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October 22, 2021

Greetings EC Families! Happy Eighth week of school! We are well into our second month of the school year. We have spent time getting to know our students, building a sense of community and belonging for all. We have also administered beginning-of-year assessments in math and literacy allowing us to support students learning needs. Next, we will be administering a social-emotional learning assessment as another layer of support for our scholars. Please use this <a href="Link">Link</a> to learn more about this screener.



### Inclusive practices at the EC Campus

Here at the EC campus, we are practicing culturally responsive practices. You will find many classrooms talking about cultural differences that may include how families celebrate holidays. This is a way we increase our inclusive practice to create a sense of belonging. We choose not to lift any specific holiday celebrations to be respectful of all people. Students are not permitted to attend school in costume on Halloween or any other day. We have a few spirit days that allow students to dress in their favorite book character and wear their cultural attire; more to come about these events. Although we will not be including any Halloween celebrations, we

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look forward to having fall festivities incorporated into class plans. Please check in with your classroom teacher for specific information about how they celebrate seasonal changes.

# Prospect Hill Early Childhood Campus is Hiring for the following positions:

If you are looking for part-time or full-time work, the EC Campus has multiple positions open. So spread the word and help us have an amazing year! See postings below and check out postings on the Schoolspring.com website.

Oct 21	Early Childhood Associate Teacher	Prospect Hill Academy: Early Childhood Campus	Somerville, Massachusetts
Oct 21	Substitute Team Member - Early Childhood Campus (10)	Prospect Hill Academy: Early Childhood Campus	Somerville, Massachusetts
Oct 17	Physical Education Teacher, Early Childhood K-3 School Campus	Prospect Hill Academy: Early Childhood Campus	Somerville, Massachusetts

## **INTERESTED IN SUBSTITUTING?**

Are you looking for a way to support our school? From time to time, teachers attend important training sessions during the school day. Usually, we hire substitutes to cover classrooms, but given the current staffing shortage, we are having difficulty finding qualified substitutes. We know not everyone can commit to substituting regularly, but we want to offer an option for those who might want to substitute occasionally. Below is some information:

- The pay rate is \$15/hour
- Substitutes need to have a CORI and fingerprinting check
- Teachers leave detailed plans for substitutes to follow
- Parents/guardians will not be allowed to substitute in their child's class

# **Lunch Procedure Updates**

- We are continuing to fine-tune our procedures to decrease the in-school spread of the COVID-19 virus. We have added these guidelines to our current lunch procedure:
  - Students must stay seated unless they need to go to the restroom
  - If a student needs to go to the restroom, an adult must escort them to the
    restroom. To minimize congestion in the hallways at this busy time, we use one
    bathroom for lunch and one for recess. These bathrooms are historically labeled
    boy and girl restrooms. Again, during these identified times, all students will use
    one bathroom for lunch and recess times. At other times during the day,

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students will continue to use the restroom that matches their identified gender at other times during the day.

#### **COVID Protocol Reminders:**

- If you or a household member has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, you
  must quarantine your students. If you have any questions, please contact the
  school nurse to assist you.
- Do not send students to school if they have a fever, diarrhea, or vomiting. Instead, call the school Nurse for further assistance.
- We are noticing many students' masks are often falling below their noses. This is an indication the mask is ill-fitting. All community members must wear a well-fitted <u>CDC</u>-approved mask when indoors, during arrival, and during dismissal. Families should provide scholars with extra masks as needed.

#### Save the Date:

10/27/21	Busy Bee Assembly - Presenters 3A & 3C 8:00 AM			
10/20/21	Spirit Day - Wear Purple to Celebrate Kindness Day			
10/29/21	Non Dress Code Day			
10/29/21	School Portraits			
11/3/21	Early Release 12:00 Dismissal			
11/3/21	Family Curriculum Night (APTT) 5 - 6pm			
11/11/21	NO SCHOOL- Veterans Day			
11/15/21-11/24/21 Parent Teacher Conferences				
11/17/21	Early Release 12:00 Dismissal			
11/18/21	FAB Meeting (Family Advisory Board Meeting) 8:30 AM			
11/19/21	Non Dress Code Day			
11/19/21	Holiday Gift Drives Begins			
11/24/21	Early Release Pre-K - 12 12:00 Dismissal			
11/24/21	Busy Bee Assembly - Presenters 3B & 3D 8:30-9:00 AM			
11/24/21	Family Morning Meeting 7:45 AM - 8:15 AM			
11/24/21	Spirit Day- Wear Cultural Attire to Celebrate Culture Day			
11/25/21	NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break			
11/26/21	NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break			
11/29/21 - 12/	/22/21 Family Conferences			

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# **Important School Information:**

- Collegiate House Order Form
- Events calendar
- Guide to the EC Campus

### **Resources:**

- PHA Website
- SeeSaw

With all students in mind,

**Principal Johnson** 

Office number: 617-284-7801 or email watts@phacs.org