

***Peru Elementary
School District #124***



Bright Futures Preschool Program

2025 - 2026
Northview School
815-223-1111

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**PERU PUBLIC SCHOOL
BRIGHT FUTURES PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**

**Northview School
2100 Plum Street
Peru, Illinois 61354
(815) 223-1111**

**School Website
www.perued.net**

District #124

Ryan Linnig, Superintendent

Sara McDonald, Principal

2025-2026

Preschool Team

**Ali Dellinger Teacher
Mallori Fahler, Teacher
Melissa Preston, Teacher
Kelly Schaefer, Speech Pathologist
Julie Chasteen, Developmental Preschool Teacher
Jamie Taylor, Parent Coordinator**

**AM Session: 8:15 - 10:45 a.m. Monday-Friday
PM Session: 11:45 - 2:15 p.m. Monday-Friday
Full Day Session: 8:15 - 2:15 p.m. Monday-Friday**

Peru Elementary District #124 Mission Statement

“Preparing our students to learn, grow and reach their greatest potential.”

Peru Elementary District #124 Core Beliefs and Values as adopted by the board of education are:

- ❖ Children are why we are here, and their education, safety, and well-being must always come first.
- ❖ There is no replacement for high expectations, and we must expect our students to achieve to the best of their individual ability.
- ❖ All children can learn-even if not at the same pace or in the same way-and show constant growth.
- ❖ Reading, literacy, and mathematics are the foundations of learning, academic excellence, and are the keys to maximizing future success.
- ❖ Effective education is a partnership among schools, parents, families and our local community.
- ❖ Fiscal responsibility is critical to ensuring that we continue to provide our students with the highest quality educational programs and instruction.

The following beliefs and principles of the Bright Futures Preschool Program were added by the Preschool Team:

- ❖ Values each child as an individual
- ❖ Addresses individual needs through developmentally appropriate activities in small group settings and in learning centers
- ❖ Combines both child-initiated and teacher directed experiences
- ❖ Values the parent-teacher partnership as essential to optimal learning and fosters that partnership throughout the year
- ❖ Encourages children to learn through play
- ❖ Provides language rich experiences
- ❖ Promotes a sense of independence and responsibility

- ❖ Generates positive self-esteem

ENTRANCE AGES

This program is open to children ages three and four. A child must be age three by September 1 (exception is Developmental Preschool Children). Parents are **required** to provide the school with a certified copy of the child's birth certificate.

A child reaching age 3 during the school term, who has been screened by the early childhood screening team, may be deemed eligible for this early childhood program if space is available and all the other requirements have been met.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Preschool students who will be entering Peru Public School for the first time will be required to have a physical examination and immunizations in accordance with the requirements for the State of Illinois. This includes a completed Illinois School Physical Form signed by a licensed healthcare provider & parent. Exam must have occurred within 1 year of the child's first day of school and must include a statement from the physician that the child was "risk assessed" or screened for lead poisoning. Due prior to the 1st day of school.

Proof of current immunizations. Due prior to the 1st day of school.

A dental examination is required for full day students and highly recommended for half day students so we have a baseline assessment of your child's oral health.

These requirements need to be met prior to the start of school. Please hand in your physical and completed immunizations at registration in August. Your child will be excluded from school if records are incomplete on the October 15th deadline.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES/PROOF OF RESIDENCY

Required for registration are a copy of the student's certified birth certificate and proof of residency. (Board Policy 7:60)

PROOF OF INCOME

Proof of income is collected and reviewed to determine eligibility and priority of enrollment into the program. The following form(s) of documentation will be accepted as proof of income:

- 2 most recent and consecutive pay stubs
- Proof of Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) benefit
- Proof of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit
- Proof of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) enrollment
- Proof of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit
- Proof the family receives Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Tax return (most recent)
- Wages and tax statement (most recent W-2)
- Verification/letter from employer
- Proof that **parent** is enrolled in Medicaid

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School supplies needed for the classroom are provided by the Bright Futures Preschool Program. Parents are asked to send the following items to school for their child:

- Backpack
- An extra set of clothing for your child; shirt, pants/shorts, underwear and socks- please place in a ziploc bag

For All Day Students Only

- A beach towel or something similar for nap time
- Tennis Shoes for PE (Preferably Velcro)

***If you need assistance providing any of these items for your child, please inform your child's teacher or the Parent Coordinator and we will assist you ***

PLEASE PUT YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON ALL ITEMS

CURRICULUM

The overall curriculum of the Peru Public Schools' Bright Futures Preschool Program is designed to meet the individual growth and developmental needs of the young child. We use the *Big Day for PreK* Curriculum Program. *Big Day for PreK* embraces children's natural curiosity and encourages children to connect and explore the world around them. Intentional play and teacher-led instruction focus on big ideas and guides children in the development of knowledge, skills, and concepts that will prepare them for school success.

ART

Various art activities, such as clay, finger painting, watercolors, crayons, and easel painting assist the child in experimentation, creativity, and development of motor skills. In addition, these activities help a child express emotions and feelings. Remember, the process is often more important than the product.

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

Themes are planned to meet the needs of the children. Many planned activities are derived from these themes. Examples of such themes are "colors", "shapes", "food groups", and "animals". These themes attempt to expand the child's cognitive skills, language development, and curiosity.

DRAMATIC PLAY

This is a very important part of the program as it gives each child the opportunity to actually portray the roles around him or her. These play opportunities help foster within the child a greater understanding of the way people relate to each other and their place in the world.

MUSIC

Ample time is allowed for singing, marching, and experimentation with instruments and rhythms. Often listening to music serves as a way to relax the child and provide smooth transitions to other activities.

LITERATURE

Books are available each day. In addition, special time is set aside for stories, puppets, flannel board stories, films, and story records. All of these experiences contribute to the

child's language development and understanding of the world.

SPEECH/LANGUAGE

Time is set aside each day for language development such as proper use of pronouns, prepositions, and complete sentence usage.

LARGE AND SMALL MUSCLE ACTIVITIES

Physical exercise and the development of motor skills are experienced daily. Various equipment is used such as balls, climbing equipment, and balance beam for large muscles. Small motor skills are developed through various manipulative materials including puzzles, blocks, beads, and similar items.

SOCIALIZATION

All activities strive toward helping the child learn how to get along with others. Through all the activities of the program, an attempt is made to create and develop in each child a feeling of belonging, respect, friendliness, consideration for others, self-confidence, and a positive self image.

Expulsion and Suspension Policy

Students enrolled in the Bright Futures Preschool Program may be temporarily removed or transitioned to an appropriate program after all other interventions have been exhausted.. In accordance with Federal and State law, Peru Elementary School's Bright Futures Preschool Program does not expel students. (105 ILCS 5/2-3.71(a)(7))

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents play an important role in your child's education. There will be many opportunities throughout the year to attend parties and school activities. We welcome and encourage Parent Involvement in many different forms! Volunteering in the classroom for even a short time will benefit you and your child as well as all the children in the class, and the teacher. You can get more information about volunteer opportunities from your classroom newsletter or by talking to your child's teacher.

ABSENCES

Please let us know ahead of time or call the school at (815) 223-1111 if your child will be absent.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The district nurse, Mrs. Kim Lamps, splits her time between Northview and Parkside Schools. She may be reached at 815-223-1111 or by email; klamps@perued.net. The nurse also offers a site found on the district's homepage, www.perued.net. The site provides a variety of school-health related items. Parents are asked to make sure they share any health concerns with the school nurse and the classroom teacher.

WHEN SHOULD I KEEP MY CHILD HOME BECAUSE OF ILLNESS?

When your child complains of being sick and has symptoms like sore throat, head cold, diarrhea, vomiting, or has had a fever greater than 100.0°F, in the last 24 hours, your child should remain at home. Keeping your child home when he or she is sick will permit your child time to recover and reduce the spread of illness to others. Please call and inform the school when your child is absent due to illness. If your child needs a dose of medication for the above symptoms in the morning, they need to stay at home. PLEASE DO NOT send your child after having had a dose of Tylenol (acetaminophen) or Motrin (ibuprofen) in the morning. The effects will wear off during the school day and the fever will return. A more difficult call is when your child complains of being sick in the morning, but you do not see any symptoms. You will then need to use your best judgment.

When my child has been home sick, when can he or she return to school?

Once the symptoms have stopped and the child is fever-free (temperature less than 100.0 degree F) for 24 hours without the use of medication, your child may return to school. If your child has had a fever the evening or night before, please do not send him/her back to school in the morning even if the temperature is down first thing in the morning. Often early morning temperatures are a degree or two below what it will be by afternoon. Children need to be symptom free of fever, diarrhea, and/or vomiting for 24 hours before returning to school. Your child is well enough to return to school when he/she can tolerate normal activity and a normal diet.

| I NEED TO STAY HOME IF... | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| I HAVE A FEVER | I AM VOMITING | I HAVE DIARRHEA | I HAVE A RASH | I HAVE HEAD LICE | I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION | I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL |
| | | | | | | |
| Temperature of 100.4 or higher | Within the past 24 hours | Within the past 24 hours. | Body rash with itching or fever. | Itchy head, active head lice. | Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye. | Hospital stay and/or ER Visit |

| I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM.... | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication i.e. Tylenol, Motrin | Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals | Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours | Free from rash itching, or or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed. | Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided to nurse. | Evaluated by my doctor and have note to return to school | Released by my medical provider to return to school. |

PERMISSION SLIPS

Permission slips are completed at registration as part of the permission page. A completed slip with your signature is required before your child may participate in field trip activities.

CLOTHING

Be sure your child wears clothing that is comfortable for play. Dress for the weather. We go outside daily unless it is extremely cold or raining. If in doubt, send your child with a jacket.

FULL DAY QUIET/REST TIME AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Children attending the full day program option will need to bring in a pair of velcro-closure tennis shoes to keep at school for P.E. class.

Children attending full day preschool will have a quiet time in the afternoon to rest. Please have your child bring a beach towel or something similar to use that will be kept at school.

FOOD AND PLAYTHINGS FROM HOME

Children are discouraged from bringing money, toys, gum, or candy to school. Please be aware; no toy weapons of any kind are allowed.

SNACKS AND LUNCH TIME

A nutritious snack is served each day in the half day programs. Children attending the full day program will be served breakfast, hot lunch, and an afternoon snack. Children are encouraged to taste each food. No child will be forced to eat any food or finish all food. Simple table manners and self help skills will be practiced.

BIRTHDAY TREATS, SNACKS, AND CLASSROOM PARTIES

Due to health concerns, all treats and snacks (including birthday treats) must be store bought and factory prepackaged. Baked goods from home or from a bakery are not allowed as a birthday treat. This includes Hy-Vee, Walmart, and any local bakery. Treats and snacks cannot require refrigeration and must have a clearly printed list of ingredients on the packaging. We strongly encourage you to select a treat or snack with nutritional value. The only acceptable birthday treats are listed below. Anything not on this list will be returned home with your child.

ACCEPTABLE BIRTHDAY TREATS AND SNACKS

- Individually pre packaged baby carrots
- Individually pre packaged apple slices
- Cutie oranges
- Bananas
- Individually wrapped cheese sticks or Babybels
- Hostess Muffins – mini or regular
- Chips Ahoy
- Keebler Fudge Stripes, Fudge Grahams, Lorna Doone, Nilla Wafers
- Oreos (regular, Golden or Minis)
- Raisins, Craisins and other dried fruits
- Kraft Handi-snacks with cheese (with red sticks)
- Triscuits, Wheat Thins, Vegetable Thins (all flavors)
- Ritz crackers/dinosaurs/sticks (NOT Ritz bits or sandwiches)
- Townhouse, Club, Tostitos
- Veggie Straws/Chips

- Popped popcorn
- Cheez-Its, Cheese Nips, Better Cheddars
- Saltines, Oyster crackers
- Wheatables, Air Crisps, Munch'ems, Keebler Snack Stix
- Kashi Tasty Little Crackers (TLC)
- Goldfish crackers
- Annie's Bunnies
- Graham crackers, Graham cracker sticks
- Teddy Grahams or Teddy Graham character brand
- Animal crackers (Austin Zoo, Barnum)
- Vanilla wafers
- Kellogg's Rice Krispie Treats
- Angie's Kettle Corn
- Nutri-Grain Bars
- Pretzels (NOT Snyder's)
- Fruit Snacks
- Cereal bars

BIRTHDAY TREATS, SNACKS, AND CLASSROOM PARTIES CONTINUED

Soda is not permitted at school. There are three (3) Holiday parties that are celebrated in the classrooms throughout the school year. Classroom teachers pre-arrange volunteers who provide these holiday snacks. Do not send any holiday treats to school without being requested to do so by the classroom teacher. Avoidance of all foods with nuts is the safest for students with specific allergies. Reading ingredient labels will help everyone know what is in the foods brought in for class parties. We require treats and snacks to follow the following guidelines:

1. Only store bought items that are sealed in the original package with ingredients listed are permitted in the classrooms during the school day when students are in attendance.
2. Baked goods from home or from a bakery are not allowed during holiday parties. This includes Hy-Vee, Walmart, and any local bakery.
3. All snacks and treats intended to be shared with classmates must be nut free. Please note the nut products that may be listed in the paragraph of ingredients or in bold type underneath. You may also find the phrase..."made in the same factory with peanuts and/or tree nuts". These foods are also NOT safe for children with peanut/nut allergies. If you are unsure of the ingredients, please do not bring it in.

No treat bags are allowed for holiday parties or as birthday treats. This includes treat bags with food items AND non-food items. If treat bags are sent to school, they will be sent back home with your child. For Valentine's Day, please send cards only, no candy. Pencils, erasers, stickers, tattoos, etc. are allowed to be attached to the Valentines.

NEWSLETTERS

A newsletter will be sent home weekly with your child. This will include classroom information, important dates, activities and upcoming events.

CALENDAR

All sessions of the Bright Future's Preschool Program run Monday through Friday. We will follow the Northview School calendar with a few exceptions. You will receive a paper copy and the Preschool yearly calendar will be available on the Northview School's website. You will be notified of holiday recesses, special days, non-attendance days, etc. in the newsletter.

NORTHVIEW BUILDING SCHEDULE FOR PRESCHOOL

A.M. Session:

8:10 a.m. PreK Teachers/Staff will meet students outside and dismiss from cars
8:15 a.m. Students enter building – Tardy after this time
10:45 a.m. Students are dismissed and walk to cars

P.M. Session:

11:40 a.m. PreK Teachers/Staff will meet students outside and dismiss from car
11:45 a.m. Students enter building – Tardy after this time
2:15 p.m. Students are dismissed and walk to cars

FULL DAY SESSION:

8:10 a.m. PreK Teachers/Staff will meet students outside and dismiss from cars
8:15 a.m. Students enter building – Tardy after this time
2:15 p.m. Students are dismissed and walk to cars

Northview School Drop off Directions:

To ensure safe and efficient drop off, please follow the directions and contact the office if you have any questions. No students should be dropped off at the main entrance unless they are tardy and all buses are gone. Students that are tardy need to be signed in. Please share these procedures with any adult who may bring your child to school.

Reminder: It is against the law to use cell phones in a school zone. It is also against the law to smoke on school property.

PreK drop off directions for AM and PM

- Students in PreK, K, 1 and any older siblings of K and 1 students, will be dropped off at the north end of the building.
- Cars will enter at the north Plum Street entrance and veer right
- Drop off line continues looping around the parking lot with students being dropped off at the sidewalk near door #5.
- There is enough sidewalk space to safely drop off approximately 10 at a time.
- Cars will be directed to pull all the way to the northeast end of the sidewalk to allow for the maximum number of students to be dropped off at one time.
- Students will exit the car on the passenger side and proceed directly to the sidewalk. In order to expedite the process, teachers will only open up the car door for parents when they are able. Parents or children are responsible for unbuckling their own seat belts.
- Students then head to their respective homeroom line on the side of the playground.
- In the event of inclement weather, all PreK students and siblings that get dropped off with them, will enter the building at door #5 and proceed through the building to their respective grade level hallways instead of lining up outside.

PreK Pick up directions:

To ensure safe and efficient pick up, please follow the directions and contact the office if you have any questions. Please do not park your car and walk to pick up your child. Please share these procedures with any adult who may pick your child up from school.

Reminder: It is against the law to use cell phones in a school zone. It is also against the law to smoke on school property.

PreK PM pick up instructions

- Students in PreK, K, 1 and any older siblings of K and 1 students, will be picked up at the north end of the building.
- Cars will enter at the north Plum Street entrance and will veer right.
- Pick up line continues looping around the parking lot with students being picked up all along the sidewalk near door #5.
- Cars will be directed to pull all the way to the northeast end of the sidewalk to allow for a maximum number of students to be picked up at one time. There is enough sidewalk space to safely pick up approximately 10 at a time.
- Please have your pick up window I.D. hanging from the rearview mirror, on the visor, or sitting on the dash so it is visible to the teachers directing students to the pickup location.
- Pull forward to your child and he/she will enter the car on the passenger side. If a teacher is available, they may open up the car door in order to expedite the loading process. Please make sure your child can secure themselves in their seat. For PreK and Kdg. students, if they cannot secure their own car seat, please pull forward around the curve where you are able to get out of the car if needed to get your child in the car seat. Parents may not exit their vehicle to assist their children until they have moved past the pick-up zone.
- Cars will continue to pull forward as far in line as they can and students will continue to load cars and exit the line.
- Older siblings of the K and 1 students will get picked up with them at the north end of the building.

HOME VISITS

Home visits will be made once each school year. You will be contacted to set a date and time. Home Visits will typically last 15-20 minutes. We ask that your child is present to participate in the Home Visit.

PURPOSE OF HOME VISIT COMPONENT

The Home Visit permits the parents, teachers, and child to form a bond of trust, friendship, and security. The teaching staff desires to assist the parents in a variety of ways by providing information about the community resources, continuing adult education, health, nutrition, and simple learning activities for the child.

The Home Visit also provides support for the parents when dealing with concerns related to the child and/or family. The Home Visit places emphasis on the parent's involvement.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, you may call the school at (815) 223-1111

Community Resource Agencies and Phone Numbers

Suicide Prevention Hotline

Available 24 hours

1-800-273-8255

Crisis Text Line

Available 24/7

Help and resources for emotional abuse, self-harm, bullying, anxiety, depression, eating disorders, loneliness, and sexuality.

Text **HOME** to 741741

Against Domestic Violence

(for abused adults and their children)

P.O. Box 593

Streator, IL 61364

Phone: 673-1555

Dept. of Children and Family Services

1580 First Avenue

Ottawa, IL 61350

Phone: 433-4371

Reporting abuse and neglect 24 hr.

Toll free: 800-252-2873

Head Start Program

Tri County Opportunities Council

Toll free: 800-323-5434

Illinois Valley Community

College ABE, GED, ESL

I-READ (Local Literacy Program & Early Childhood Education Center)

Route #1

Phone: 223-3300

Oglesby, IL 61348

Phone: 224-2720

Ambulance dispatch: 223-4444

Illinois Valley Food Pantry

122 Wright St.

LaSalle, IL 61301

Phone: 224-3658

LaSalle County Cooperative Extension

815 North Orlando Smith Road

Room C223

Oglesby, IL 61348

Phone: 815- 224-0889

Email: uie-blmp@illinois.edu

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm (Closed 12 - 1pm)

LaSalle County Dept. of Public Aid

700 Centennial Drive

Ottawa, IL 61350

Phone: 433-1572

LaSalle County Special Education Office (LEASE)

1009 Boyce Memorial Drive

Ottawa, IL 61350

Phone: 433-6433

Illinois Valley Community Hospital & Home Health Services

925 West St.

Peru, IL 61354