

# RMSC PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2009-10

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How long has the RMSC preschool existed?

A. The school began on this site in 1976.

Q. When is Registration?

A. Registration is ongoing until all spots are filled, but to be included in the lottery, your application must be received by midnight on February 8, 2009. (See brochure for details on how the lottery works).

Q. What are my class choices?

**Three-year-olds: must be three by 12/1/2009**

- Two mornings per week (T & TH) 9 - 11:30 - two classes offered at this time
- Three mornings per week (M W F) 9 - 11:30 - one class offered at this time
- Two afternoons per week (T & TH) 1 - 3:30 - one class offered at this time  
***This is a mixed aged group - must be 3 or 4 by 12/1/2009***

**Four-year-olds: must be 4 or 5 by 12/1/09**

### **Regular Preschool Classes**

- Two afternoons per week (T & TH) 1 - 3:30 - one class offered at this time  
***This is a mixed aged group - must be 3 or 4 by 12/1/2009***
- Three mornings per week (M W F) 9 - 11:30 - one class offered at this time

### **Pre - Kindergarten Classes**

- Four mornings per week (M - TH) 9 - 11:30 - two classes offered at this time
- Four afternoons per week (M - TH) 1 - 3:30 - one class offered at this time

**Note:** *All classes are play-based and combine small and large group activities, art, science and math exploration, literacy, music and physical education.*

Q. What is the difference between the pre-K and the preschool classes?

A. The **preschool classes** continue to build upon the foundation laid in the three-year-old classes. They focus on curriculum exploration, individual and group social skills and the development of routines. As the year goes on, more emphasis is placed on readiness skills in preparation for the transition to kindergarten. The preschool classes meet either two or three half days per week.

The **pre - K classes** also continue to build on the foundation laid in the three-year-old classes but the four days allow for in-depth curriculum study and continuity of experience. Emergent skills in reading and writing are practiced and home school connections are expanded.

Q. What is a typical class size?

A. Class size ranges from 12 - 16 children with two teachers.

Q. Can I request a **specific** teacher or room?

- A. Families make their choices based on the time slot that works best for them. At the time of registration, I do not know who the teachers will be for next year or what schedules they may have. While some teams have been together for many years, teaching schedules are always subject to change, and are not finalized until June. If you have questions about staffing and room assignments, please see me.
- Q. Do I have to submit two application **fees** if I have two children applying?  
A. No - only one non-refundable application fee per family is required.
- Q. If I have more than one child attending is there a **discount** on tuition?  
A. Yes - you will receive a 25% discount off the lowest tuition.
- Q. What is the **deadline** for the application?  
A. Deadline for the lottery is February 8, 2009 at midnight. Applications may be mailed, hand delivered or faxed to this number - 271-0747. ***Any spots left after the lottery is complete are processed on a first come, first serve basis. We accept applications throughout the year until all spots are full. Call 697-1949 for availability.***
- Q. When do **payments** begin?  
A. A \$200 deposit is due April 1, 2009 and payments begin in August. For late enrollees, payments begin within a month of the start date.
- Q. How **long** is the school year?  
A. The school year starts September 14, 2009 and runs through June 4, 2010.
- Q. When does the school close?  
A. The preschool generally follows the Rochester City School District calendar. We have Columbus Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Memorial Day off. We also have Thanksgiving Recess, Winter Recess, February Recess and Spring Recess. Preschool closes during our parent teacher conferences and when the RCSD has a snow day.
- Q. Do the children have to be **potty-trained** before entering school?  
A. No.
- Q. Are all staff **certified teachers**?  
A. No. Our baseline for employment in the preschool is a Child Development Associate's Degree plus early childhood classroom experience. The current staff has education, experience or degrees in early childhood, elementary and special education, science, art, physical education and administration. Many are certified and some hold Master's degrees.
- Q. Where can I get **more information**?  
A. Please refer to the brochure and application or come to an **Open House** - January 9 or February 6 from 12:00 - 2:00. To plan a visit, call the preschool office at 697-1949.

Thank you for your interest in the RMSC Preschool!