat until their fourth birthday. The district will provide the seat.
- Please be aware that the bus driver is not responsible for strapping children into car seats or seat belts.
- An adult other than the bus driver **MUST** strap the child into the car seat.
- All Pre-K students **WILL BE** strapped into a car seat or seat belt before leaving the school.
- Avoid excessive bus changes as they are confusing for the children.
- If you plan to change your child's pick up or drop off location within the area of your child's attendance, you must contact us in advance. *The nature of the Pre-K routes makes it extremely difficult for us to honor requests for a pick up or drop off address that changes every other week.* You must call your child's school at least **48 HOURS** in advance.
- Unfortunately, we are not able to accommodate all requests. Please follow the procedures at your child's school for drop off or pick up.
- *If you bring your child to school, please bring your child into the building and wait with your child until the Pre-K program begins. DO NOT drop them off outside the building and leave.*
- Morning PK begins at 8:50AM
- Afternoon PK begins at 1:00PM
- **In case of emergency, the telephone number for the bus garage is 245-0878.**

## What if my child is sick?

In order for your child to experience success, he/she will be expected to attend school. However, in order to protect his/her classmates and teachers from illnesses, if your child is ill please make arrangements for his/her care.

- Please call the school in the morning to let us know if your child will not be attending due to illness
- If your child becomes sick during the day or arrives at school sick, you will be notified to pick up your child. If you cannot be reached at home we will call the emergency numbers you give us. Please keep them updated.
- A written excuse must accompany your child upon returning to school.
- Let the teacher know if your child will be absent for more than two days.
- You will be notified if your child experiences excessive absences.
- Occasionally, children will need to be picked up from school to attend an appointment. Please write an excuse to the teacher and adhere to sign-in and sign-out policies in your child's school.

*Please do not send your child to school if he/she has a fever over 100.4 without medication.*



## Medication

- If your child will need to take prescription medicine in school, we will need an authorization form from the doctor.
- **Do not** send your child to school with prescription medicine, cough drops, vitamins, or pain relievers.
- Medication must be brought to school by a parent or guardian.
- All medications will be administered by the nurse.

