



### Greetings Teachers:

Happy Teacher Appreciation Month! The Office of Early Childhood sends MANY thanks for all the hard work you do each day for children and families. We know this has been a challenging year but we saw you rise above the obstacles and make greatness happen. We could not be more proud of you! Attached you will find a poem that we hope helps show how thankful we truly are. Thanks... You Matter!!

Here are some updates and information for May:

- [K-Ready Summer Program](#)
  - The K Ready Program is being offered again this summer. It is an academic/enrichment program for pre K-4 students entering kindergarten in September 2021 which will run from July 1-August 6. During this whole day program students will engage in an investigation of The Five Senses and participate in rich gross motor activities in the afternoon. Lunch and snack will be provided. **The deadline for registration has been extended to Friday, May 28, 2021.** Please share this information and the [registration link](#) with families (<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/summerprograms/studentapp>)
- [School Calendar](#)
  - The [2020-2021 school calendar](#) has been updated. You can find the updated calendar on the district [website](#). Please be sure you have shared this information with families
- [Updated GOLD Schedule](#)
  - Summer collection period timelines have been updated based on the new school calendar. **Checkpoint Finalization** is due on **June 17, 2021** by the end of the school day. **Report Cards** should be **submitted to Administrators for approval on June 18, 2021** and **Report Cards** should be **distributed on June 25, 2021.**
- [Fidelity Tool Checklist](#)
  - As a reminder the [Fidelity Tool Checklist](#) is due to your Teacher Coach no later than **June 4, 2021**. As a reminder, please **make a copy or download to use**. Edit access cannot be provided.
- [Transition](#)
  - Please review the [updated annual guidance](#) on compiling the Preschool Transition Portfolios. This year, a pre-recorded [Transition Portfolio Webinar](#) has been developed in addition to the written guidance to further support understanding of the content and expectations for electronic submission. Following review of the content, please complete the [feedback survey form](#) to ensure understanding of the expectations. Please follow [all directions](#) to fidelity.
  - [SY 2020-2021 Transition Process](#)
    - All **Pre-K 4 Students** must have a portfolio.
      - Pre-K 4 Teachers in Private Provider locations must submit their Transition Portfolios electronically through the [Transition Portfolio Submission Form](#) by **June 22, 2021**.
      - Pre-K 4 Teachers at District Elementary Schools should **ONLY** submit portfolios if a student is transferring to a different school for Kindergarten in September using the above link.

- **Pre-K 3 Teachers** will be looping and do not need to complete a transition portfolio. If a student is leaving the school or program, the teacher should create a portfolio and provide it to their school leader for distribution to families. **No Pre-K 3 portfolios should be submitted electronically.**
- [Kindergarten Video Clips](#)
  - Due to virtual learning, many Pre-K 4 students did not have the opportunity to participate in Kindergarten tours. To address this, Newark Board of Education Kindergarten teachers are sharing some [video clips](#) to provide a glimpse of “A Day in the Life” of a kindergarten student. Please encourage and remind families to take a moment with their child to watch some of the videos submitted to help prepare their child to transition to Kindergarten.
- [Transition to Kindergarten Workshop](#)
  - At virtual Title 1 Parent Conference in December, rising Kindergarten families were provided with information to support the understanding of the expectations of Kindergarten. Those unable to attend can still view the webinar that has been recorded in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) to support transition to Kindergarten. Please encourage families to watch the webinar and complete the short feedback form in either [English](#) or [Spanish](#). We encourage all staff to watch the video as well.

Continue to make greatness happen each day you walk into your classroom. Your hard work never goes unnoticed!

# THANKS

for **ALL** that you did today in your classroom...

For making a million little split second

**DECISIONS** for the benefit of your students.



For putting your own needs on hold and  
keeping them the **FOCUS** of your day.

For **PLANNING** for them long before today  
ever got rolling.



For **CHANGING** those plans because they didn't  
fit someone who needed a little extra.

For smiling, **LAUGHING WITH THEM** and reassuring  
their efforts, trials and mistakes.



For placing your hand on a shoulder that  
was **EXACTLY** what someone needed.

For getting down on the physical level of  
your students because **IT MATTERS.**

For thinking of a new way to reach  
someone who wasn't getting it.

You matter.

Yes — **YOU MATTER.**

