

April 30, 2021

Hello Floral Park-Bellerose School District Community,

It is hard to believe that it is already April 30th with two months left of the school year. I want to thank all of you again for your collaboration and communication throughout the school year as we worked together to keep our schools open during this pandemic. I am optimistic about our future with the NYSDOH slowly easing regulations. We are already looking forward to more normalcy for our students for next year!

As you may know, we have been doing budget presentations in the community for the upcoming budget vote on May 18th. During our presentations, we have been notifying the public of monies that are available for a full-day Universal Pre-K Program. This new Federal money is only available for a **full-day program**. We understand the late timing of this announcement as we were only provided with this information on April 7, 2021. We have been diligently attending all webinars and meetings conducted by the NYSED and other pertinent groups to better understand what is required to start this program and access the funds. We are reviewing our physical space, staffing and budget in order to determine what options we will be able to offer to our community. In order to tailor a program to meet the needs of this community, be that full day or half day or a combination, we will be gathering information on parent interest. For those parents and guardians that have registered your child for our existing half-day program, you may have already received a phone call inquiring about your interest in a full day program. If you already registered, there is nothing additional you need to do at this time. If you are aware of any families who may have a child who turns 4 by December 1, 2021 and they have not registered, please share this information and ask them to contact Dr. Juli Mulcahy at 516-434-2771.

This is very exciting news and we will be providing you with details over the next few weeks. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Universal Pre-K, please contact me at 516-434-2726 or Dr. Juli Mulcahy at 516-434-2771.

Have a great weekend and enjoy your family and the Spring weather!

Dr. Kathleen Sottile
Superintendent