



Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

Office of Community Engagement

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Plainfield Public Schools Early Childhood Program To Utilize Electronic Portfolios to Expedite Introduction of Pre-K Children to their Kindergarten Teachers

Plainfield, NJ- June 13, 2019– Gone are the folders full of papers that follow the children from Pre-K to their elementary schools as they enter kindergarten. Plainfield Public Schools' Office of Early Childhood Program (OEC) for the first time will utilize electronic portfolios to introduce the children to their new teachers.

The student portfolios will include samples of the children's work, end-of-year outcomes, and the information necessary for their placement in the elementary school setting. The portfolios will be sent electronically directly attached to each children's ID number in their Genesis System accounts.

The Genesis System is a web-based student record management system used by New Jersey Schools to manage student information. The system will be used to transfer the files and facilitate the process. The files in turn will be available to the Kindergarten teachers ahead of time and before the new school year begins so they can plan their classes.

Tanaisha White, Transition Specialist and Master Teacher for the Office of Early Childhood, said the paperless portfolio and the ability to send records electronically will allow the Kindergarten teachers to prepare for each student and differentiate their education.

"Teachers will have time to prepare before their children arrive in September.

"We are assuring a smooth transition using technology in a way that will enhance our ability to expedite the process and let teachers know more about their incoming students."

The Pre-K teachers were trained in the Genesis System and will be completing their assignments by the end of June.

"There are approximately 800 children entering Kindergarten this year and with this new initiative we have implemented in OEC their teachers will be ready rather than starting this process in September when the children arrive," said Every Motley, Director.