

Preschool Information Night
2026

Family Involvement Team (F.I.T.)

…meet the Team…



Kathleen Molina,
Supervisor of Early Childhood, Community & Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS)



Lucy Zaragoza
Preschool Social Worker



Melissa Peterson
Family Worker, Trinity

How and Why?

- **District Mission:**
  - To educate
  - To nurture
  - To prepare

- **Our community's needs**
  - Working families
  - Parental choices
    - Expensive preschool
    - Leaving work
    - Dependence on relatives
  - Language skills and exposure
  - Social and emotional skills

- **Gov. Murphy's Vision**
  - Equitable access to Pre-K
  - Eventually universal Pre-K

How can Bogota afford Public Preschool?

Preschool Education Aid (PEA)

- Our district applied for a state grant
- In January 2019 opened 4 classrooms
- For both general and special education students, 3 and 4 year olds
- Bogota residents only
- State-funded (not from Bogota taxes)

Quality Controlled

- Equitable education regardless of location
  - Certified Teachers
  - Creative Curriculum
  - Instructional Coach
  - Grow NJ Kids Enrolled

Locations (January 2019)

- 3 Preschool special ed classrooms: Bixby
- 4 Preschool inclusion classrooms: Bogart (2), Steen (1), Trinity (1)



Locations (September 2025)

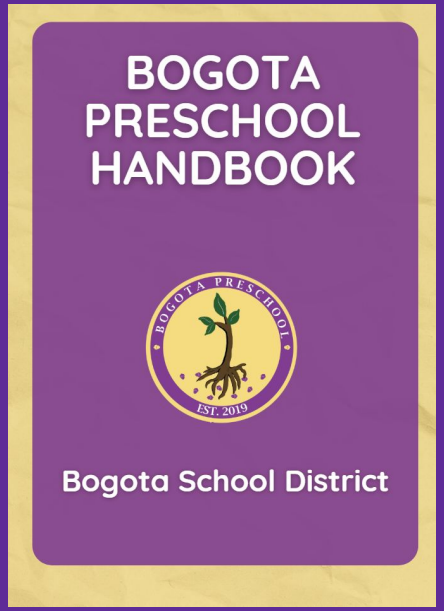
- 2 Preschool special ed classrooms: Bixby
- **10 Preschool inclusion classrooms** : Bixby (3), Bogart (3), Trinity (4)

The Lottery

- **Numbers**
  - 10 total classrooms
  - 150 total slots
  - 134 total general ed slots
  - 16 total special ed slots
- **Applications**
  - Due March 13, 2026
  - Must be complete
- **Lottery, notification, and class assignment**
  - March 2026

Class Assignments

- **Criteria**
  - Your child must be at least 3 yrs old on or before 10/1/26
  - Age (balance of 3 and 4 year olds)





The Bogota Preschool Handbook shares key information about the program, daily routines, and policies for families.

Classrooms

- Mixed ages of 3- and 4-year-olds
- All classrooms follow the same curriculum and assessment system
- All classrooms have oversight from Bogota Public School Administration
- All classrooms have 1 lead teacher and 1 teacher aide
- Each site has one “floater” aide
- Each class has bilingual staff
- All classrooms have a maximum of 15 total students
- 1-3 spots are reserved for students with IEPs in each classroom
- All teachers are coached by the Preschool Instructional Coach/Intervention and Referral Team Specialist
- All schools have a Preschool Social Worker or Family Worker



Who are we? Bogota Preschool!

Mission

Bogota Preschool supports the diverse needs of children and families by promoting safety, kindness and high quality education.

Vision

The vision of Bogota Preschool is to implement developmentally appropriate practice, built on a strong social-emotional foundation, with an emphasis on learning through play.

We are safe.
Estamos seguros.

We are kind.
Somos amables.

We are learners.
Somos aprendices.



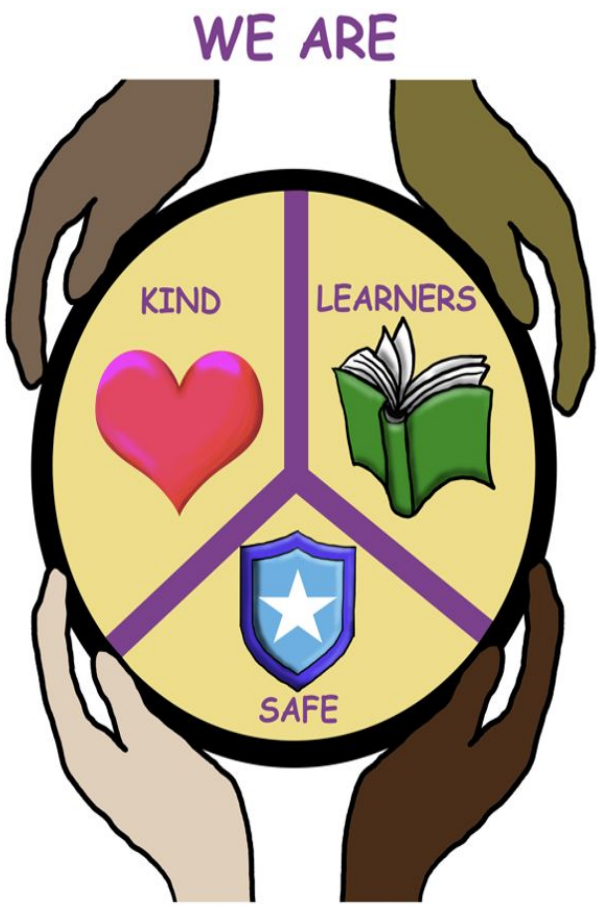
Pyramid Model



The Pyramid Model is a framework that supports young childre social-emotional development through positive relationships, supportive environments, and targeted teaching strategies.

At Bogota Preschool, it also guides our expectations:
We are kind, we are learners, and we are safe.

https://www.challengingbehavior.org



Creative Curriculum







SOCIAL–EMOTIONAL
1. Regulates own emotions and behaviors
a. Manages feelings
b. Follows limits and expectations
c. Takes care of own needs appropriately
2. Establishes and sustains positive relationships
a. Forms relationships with adults
b. Responds to emotional cues
c. Interacts with peers
d. Makes friends
3. Participates cooperatively and constructively in group situations
a. Balances needs and rights of self and others
b. Solves social problems
PHYSICAL
4. Demonstrates traveling skills
5. Demonstrates balancing skills
6. Demonstrates gross-motor manipulative skills
7. Demonstrates fine-motor strength and coordination
a. Uses fingers and hands
b. Uses writing and drawing tools



LANGUAGE
8. Listens to and understands increasingly complex language
a. Comprehends language
b. Follows directions
9. Uses language to express thoughts and needs
a. Uses an expanding expressive vocabulary
b. Speaks clearly
c. Uses conventional grammar
d. Tells about another time or place
10. Uses appropriate conversational and other communication skills
a. Engages in conversations
b. Uses social rules of language
COGNITIVE
11. Demonstrates positive approaches to learning
a. Attends and engages
b. Persists
c. Solves problems
d. Shows curiosity and motivation
e. Shows flexibility and inventiveness in thinking
12. Remembers and connects experiences
a. Recognizes and recalls
b. Makes connections
13. Uses classification skills
14. Uses symbols and images to represent something not present
a. Thinks symbolically
b. Engages in sociodramatic play



LITERACY
15. Demonstrates phonological awareness, phonics skills, and word recognition
a. Notices and discriminates rhyme
b. Notices and discriminates alliteration
c. Notices and discriminates discrete units of sound
d. Applies phonics rules and knowledge of word structure to decode text
16. Demonstrates knowledge of the alphabet
a. Identifies and names letters
b. Identifies letter-sound correspondences
17. Demonstrates knowledge of print and its uses
a. Uses and appreciates books and other texts
b. Uses print concepts
18. Comprehends and responds to books and other texts
a. Interacts during reading experiences, book conversations, and text reflections
b. Uses emergent reading skills
c. Retells stories and recounts details from informational texts
d. Uses context clues to read and comprehend texts
e. Reads fluently
19. Demonstrates emergent writing skills
a. Writes name
b. Writes to convey meaning
c. Writes using conventions



SOCIAL STUDIES
29. Demonstrates knowledge about self
30. Shows basic understanding of people and how they live
31. Explores change related to familiar people or places
32. Demonstrates simple geographic knowledge
THE ARTS
33. Explores the visual arts
34. Explores musical concepts and expression
35. Explores dance and movement concepts
36. Explores drama through actions and language
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION
37. Demonstrates progress in listening to and understanding English
38. Demonstrates progress in speaking English



Creative Curriculum Example Daily Schedule

Full-Day Schedule

9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Arrival, preparation, and choice activities	*30 minutes (before and while children arrive)*
Group meeting	*20 minutes (9:00–9:20)*
Choice time	*60 minutes (9:20–10:20)*
Cleanup, handwashing, and snack	*20 minutes (10:20–10:40)*
Small groups	*20 minutes (10:40–11:00)*
Outdoor choice time	*40 minutes (11:00–11:40)*
Read-aloud	*15 minutes (11:40–11:55)*
Lunch	*40 minutes (11:55–12:35)*
Rest and quiet activities	*45 minutes (12:35–1:20)*
Outdoor choice time	*30 minutes (1:20–1:50)*
Read-aloud	*15 minutes (1:50–2:10)*
Limited choices and small groups	*30 minutes (2:10–2:40)*
Group meeting and departures	*20 minutes (2:40–3:00)*
Teacher planning time	

Duration	Time	Routine
25	8:30-8:55	Arrival/ Breakfast/ Limited Choice
10	8:55-9:05	Morning Meeting & Movement
15	9:05-9:20	Small Group
65	9:20-10:25	Choice Time
5	10:25-10:30	Clean up
15	10:30-10:45	Small Group Story Time
5	10:45-10:50	Transition to outside
35	10:50-11:25	Gross Motor
5	11:25-11:30	Transition/ Wash hands
30	11:30-12:00	Lunch
60	12:00-1:00	Nap time/ Rest
60	1:00-2:00	Choice Time
5	2:00-2:05	Clean Up
15	2:05-2:20	Gross Motor/ Music & Movement
10	2:20-2:30	Whole Group Wrap-up
5	2:30-2:35	Dismissal

Bogota Preschool Example

Connecting with The Community

Bogota Public Library



Pomptonian Food Service



Family Wellness Fair 2025
(Family Events / Workshops)





Hours : Before & Aftercare

- Bogota Public Preschool only covers tuition for district school hours 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
  - 6 hour day
  - Follows the Bogota Public School Calendar
    - Half-days, snow days, delayed opening, holidays, etc
- Before and Aftercare
  - All sites have before and after care available at a cost
  - Morning Care : 7:00 / 7:30 - 8:30 am (depending on location)
  - After Care: 2:30 pm - 6:00/ 6:30 pm (depending on location)

Important Aspects of the Program

- Preschool Attendance MATTERS!
  - 🚫10 consecutive days
  - 🚫Extended vacations
  - 🚫Chronic Absenteeism
  - 🚫Tardiness
- Health and Welfare
  - Sanitization and routines
  - Medical records, immunizations, annual required flu shots
  - Health screenings annually (height, weight, vision, hearing, dental)

Did you know?!?!?!

According to Attendanceworks.org, Chronic absence — missing 10 percent or more of school days due to absence for any reason—excused, unexcused absences and suspensions—can translate into students having difficulty learning to read by the third-grade, achieving in middle school, and graduating from high school.

POP UP Registration Sites

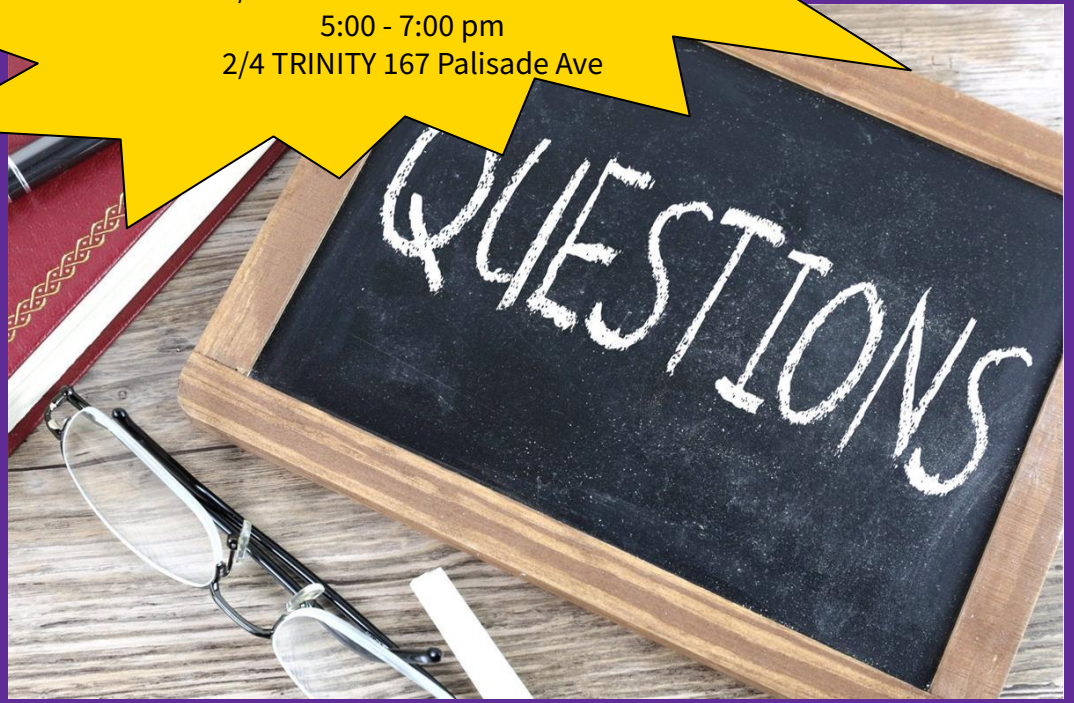
8:00 am-4:00 pm:

1/12 S.T.E.P.S. 320 Palisade Ave

3/3 TRINITY 167 Palisade Ave

5:00 - 7:00 pm

2/4 TRINITY 167 Palisade Ave



@BogotaPreschool

@BogotaPublic

Facebook: Bogota Preschool

Visit our website at:

www.bogotaboe.com/preschool

