

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION



Scotch Plains - Fanwood Public Schools
Spring 2025

Our School

▷ Welcome to Brunner School!

440 children and 80 staff members (teachers, therapists, nurse, secretaries, aides, lunch aides, and custodians)

Some interesting Brunner facts:

- Our mascot is the Beaver
- Representation of the wonderful diversity of people, families, and cultures is something we are constantly working to increase across the curriculum.



Some names to know...

▷ Principal

Dr. Scott Bortnick sbortnick@spfk12.org

▷ Office Staff

Mrs. Sheila Lockier slockier@spfk12.org

Mrs. Kathy Palella kpalella@spfk12.org

➤ Additional staff:

Mrs. Melissa Paine (nurse) mpaine@spfk12.org

Mrs. Saadah (counselor) hsaadeh@spfk12.org

Mr. Rich Rodak (head custodian)

Office Dino Caminetti

Our Families

- Parent - Teacher Association (PTA)
Current President- Sharon Dowling
jenearlypta@gmail.com
- School Events supported by the PTA
 - Variety Show
 - Book Fair
 - Field Day
 - Cultural Arts Assemblies
- Sign-up for “Brunner Backpack” electronic bulletin through the Brunner PTA homepage. <https://www.spfk12.org/Page/2884>


Our Routines

▷ Drop-Off & Pick-Up Procedures

▷ Home-School Communication:

- Website- www.spfk12.org/brunner
- Electronic newsletter and eBlasts-
brunnerbackpack@gmail.com
- Room Parents
- Classroom teachers
- Reporting an absence: 908-889-2148
(press 1)
- Dismissal notes

Our Day

- ▷ 8:25-8:35 am arrival - 3:10 pm dismissal
 - ▷ Explore reading, writing, word study (Foundations), math, science and social studies
 - ▷ Focus on social and emotional learning
 - ▷ Lunch and Recess
 - ▷ Choice Time
 - ▷ Specials: Art, Library, Music and PE²
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Our Students: The Class of 2038


▷ Children enter school with varied abilities and skills

- Health and physical development
- Social and emotional development
- Language and communication
- Cognition and general knowledge
- Approaches toward learning

▷ Teachers meet them where they are and help them reach challenging, yet achievable, goals

The Kindergarten Community

- ▷ Children with special needs are included and supported based on their IEPs or 504 plans
- ▷ Language-rich experiences support all learners and in particular Multilingual Learners
- ▷ Diversity is embraced, seen/heard, and understood so it can be sustained



"Play is often talked
about as if it were
a relief from serious
learning. But for
children, play is
serious learning."

—Mr. Rogers

The Kindergarten Experience

Children spend time in whole group, small group and independent activities throughout the day



The Kindergarten Experience

Children learn through hands-on experiences, make choices and practice skills at learning centers



Discourse and Movement





The Kindergarten Experience

Children develop social skills throughout the day, both inside and outside the classroom



Setting up for Success: Supporting Readiness Skills

- ▷ Practice writing name, talk about letters in context, have natural conversations, keep a journal
- ▷ Identify and discuss numbers all around, play counting games
- ▷ Explore nature and the community
- ▷ Read, read, read

Getting ready for a great year!

Visit our playground
over the summer



Establish a consistent
bedtime and wake-up
routine the week
before school starts

☆☆☆ Bedtime	
	pajamas
	brush teeth
	go potty
	read
	lights out
www.being-visual.com	

Teach your child to
do as many things as
possible
independently





Thank you for coming!

