Hello Brent Families!!
We are so excited to welcome you to our class this year. While some of you are retuning families and are already familiar with us, we would like to take a minute to do a basic introduction for our new students and families.

My name is Stacy Miller and I will be your child's lead teacher this school year. I was the very first preschool teacher hired at Brent back in 2005 when the program was created. It has been an amazing experience helping to cultivate our Reggio Inspired program along with so many other amazing changes that have taken place over the years. I live in Catonsville Maryland with my husband and 9-year-old son Riley. When not engaged in all things teaching, I enjoy outdoor activities (hiking/ biking/gardening) and quality time with my family. I am super excited to see you all next week and am really looking forward to venturing into this school year together. My amazing partner teacher, Tyontae Briscoe, has been at Brent since 2103 and is an invaluable member of our school community. Not only is she a phenomenal classroom partner she is also the co-lead of our Restorative Justice program at Brent. She is from D.C. has two children and a brand new pup named Kali. She is excited to meet all our new friends and is looking forward to making new memories with all the little ones. She says she can't wait to see what exciting new things she will learn with you all this year.

Our early childhood team looks forward to sharing a year of joyful learning experiences, inspiring projects, and strong friendships with your child and family. Below you will find information about how we will kick things off with beginning of year events and week one instruction.

Virtual Home Visits Sign-up: During week 1 (8/31-9/4), all Brent families and teachers will participate in virtual home visits. Relationship building is the central focus of these conversations as we begin this school year online, and relationships will serve as the foundation for a year-long collaboration between ECE teachers and families. We will share more about these home visits in an email sent to families on Friday. Please sign-up for a virtual home visit time here
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cnJjh1U2ji-HtsoKxW7JlQod_UoEUU5tCk30Qkhz1jo4/edit?usp=sharing

Family Check-In Sign-Up: As a part of distance learning, each family will have a weekly check-in time with their teachers. Please note, this family check-in time will begin in week two and remain consistent over the course of term one. You may sign-up for your child's weekly check-in time here
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZgJ4Gl5b5segZDzl8zurE2bJKOLcEeUINgL035MHNME/edit?usp=sharing
**Asynchronous Open House**: On Friday, we will have a virtual open house. Your family will be able to view a video or PowerPoint presentation that will introduce students to their ECE classroom. Links to the virtual Open House will be shared via email on Friday.

**Week One Highlights**

**Week One**: This week follows a special schedule as our students acclimate to the school year and home visits take place.

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td><strong>Optional student participation days.</strong> We will operate on a limited schedule where all students are invited to participate in whole group morning meetings each day.</td>
<td><strong>First official day of the school year!</strong> We will begin following the typical ECE schedule.</td>
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<td>Typical ECE schedule continues.</td>
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- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday are optional student participation days and will operate on a limited schedule where all students are invited to participate in whole group morning meetings each day.
- Beginning Thursday, we will have our first official day of the school year and begin following the typical ECE Thursday/Friday schedule.

Please open the attached schedules and note if your child is in A group or B group. School officially begins on Thursday, September 3. This is the first full day of school for all students.

**Student A & B Groups and the ECE Schedule**: As you open the schedules, it is important to note if your child is assigned to A group or B group (groups are listed at the bottom of the "Family Facing" Schedule). These half groups will be the same grouping of students consistent across morning meetings, story times, and small groups for the first few weeks of the school year. You will notice activity blocks scheduled in 30-minute increments. **Please understand that we anticipate much shorter meetings at the**
beginning of the school year as children acclimate to online learning and build stamina for attending virtual meetings.

Clubs: On Thursday and Friday of Week 1, we invite all families to join us for clubs to learn more about this part of the ECE schedule at Brent. Your child will be invited to choose a club to join in the coming days. These clubs will begin in Week 2.

PE: PE is returning to ECE! We will have PE starting in Week 1 on Friday. Look for more information about ECE specials in the days to come. Information about getting your child logged on for all components of the schedule will come in Friday’s email.

Please note you will receive another email this Friday with more specifics for our first full week together. We are very excited to get this school year started! If you have any questions you’d like answered prior to our virtual home visits next week please don’t hesitate to contact me at anytime.

Best, Stacy Miller & Tyontae Briscoe