



THE RACHEL AND JEFF  
SUTTON CAMPUS

THE MARYLIN AND JACK  
CHEHEBAR BUILDING



1400 Prospect Street  
Lakewood, NJ 08701

T: 732.367.0099  
F: 732.367.1518

[www.thecenternj.org](http://www.thecenternj.org)

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year. We are looking forward to greeting your children and assisting them on their educational journey.

Our mission is to empower your children in a warm and supportive environment by providing them with a highly qualified specialized education and therapy program that assists in actualizing their individual potential to become self-confident, independent contributors to the community.

We are a strong and dynamic family of educators and therapists that are dedicated to making sure that your children reach their fullest potential by being immersed in rigorous instruction, communication opportunities and social emotional learning activities. We do this in a positive and encouraging learning environment where all staff know all the students. Our teachers and therapists are known for their experience, expertise, warmth and dedication and will always advocate for your child.

We are proud to host a faculty of professional supervisors and consultants who specialize in specific areas of development including Applied Behavior Analysis, Floortime/DIR, Hearing Impairments, Vision Impairments, Executive Function, Augmentative Communication and Adaptive Equipment.

Your child's school years are a time for gaining independence, forming healthy self-esteem and acquiring positive character traits. Emphasis on school readiness and academic skills, incorporated with hands-on-learning, helps each child achieve their goals. We are constantly evaluating the needs of our students, and adjusting our program structure and strategies to ensure that needs are being met. Our diverse elementary school programs include comprehensive academic and socialization learning opportunities. Our highly innovative therapy program addresses emotional needs, adaptive life skills and pre-vocational needs of our students. Our long-term vision is to support all children as they integrate into the community and succeed in less restrictive learning settings.

Our older boys are fortunate to visit The Special Children's Farm to enhance their academics and social skills. Activities at the farm offer them experiences that assist in building their self-confidence, acquiring age-appropriate social skills, developing vocational skills and refining their life skills. As they get older, the goal is to strengthen their skills set and prepare them for their future.

The Center for Education provides our students with many opportunities to develop interests and participate in extracurricular activities such as music, art, swimming, animal therapy, physical education, technology, woodworking.

As per student's IEPs, The Center offers an extended six-week summer program. Children ages four and up can also participate in our After School Club programs.



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Please take note of the information provided below.

- The Center invites all parents twice a year to participate in Parent Teacher Conferences.
- Student Progress Reports are shared and reviewed three times a year.
- If at any point during the school year you would like to schedule a meeting, feel free to contact the office to arrange.
- Team meetings attended by your child's educational team take place regularly. Ongoing collaboration is a vital component of our program. If you need to speak with anyone from your child's team, feel free to let teachers know and they will relay all messages to therapists.
- Parent Communication is essential to every child's success. Our faculty members embrace ongoing concerns and feedback. Our teachers write home daily. We urge you to use these notebooks as a regular form of communication with your child's teacher and as an eye into your child's day. Weekly newsletters will be sent home for you to gain a detailed view of your child's accomplishments each week.
- Elementary students are given homework daily with the purpose of doing homework independently and sharing academic updates with parents.
- We encourage you to send photos or video clips to school for your child to share news and to interact verbally with classroom peers.

Please send the following items with your child:

- One **labeled full change** of clothes to be kept in school for preschoolers.
- If your child is not yet toilet trained: 1 package wipes, 2 -3 diapers daily.
- One healthy snack **per day** (crackers, yogurt, fruit, vegetable). We provide one snack as well.
- Recent picture of your child for the main office.

Please take time to carefully review and complete the papers in this packet. We understand that many of you have previously completed our parent packet; however, we kindly request that

these records be updated and filled out in full. In addition, please have your child's most updated immunization records faxed to us at (732)367-1518 Attention: FRAN.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to any one of our administrative team members with questions or concerns. All staff can be reached at the school, (732) 367-0099.

Shira Lieberman, Director  
Florence Gorsky, School Principal  
Suri Fasten, Therapy Supervisor  
Shevi Prager, Elementary School Coordinator  
Siobhan Kostecki, Social Worker  
Racheli Zelishovsky, Preschool Coordinator  
Fran Amaniera, Certified School Nurse

Please visit our website at <http://www.thecenterforeducation.org> as information is updated frequently.

I look forward to a fun filled, safe and collaborative school year.

With Best Regards,  
Shira Lieberman  
Director