

NORTH BELLMORE
UFSD

John G. Dinkelmeyer
Elementary School



Parent Handbook

***Our mission is to inspire all students to be confident,
passionate learners with the courage and skills to lead their
lives with integrity, while contributing to our global community
with creativity and compassion.***

**North Bellmore Union Free School District
(516) 992-3000**

Website: Northbellmoreschools.org

John G. Dinkelmeyer School

Mrs. Faith Skelos, Principal

2100 Waltoffer Avenue

North Bellmore, NY 11710

(516) 992-3000 x4190

Fax#: (516) 992-3054

Board of Education

Grace Cramsie – President

JoAnn DeLauter – Vice President

John Ferrara - Trustee

Rosemarie Corless - Trustee

Joseph Perrone - Trustee

The Board of Education is comprised of elected community members who volunteer their time and energy. Regular monthly meetings are generally scheduled for the second Thursday of each month and are held at the Martin Avenue School at 8:00pm - please check the district calendar or district website for exact dates.

District Administration

Mr. Arnold Goldstein
Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Carol Eskew
Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Marilyn Johnson
Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Toni Cincotta
Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Frank Russo
Director of Facilities

Mr. Gary Pardo
Director of Technology

Principals

Mrs. Faith Skelos
John G. Dinkelmeyer School

Mrs. Marie Testa
Jacob Gunther School

Dr. Mark Wiener
Martin Avenue School

Mrs. Marilyn Hirshfield
Newbridge Road School

Ms. Eileen Speidel
Park Avenue School

Mrs. Fran Bennett
Mrs. Michelle Notti
Asst. Principal
Saw Mill Road School

Dinkelmeyer Faculty and Staff

Secretaries

Ms. Karen Guerra
Ms. Diane Lawson

School Nurse

Mrs. Christine MacLeod

Kindergarten

Mrs. Judith Ciccone
Mrs. MaryAnn Doherty
Mrs. Lauren LoBello

Grade 1

Mrs. Dorothy Bidermann
Mrs. Loretta Curcio
Mrs. Jennifer Kafka

Grade 2

Ms. Marianne Devine
Ms. Nancy Masone
Mrs. Maria Regan

Grade 3

Mrs. Josephine Potucek
Mrs. Page Powers

Grade 4

Mr. Nicholas Assande
Mrs. Leslie DiChiara

Grade 5

Mrs. Jill Drum
Mrs. Kathleen Kee

Grade 6

Mrs. Lori Chandler
Mr. Matthew Puerta

Your child will be receiving services from highly qualified professionals, who have demonstrated mastery in their field. According to the dictates of the NCLB Act, signed into law by the President, you may request specific information as to the qualifications of your child's teacher.

Special Area Teachers

Art

Ms. Jill Skelly
Ms. Alison Blanc

Library

Mrs. Laura Pfuefer

Physical Education

Mr. William Green

Vocal Music

Ms. Emilie D'Andrilli

Instrumental Music

Mrs. Desiree Behr

Orchestra

Mr. Edward McCullagh

Spanish

Mrs. Shagufta Jafri

Psychologist

Mr. Michael O'Leary

Social Worker

Ms. Jo Ann Signorelli

Learning Specialist

Mrs. Rosemary McKay
Mr. Michael Tilley

Speech Pathologist

Ms. Lois Peck

Reading

Mrs. MaryAnn Collins
Ms. Deisha Defelippis
Mrs. Debra Zaglin

Head Custodian

Mr. Scott Schick

School Safety

Code of Conduct

Philosophy of Discipline

In North Bellmore we wish to create a safe learning environment emphasizing *mutual respect* for pupils, parents, teachers and school.

Discipline should be a process which fosters responsibility and caring for self and others. The discipline process should be firm, fair, positive and respectful of the child's dignity. The concept of due process should be practiced and taught at all times, thus providing a lifetime model.

As adults, it is our responsibility to ask why a child is able or unable to successfully follow the rules. Based on our understanding of this child, we can then make a decision to offer a consequence or action, which will benefit both the child and the school community.

Each event is an opportunity for the child to learn right from wrong and how to be a successful member of our school community.

Code of Pupil Discipline/Cooperation

By following these simple procedures, I will show respect for others and expect it in return. My cooperation will contribute to a school environment of which I can be proud.

Should I violate the rights of others through behavior that interferes with learning or is harmful, I realize there will be consequences. They may include:

- conflict mediation
- verbal or written warning
- time out from an activity
- a letter of apology which must be signed by my parent(s)
- notification to my principal
- a conference with my principal, staff member, and my parent(s)
- suspension from participation in school activities and loss of privileges

Dress Code

"All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and all other district personnel should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hairstyle/color, jewelry and nails, shall:

1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
2. Recognize that extremely brief garments such as tube, net, or halter-tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines and see-through garments are not appropriate.
3. Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing.

4. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
5. Not include the wearing of hats in the classroom except for a medical or religious purpose. (special hat days are also exempt)
6. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
7. Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out of school suspension.”

I Care Rules

Pupils will follow I Care Rules:

- We listen to each other.
- Hands are for helping not hurting.
- We use I Care Language.
- We care about each other’s feelings.
- We are responsible for what we say and do.

Corridor/Hallway Behavior

Pupil Rights

I have the right to learn, hear, and be heard in this school. This means that nobody should make noise that will interfere with my learning.

Pupil Responsibility

It is my responsibility to help maintain a calm and quiet environment. I will not create a disturbance which would distract from the learning of others.

1. Pupils are expected to walk quietly through the halls at all times.
2. Kicking, shoving and other forms of physical contact are not acceptable.
3. Pupils will respect work which is displayed throughout the building.
4. In order to avoid “traffic jams”, classes will walk on the right side of the hallway.

Assembly Behavior

Pupil Rights

I have the right to attend an assembly or performance without distraction or disruptive behavior.

Pupil Responsibility

As a member of the audience I have the responsibility to behave in an appropriate manner.

1. Listen quietly without talking.
2. Remain seated and focused on the performance.
3. Show your appreciation by clapping hands at the appropriate time.

Cafeteria Behavior/Procedures

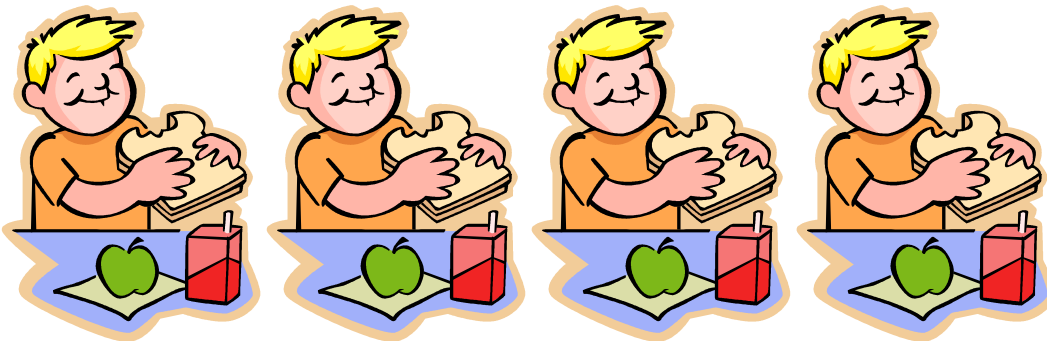
Pupil Rights

I have the right to enjoy my lunch in a clean, orderly and pleasant environment.

Pupil Responsibility

It is my responsibility to eat my lunch in a mannerly fashion and exhibit behavior that will not offend others.

1. Pupils will enter the cafeteria in a single line and go directly to their assigned areas or tables.
2. Pupils may get up from their tables or be dismissed after obtaining permission to do so.
3. When the supervising adult gives directions for lining up, pupils will do so in an orderly manner. Pushing, "cutting", shoving, etc. are dangerous behaviors and are not acceptable.
4. School voices and appropriate language should be used when talking with friends. Screaming and calling out will not be tolerated.
5. Pupils will clean all tables and areas near the table before leaving.
6. Pupils will wait for their teachers in a quiet and orderly manner.



Recess/Playground Behavior

Pupil Rights

I have the right to expect the playground to be safe and fun. I have the right to use conflict mediation to settle my disputes.

Pupil Responsibilities

It is my responsibility to use the playground area in the proper manner and to obey all safety rules. I have the responsibility to follow all instructions given by the supervising adult.

1. For safety reasons, pupils are not allowed to bring or use such items as baseballs, softballs, skate boards, roller blades, hockey sticks and lacrosse sticks during recess period. If there are any questions about equipment, pupils should check with the adults who are supervising.
2. Tackle football and other body contact sports may cause serious injury to a pupil and are not allowed at any time.
3. Pupils should use common sense on the slides and swings – one person at a time!
4. Pupils will remain in designated play areas.
5. In consideration of others who may still be working in their classrooms and for safety reasons, pupils should stay away from all classroom windows.
6. With the exception of approved playground equipment, no objects are to be thrown during recess.
7. Pupils are expected to use appropriate language while speaking to the other students and adults.



Emergency Evacuation Plan

In the event of an emergency situation the Dinkelmeyer Elementary School Emergency Response Plan will be enacted. Connect ED will be initiated as soon as humanly possible.



School Closing Information

In the event of school closing due to adverse weather conditions, ConnectED will be initiated. You can also check for other important calendar information on the district website, northbellmoreschools.org.



GENERAL INFORMATION

All doors will be locked at all times.

The following procedures are in place to ensure the safe and timely entrance of all teachers, employees, parents / guardians and children.

Teachers and employees are asked to enter through the cafeteria door using their swipe cards or through the front door nearest the circular driveway using the buzzer to enter. Please report immediately to the main office to sign in.

Children are asked to arrive as follows:

Arrivals:

School begins at 8:30 am. Children will line up at 8:20 am in the following locations:

Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2– rear primary “blacktop” doorway
Grades 3 – 6– rear intermediate “blacktop” doorway.

Teachers begin supervision at 8:20am. Children will be supervised by a teacher on duty and safety patrol officers at that time only. Children should arrive at school between 8:20am and 8:30am. Upon arrival children should line up in an organized fashion by grade level behind the appropriate painted grade level. They will be admitted to the building through the two rear doors. Bus children will be met in the front of the building and will be escorted to their appropriate lines by the on duty teacher and safety patrol officers.

Dismissals:

Each grade level will be dismissed through the door in which they entered.

Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2– rear primary “blacktop” doorway
Grades 3 – 6– rear intermediate “blacktop” doorway.

Children arriving for ***band and chorus*** are asked to follow the directions given by band and choral directors. Anyone arriving past the given time should enter through the front door nearest the circular driveway using the buzzer on the wall to gain admittance.

Children attending ***Sunrise Academy*** are asked to arrive at 7:50 a.m. at the front entrance nearest the gym. The Sunrise Academy teacher will meet and greet the students in the front alcove and then walk the children to their respective classrooms. Anyone arriving late should enter through the front door nearest the circular driveway using the buzzer on the wall to gain admittance.

Parents / Guardians are asked to enter only through the front door nearest the circular driveway using the buzzer on the wall to gain admittance. Please report immediately to the main office to sign in and pick up a visitor’s pass. The visitor’s pass must be worn visibly at all times.

Please discuss these arrangements with your children so they know exactly where they need to go in order to gain admittance to the building when they are on time and when they are late. **I appreciate your cooperation and understanding in providing as safe an environment as possible for our children, faculty and staff.**

Inclement Weather Arrival and Dismissal

Arrivals:

Teachers begin supervision at 8:20am. Children will be supervised by a teacher on duty and Safety Patrol Officers at that time only. Children should arrive at school between 8:20am and 8:30am. Upon arrival children should proceed to their usual entry and exit doors for admittance. Children will be admitted and will line up in the following locations.

Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2– Enter through the rear primary “blacktop” doorway and line up quietly outside their classroom door.

Grades 3-6: Enter through the rear intermediate “blacktop” doorway and proceed quietly to the gymnasium and their **assigned class lines**.

Bus children will be met in the front of the building and will be escorted to their appropriate indoor lines by the on-duty teacher and safety patrol officers.

Emergency Contact Cards:

Emergency Contact verification sheets are distributed at the beginning of each school year. They are extremely important and need to be kept current throughout the school year. Should emergency contact information change at anytime, please send the school office a note indicating those changes as soon as possible. We need to be able to contact a parent /guardian in the event of an emergency or in the event a child becomes ill during the school day. Please list emergency contact people who are local and available during the day to pick your child up if need be.

Attendance:

Attendance is taken each day at 8:35am. This information will appear on your child’s report card. If your child is going to be late or absent, please call the school nurse by 9am. You must call each day your child is out unless prior arrangements have been made. This policy is to insure the safety of your child. Please note: *an absent note indicating the reason for the absence is required by New York State Law upon the child’s return.* Children arriving late to school (**after 8:35am**) must report to the nurse before going to the classroom.

If you would like your child’s missed classwork and/or homework sent home with a sibling or a neighbor, please make this request to the office before 11:00am. If your child will be absent for several days, please make arrangements with your child’s teacher to have the assignments sent home.

Illness:

If your child has a communicable disease (i.e. strep throat, chicken pox), you must notify the School Nurse. A child with a fever should remain home for at least 24 hours following the fever. A child with suspected case of strep throat should remain at home until confirmed by a throat culture. Children with positive throat cultures should stay home for a full 24 hours of antibiotic therapy. You will be notified if a contagious condition exists in your child’s class.



Medication:

If your child is on medication at home and/or requires medication at school, please inform the School Nurse. As per State Law, children requiring medication during school hours must submit a written request from the physician. Medication authorization forms are available in the health office. Medication must be supplied in a pharmacy bottle labeled with the child’s name, prescription name and dosage. All medication requires a Doctor’s note including over the counter medicine.

Health Screening:

In September, various screenings are conducted by the health office. Every child is checked for hearing, vision, height, weight and lice. Also, children in grades 3 through 6 are checked for scoliosis.

School Physicals:

Every child in grades K, 2 and 4 are required to have a physical exam and submit a physician’s report which must be signed and stamped by the Doctor and dated in the current school year. Physicals are due in October. If you do not submit a physician’s report (physical) your child will be seen by the school doctor.



Lunch/Snack/Recess

Snack:

When classroom snacks are permitted we encourage that you pack a healthy snack for your child. Candy is not permitted. Kindergarten milk can be purchased for *approximately \$9.00 per month*.

Lunch:

All children will eat their lunch in school. You can send your child in with lunch or your child can purchase lunch for \$2.25/day or a reduced fare of \$.25/day for those who are eligible (This application is sent home at the beginning of each school year). A monthly menu will be sent home in your child’s folder. Snacks are also available each day for purchase and prices will be listed on the monthly menu.

The schedule is as follows:

Grade	Lunch	Recess
2	11:00-11:20	11:25-11:45
4	11:25-11:45	11:00-11:20
K	12:15-12:35	11:50-12:15
1 & 3	11:50-12:15	12:15-12:35
5	12:40-1:00	1:00-1:25
6	1:00-1:25	12:40-1:00

There is a School Lunch & Kindergarten Milk Prepayment Plan. You will receive the information and enrollment forms in September.

Recess:

Before or after lunch everyday the children have recess time. This time will be spent outside on most days whenever weather permits. Please make sure children are dressed according to the weather conditions. If the weather is inclement, recess is spent in the classroom. Lunch/Recess Assistants are with the children at all times.

Forgotten Items:

If your child has forgotten something very important at home, please bring that item to the main office with your child's name and teacher clearly marked.

Cell Phones:

Children are to keep cell phones in the off position in their backpacks. Failure to comply will result in the confiscation of the cell phone to the Principal's office – where the student may retrieve it at the end of the school day.

Visitors:

All visitors to the building must enter through the front “buzzer” door (nearest the circular driveway) and proceed directly to the main office to sign in. When moving about the building visitors must visibly wear the visitors stickers located in the main office. Please sign out when leaving the building.

School Parking/Driving Procedures & Restrictions:

The following procedures must be followed at all times to ensure the safety of our children.

Front Circle: The front circle is open for buses only and is closed to all other vehicular traffic at all times. Please do not block the entrance and exit of the circle.

Rear Parking Lot: Parking is permitted throughout the day in marked spaces only. Please do not park along the school building as this is considered a fire hazard.

Breakfast Program/After School Program:

The Bellmore-Merrick Child Care Program offers before and after school care for our Dinkelmeyer children. The Breakfast Program runs from 7:15am to 8:30am. The After School Program runs from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. Tuition is an annual rate divided into ten monthly payments. Children may attend for one to five days or on a drop-in basis. Information is available in the main office or by calling the Bellmore-Merrick Child Care Program Office at 868-6027.

Report Cards/Teacher Conferences:

Parents are encouraged to discuss concerns with teachers as soon as they are evident. Appointments for conferences can be made by telephoning the school. Formal conferences are held in November and March and are scheduled by your child's classroom teacher.

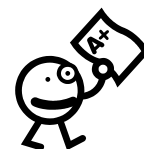
Report Cards:

Report cards are distributed three times a year:

Early December

Mid March

And on the last day of school in June



SPECIALS:

Physical Education:



All students have two Physical Education days each cycle. Sneakers are required for participation. Please do not allow your child to wear platform sneakers or “clog-type” sneakers.

If your child is to be excused for medical reasons, please send a Doctor’s note with the dates included.

Please keep jewelry at home on gym days to prevent loss or damage.

Field Day:



A fun filled outdoor day with scheduled sports activities for each grade.

Art:



Art classes are one day per six day cycle for forty minutes.

Students study drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts and printmaking. We use many different mediums including crayon, cray-pas, color pencils, watercolor paints, tempera paints, marker and ink. Weaving, mask making, sewing, puppetry and collage are some of the skills students learn. Students also study the art and lives of well known artists, creating works in their style and learning about historical art movements.

5th Grade Art Enrichment is an opportunity for all 5th grade children to explore their interests in art through a thematic unit of study above and beyond the 5th grade art curriculum. Children work with the art teacher during one additional block of time for approximately 10 weeks.

MUSIC:



Former President Gerald Ford once said, “Music education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them – a world of work, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement.” Here at Dinkelmeyer we do our best to help make that transition a positive one. To that end, all of our students receive one 40 minute block of general music per six day cycle. Children explore all the elements of music including melody, rhythm, tempo, form, texture, harmony, dynamics and expression. In addition, they learn about various composers, instruments and historical applications. We listen to and perform songs of various genres, such as folk tunes, classical songs, pop, rock, jazz and songs of the American Musical Theater.

Children also express themselves creatively through movement, play acting, dance and composition. The first grade finishes the year with a sing along, which is always great fun. The third grade culminates their year learning to read notation and play the recorder with an ending

concert. The upper grades work in groups to accomplish various tasks or skills and, in addition, have the opportunity to enhance these experiences through chorus, band and orchestra.



Chorus:

Chorus is an extracurricular activity. There are two choral groups here at Dinkelmeyer. All fourth graders can participate in Junior Chorus. These children begin rehearsing in January and perform along with the fourth grade Band in a Spring Concert. Children in fifth and sixth grade join the Senior Chorus. This group meets all year long and performs in two concerts. In chorus children learn to sing harmonically and have the pleasure of performing with a large group. All senior choral members meet before school. This activity has been a very popular one here at Dinkelmeyer, with more than 90% of our students participating!

Band & Orchestra:



Playing a musical instrument can be one of the most rewarding experiences a child can have. Recent educational studies have proven a correlation between successful musical training and high academic achievement. Each year 4th grade children have the opportunity to join our very popular and growing instrumental music program at the Dinkelmeyer School. The band and orchestra instruments offered at Dinkelmeyer are: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone Horn, French Horn, Tuba, Drums, Violin, Viola, String Bass, Cello and Xylophone.

As a convenience to parents, our school maintains a supply of instruments that are available for a rental fee. Parents are welcome to provide their own instrument for lessons provided it is in excellent working order at the commencement of our lesson. All beginning instrumentalists receive small group instruction once a week on a pull-out basis to develop basic musical skills. Since playing an instrument requires time and commitment on both the student's as well as the parent's part, careful consideration is needed before selecting an instrument. Practice, commitment and fun are an essential and required part of our program.

As in previous years at Dinkelmeyer, there are a limited number of instruments and they are subject to availability. In order to maintain balanced performing groups as well as equal opportunity for all students, parents are required to provide 3 possible instrumental choices. You and your child will be contacted sometime in late May/early June regarding their instrument choices. The Dinkelmeyer Instrumental Music teachers look forward to seeing many new instrumentalists at the Dinkelmeyer School. Parents are welcome to contact us during regular school hours or at dbehr@northbellmoreschools.org if you have any questions.



Library:



Children in Kindergarten-4th grade attend library class one time out of the 6 day cycle. During each Library class the students will receive library instructions and have time for book exchange. Book returns take place before the lesson and borrowing is done after the lesson. Each lesson is followed up with either an activity to reinforce the lesson or a story time related to the lesson.

Areas of instruction include:

1. Orientation & Circulation. Review areas of the Media Center. Introduce/review Library media rules, circulation procedures, book care rules, etc.
2. Literature Appreciation
 - a. Fiction of all types, character, plot, setting, style.
 - b. Non-fiction including: folklore, fables, folktales, fairy tales, tall tales, mythology, legends and poetry.
 - c. Multi-cultural literature.
 - d. Award winning books: Caldecott, Newberry, Corretta Scott King.
 - e. Authors and illustrators.
3. Information Skills.
 - a. Location of Materials. Arrangements of fiction/non-fiction.
 - b. Parts of a book.
 - c. Research-Encyclopedias, almanacs, dictionary, thesaurus.
 - d. Card catalog and OPAC – types of searches.
 - e. Dewey decimal system. Recognize non-fiction books are in number order.
4. Technology
 - a. Use CD-rom for research.
 - b. Use the internet for research.
 - c. Teleconference for instructional purposes.

Late, lost or damaged books:

When books are late a student cannot take out another book. In the beginning of the school year students can take one book per library cycle. As the year progresses some students in the upper grades may borrow more than one. If they borrow 3 books and forget to return 1 they may still borrow 2 books. Students can borrow one book of their own choosing and one book if the classroom teacher assigns a project. Even if students have an overdue book they may still sign out a book if it is for an assignment.

If a student repeatedly forgets to return a book they cannot borrow a new book until the original book comes back. After two missed cycles a note goes home.

When a book is lost or damaged the student is supposed to replace that book with the same one. If the same book cannot be found, another book can be used to replace it.



FOREIGN LANGUAGE - SPANISH:

Elementary Spanish Grade 5

- The course will introduce students to foreign language learning. Fifth grade will focus on basic Spanish vocabulary, and use visual cues and context to understand what is being said. Worksheets and flashcards will also be used to learn new words.
- Additionally, students will examine the geography and cultures of the Spanish speaking world.

Elementary Spanish Grade 6

- In 6th grade we will continue to explore new vocabulary and work on making sentence in Spanish. We will focus on using visual cues and context to understand what is being said. We will also be using worksheets and flashcards to learn new words.
- Additionally, students will continue to examine the geography and cultures of the Spanish speaking world.

North Bellmore Spanish Website

- Please check out our Spanish website at:
<http://nbpsteachers.sharpschool.com/enrichment/spanish/>
- You'll find many useful links that will help you practice speaking Spanish. The weekly homework will also be posted here.

SERVICES

The Learning Support Specialists of Dinkelmeyer School service the children in many ways.

Early Intervention Team (EIT)

This team is made up of the Principal, School Psychologist, Learning Support Specialists, School Social Worker, Speech and Language Teacher and other professionals as needed.

The purpose of this team is to develop and assist in the implementation and assessment of learning and behavioral strategies used with students that require additional support in order to reach their maximum potential.

Committee of Special Education (CSE)

This team is made up of the CSE Chairperson, School Psychologist, Parents, Classroom Teacher, Parent Advocate, Learning Support Specialists and Speech and Language Therapist, as well as any other professionals whose areas of expertise are needed. The purpose of this team is to determine the existence of a handicapping condition and to establish an Individual Education Plan (IEP) that meets the specific needs of the child. Usually, this means that a classified child attends a class with a specific learning specialist for a thirty-minute session, three out of six days in the cycle. They are almost always group lessons but the child may occasionally be seen on an individual basis as well.

Speech and Language Program

The speech and language program provides services to children who have speech or language difficulties that interfere with their ability to learn. These difficulties may include articulation errors which are not age appropriate, stuttering, voice disorders, and delayed speech and language development. Children with hearing impairments may also receive speech services.

Children who are in speech/language classes engage in listening and speaking activities. The children especially like to use the many puppets that we have and visit our class guinea pig, Diglet. Some use a special computer program which addresses phonological awareness skills, which are so important for reading success. Notebooks are kept, so that parents can practice speech activities with their children at home.

Educationally Related Support Services (ERSS)

We also have **Educationally Related Support Services (ERSS)**, which are meant to provide services to children who are not classified, for a limited period of time. In order to qualify for these services, the child must be referred to the building Early Intervention Team (EIT). Services under ERSS are usually provided twice in the six day cycle.

AIS: Academic Intervention Services (AIS) are additional general education instructional and/or support services designed to help students achieve the learning standards in English Language Arts & Mathematics in grades K-6 and Social Studies & Science in grades 4-6. These services include two components: additional instruction that supplements regular classroom instruction and/or student support services needed to address barriers to improved academic performance. Specific criteria is used to enter and exit the service provided.

RTI: Response to Intervention is an individualized, comprehensive assessment and intervention process, utilizing a problem-solving framework to identify and address student academic difficulties including behaviors that interfere with learning, using effective, efficient, research based instruction. Among the most notable benefits to RTI is that it will address the needs of low-achieving students quickly, providing individualized instruction and/or behavioral interventions that are research based.

Remedial Reading Program:

The Remedial Reading Program services students in all grades who may have difficulty with any aspect of reading. Students who require extra help are pulled out of their regular classroom to attend small-group instruction by a certified reading teacher. Students are pulled out during their grade level's specific "pull-out" block, generally three times a cycle.

Sunrise Academy Program:



The Sunrise Academy Program is a "before-school" program designed to offer additional help to students in a small-group setting. Students in grades three through six are given extra help in reading and mathematics.

English as a Second Language:

English as a Second Language classes are offered to students whose native language is a language other than English. Our students come from Pakistan, China, Ecuador, Colombia, Vietnam, Romania, Argentina, El Salvador, Palestine, Korea and Venezuela.

The students learn to listen, speak, read and write English in small multicultural groups. Beginners attend classes for 90 minutes daily. Intermediate and advanced students receive 45 minutes of instruction daily.

English is taught in a very natural manner through word games, total physical response activities, plays and projects. American holidays are celebrated as a means of learning about American culture.

In addition, the Learning Support Specialists work closely with classroom teachers to devise and determine techniques, strategies and modifications that can be used with the classroom setting. The Learning Support Specialists also administer achievement, standardized, state and district tests to any youngster recommended by the Committee of Special Education, Early Intervention Team and/or by the testing modifications set forth by the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).



District Testing

Testing:

Grade K-6 – Fountas & Pinnell Reading Assessment

Grade 2 – Otis Lennon

Grade 3 – Otis Lennon, NYS Assessment in Math & English Language Arts

Grade 4 – NYS Assessment in Math, English Language Arts & Science

Grade 5 – NYS Assessment in Math, English Language Arts & Social Studies

Grade 6 – NYS Assessment in Math & English Language Arts

Fountas & Pinnell Reading Assessment: A system for evaluating student reading and comprehension ability with a universal screening that is aligned to Leveled Literacy Intervention and determines each child's instruction level for guided reading.

Otis Lennon: The Otis Lennon is a school ability index. This test is administered in 2nd and 3rd grade.

ELA: The ELA (English Language Arts) test is taken over a three-day period and administered to grades 3, 4, 5 & 6. Session I tests the children's reading comprehension skills, Session II tests the children's listening and note taking skills, and Session III test's the children's ability to respond to something they have read in written form. Students' abilities are assessed and graded on a 4, 3, 2, 1 scale.

NYS Math: The Math assessment is taken over a two to three-day period and administered to grades 3, 4, 5 & 6. Session I is multiple choice, Session II is short answer problem solving, and Session III is problem solving with a written component. Students' abilities are assessed and graded on a 4, 3, 2, 1 scale.

NYS Science: The fourth grade ESPET (Science assessment) is taken over a two-day period. Session I is made up of 100 multiple-choice questions covering K- 4th grade science concepts. Session II is set up to assess the student's ability to utilize scientific equipment, record/ analyze data, classify, and apply their practical knowledge of the scientific method.

PROGRAMS:

ALPHA:

The ALPHA Program (grades 3-6) addresses the unique cognitive, affective and social needs of the intellectually gifted children in the North Bellmore School District. It focuses on the generation, acquisition, and appreciation of knowledge. Highlights include: advanced mathematics, interpretive literature, Writing Workshop and scientific exploration. Students are selected based on a combination of standardized test scores and teacher evaluation.

STUDENT ARTS LEAGUE:



Student Arts League is designed for 6th grade children who demonstrate talent in the area of art and drama. The children are selected through an announced process. The children will be bussed to the Newbridge Road School for a ½ day enrichment opportunity in art and drama.

SHARED DECISION MAKING TEAM:

The Shared Decision Making Team is made up of the Principal, teachers, a PTA Board representative, and parents. This committee discusses current issues between parents and teachers with equal representation for both. Site-Based is primarily used to help facilitate projects at Dinkelmeyer that our community of parents and teachers would like to see addressed (e.g., playground games, civic & character education programs and activities, math manipulatives, 2-way radios and this directory).

Meetings take place once a month from 3:15pm-4:15pm. Parents and Teachers serve for a term of 2 years.

CLUBS:

SAFETY PATROL:

It is a privilege to be **selected** as a safety patrol officer. Safety patrol officers are responsible 4th, 5th, & 6th grade children who are interested and recommended by their classroom teachers based on their positive attitude and dependability to assist the teachers on duty with arrivals and dismissals.

SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) :

SADD is an elementary school club in which students receive positive peer support and information to make healthy decisions and remain alcohol, tobacco and drug free. The club is open to 6th grade students. The SADD Club is moderated by our District Health Educators. The club members meet once a week during their recess time.



Conflict Mediation:

Conflict Mediation is a philosophy embraced by the North Bellmore School District. It empowers students to resolve their own conflicts in a non-violent manner. Peer mediator volunteers are selected by their classroom teachers and/or their peers based on their ability to lead others and accept the differences among us. The children participate in a formal training given by the skilled personnel from our Prevention Office and faculty. These students are scheduled to conduct peer-mediation sessions throughout the month during their recess time.

PTA (Parent-Teacher Association):

The PTA is an organization comprised of parent volunteers and teachers. The purpose of the PTA is to promote the welfare of children in the home, school and community. Through the volunteer work of our parent members and their fundraising efforts, the PTA is able to provide many fun and educational programs and activities for our children. We are truly grateful to the many caring parents who join the PTA and volunteer their time and talents.

Each September, to welcome Dinkelmeyer parents, both old and new, to the new school year, the Dinkelmeyer PTA invites all parents to our annual *Second Cup of Coffee*. Hosted by the PTA board and the hospitality committee, this informal gathering takes place on the first day of school in the cafeteria beginning around 8:30 am. Parents can enjoy coffee, tea, cake and bagels compliments of the PTA, while at the same time, take the opportunity to join the PTA and sign-up for the various PTA committees. Please come out and support your child's school by joining the PTA and becoming a parent volunteer. It's a wonderful way to do some worthwhile things for your children, meet your fellow parents, and make some new friends.

The following is a list of some of the activities and events sponsored by the PTA:

Amblyopia Screening

Parent volunteers help administer this vision screening done in the spring for children entering kindergarten the following September.

Birthday Calendar/Bulletin Board Decorators

The parent volunteers on this committee recognize each child's birthday on our birthday calendar (posted outside the nurse's office) and decorate the school bulletin boards to reflect various holidays and make our school hallways look festive.

Field Day

The children participate in various events and activities throughout the day. The PTA occasionally provides refreshments and an assembly program.

Book Fairs

Every school year the PTA sponsors two book fairs where children are invited to purchase books. This is a wonderful way to promote your child's love of reading. Proceeds from the book fair benefit both the PTA and our school library. Many volunteers work together to make this event a success.

Box Tops for Education

Our school collects box tops from various food items like cereal, cookies and snacks, and redeems them for money. In the past, the program has enabled the PTA to purchase classroom games for indoor recess, and most recently, small musical instruments for the music department.

Carnival

This event usually takes place during the last 2 weeks of school. It is an all-day event of carnival games, DJ entertainment, ice cream & snacks, and other outdoor activities. Many volunteers help to make this day a lot of fun for our children.

Class Captains/Class Parents

This “committee” is comprised of four parents (a Class Captain and three Class Parents) from each class whose main responsibilities are the coordinating of telephone chains in the event of a school emergency (i.e. early dismissal or school closures due to inclement weather, bus problems, etc. or to relay other important information that needs to be disseminated to parents quickly) and working with the classroom teachers to coordinate volunteers for class parties or class trips, etc. Often other minor duties will be asked of the parents depending upon the classroom teacher.

Cultural Arts

The Cultural Arts program is responsible for booking the various assemblies the children enjoy throughout the year as well as providing the entertainment during other school events such as our Fall Festival and the end-of-year Carnival. Past cultural arts events have included the Harlem Wizards, the Poet-in-Residence program, as well as musical assemblies by the Metropolitan Opera and various acapela groups. Entertainment groups have included DJ’s, magicians and a petting zoo.

Fall Festival

This is a fun-filled day of grade-appropriate, autumn-oriented activities for all Dinkelmeyer students. Many volunteers work together to make this day a success.

Holiday, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Boutiques

These boutiques are held throughout the year and give the children the opportunity to purchase gifts for their families. The children truly enjoy this event and many volunteers help to make it a success.

Raffle Dinner

This is a fun evening for the parents at a restaurant, where the guests have fun bidding on the wrapped gifts each one brings while enjoying a delicious dinner. There are also raffles and door prizes to win.

PARP (Parents As Reading Partners)

This is an award-winning program designed to promote and encourage reading. The chairpersons and volunteers pick a theme and plan the activities that will encourage our children to read.

Picture Day

The volunteers on this committee arrange for a photographer to come to school in the early fall to take the students' individual portraits and class pictures. Pictures are usually available in time to give as holiday gifts.

Plant Sale

The PTA holds their annual plant sale in the fall and spring where baskets and flats of flowers can be pre-ordered.

Project Rise

A voluntary program for incoming kindergarten children run by the PTA, Project Rise is designed to help ease the transition into kindergarten. The program helps the children familiarize themselves with our school and the people who are a part of it. Children attend the program one of three possible afternoons a week for approximately 4-6 weeks beginning in May. Three to four parent volunteers run the classes in which the children do crafts, play games, have snacks, and get to meet the principal, nurse, librarian, etc.

PTA Installation Dinner

This is our annual end-of-the-year dinner held each June where new board members are inducted and awards are given to recognize outstanding PTA members.

Puttin' On The Hits

Our ever-popular evening of lip-sync performances by our talented Dinkelmeyer children is open to any child who likes to get up on stage and have a great time. It is usually held in the early Spring at Mepham High School.

Reflections Program

Reflections is a nationally coordinated cultural arts program. Its purpose is to encourage each student to use his/her creativity in one or more of the following four categories; music, visual arts, literature, and photography. Each year there is a new theme. Last year's theme was "I am really happy when..." Every participant is awarded a Certificate and invited along with their family to attend a Gallery that enables them to show off their hard work. Finalists are chosen from each category by independent judges. Those entries are submitted to the next level of judging at the Region. Then if selected from there, it is judged at the State level and ultimately at the National level!

6th Grade Yearbook Committee

This committee is made up of 6th grade parents. Parent volunteers collect pictures throughout the year and help design and plan the book's layout, and arrange for its printing. The PTA presents this book to the children as a graduating gift.

Spirit Wear

The PTA sells school clothing (usually gym shorts, T-shirts, sweatpants and sweatshirts) in the Dinkelmeyer school colors and with the school name and logo on them. They are wonderful to wear to school on gym day or any day to show school spirit.

Staff Recognition Day

The chairperson of this committee coordinates breakfast and lunch for our teachers and staff in recognition of “National Teachers Day” in May.

Winter and Spring Fundraisers

The Vice-President of Ways and Means runs these events which are our biggest fundraising events of the year, netting us the majority of our funds for the year. Catalogs are sent home from which parents can order candy, gifts, wrapping paper, etc.

Many thanks to the members of the Shared Decision Making Team and the Dinkelmeyer Secretarial Staff for all of their efforts in planning and preparing this comprehensive handbook. Together we can make a difference.

