Local Morristown and Morris Plains Pre-Schools Receive Award for Quality Preschool Education

By TAPINTO MORRISTOWN CONTRIBUTOR



Betsy McKeever, Director Morris Plains Co-op Play School receives Golden Acorn Award for excellence in preschool education from Carolyn Simpson, Preschool Advantage School Committee

MORRISTOWN, NJ - Preschool Advantage awarded its Golden Acorn Award for exemplary quality in preschool education to five local schools. Children on the Green, Presbyterian Church Nursery School and Temple B'nai Or Preschool are in Morristown. Joyful Noise Nursery School and Morris Plains Cooperative School are in Morris Plains.

Preschool Advantage has long recognized the quality of early education at these five schools. This year the Preschool Advantage School Committee wanted to formally define quality preschool with the Golden Acorn Award. The Golden Acorn Award is based on five points of quality in preschool education: teacher and child interaction, curriculum, family involvement, staff qualifications and professional development, and management of the school.

The School Committee is comprised of numerous current and former preschool directors and teachers who care deeply about early childhood education. Members volunteer to visit the Preschool Advantage partner schools on a three-year cycle to ensure quality is maintained. A checklist has been developed using National Association of the Education of Young Children guidelines, the Grow NJ Kids program and the considerable experience of the Preschool Advantage committee.

Preschool Advantage is accepting applications for scholarships to its partner preschools for the school year beginning in September. Local families can apply to Preschool Advantage for funding for a half day of preschool for 3 or 4 year old children. Children must be 3 or 4 years old by October 1, 2017 to be considered for funding for the school year beginning in September 2017. The deadline for applications is February 28, 2017. Families demonstrating commitment to education and financial need can access the application at preschooladvantage.org, or by calling (973) 532-2501.

Preschool Advantage is a non-profit organization with the vision that all children should have access to high quality early education. Preschool Advantage has carefully selected partner preschools in Bernardsville, Boonton, Bridgewater, Denville, Dover, Jefferson, Madison, Mendham, Morristown, Morris Plains, Mountain Lakes, Mount Olive and Parsippany. Together with its donors, supporters, volunteers, and community partners, Preschool Advantage seeks to provide opportunities for a lifetime of learning that will create a better world for its students, their families, and the community.

For an application or to learn more about Preschool Advantage, please visit our website at www.preschooladvantage.org.