



CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Washington D. Smyser Accelerated School \* 4310 North Melvina Avenue \* Chicago, Illinois 60634  
Telephone 773/534-3710 \* Fax 773/534-3555 \* www.smyser.org

Jerry Travlos  
Principal

Autonomous Management and Performance School  
ISBE Honor Roll/Spotlight School

Pedro Beiza  
Assistant Principal

April 14, 2010

Dear Prospective Kindergarten Parent:

Early registration for Kindergarten is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>. Washington D. Smyser in conjunction with the CPS Office of Early Childhood Education has offered four-hour kindergarten programming for the past three years. Often referred to as “Extended Kindergarten” this program provides for additional instructional time and teacher support. Session 1 runs from 8 AM to 12 PM and session 2 from 12:20 PM to 4:20 PM.

Due to the school funding crisis, we are uncertain of the type of kindergarten format to be offered during the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. Unfortunately, I am still awaiting official notification. I can safely predict, we will either continue having “Extended Kindergarten” or switch to “Half-Day Kindergarten- 2.5 hours”.

The Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) require that a child be 5 years of age on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year to be eligible for kindergarten. There are no waivers and CPS does not offer a readiness test for early entry to kindergarten.

To facilitate fairness in the placement of students we will adhere to the following policy:

- Students currently enrolled in the Smyser Pre-School Program will be given morning or afternoon preference.
- Parents of newly enrolled kindergarten students will be asked for a preference. Based on the date of enrollment, the school will try to accommodate- I’m sorry but no guarantees.
- During the summer, parents will be mailed their child’s room placement, supply list, school readiness forms, and start/dismissal times.
- Keep in mind, placement of students depends on staffing, number of children, and Local/State/Federal requirements based on registration information.

I thank you for your support, patience, and understanding. Any questions can be direct to Ms. Lofton, Ms. Luczak, Mr. Beiza, or Mr. Travlos.

Sincerely,

Jerry Travlos  
Principal