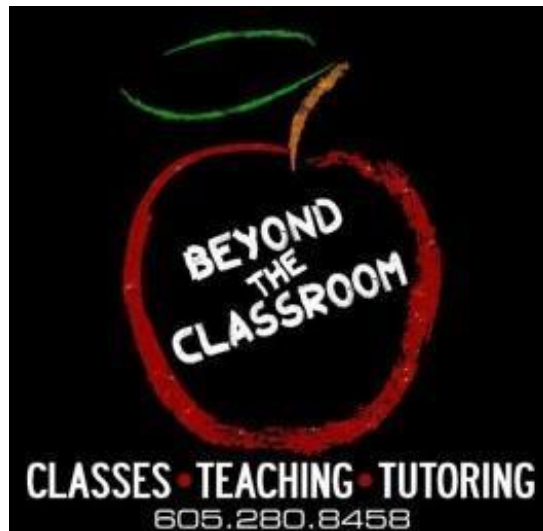


**PRESCHOOL
STUDENT HANDBOOK
2026-2027**



**1601 Lowell Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501**

Beyond the Classroom

Marquette Brink

Director

Certified K-8 Elementary & Special Education

Masters in Elementary Administration

30+ years of experience!

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***“Praying for and training this generation
to impact the next generation for Christ.”***

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Beyond the Classroom Preschool! We are so excited that you are considering joining our family! In our classroom, we promise to love and respect your child. We will help all children grow and develop emotionally, socially, physically and academically!

We are now at a place in the history of our country where the values and principles of God's Word must be intentionally taught to our children as never before, or they will be forgotten entirely. The Bible tells us that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, but fools despise wisdom and discipline." (Proverbs 1:7) Our culture values knowledge, but not wisdom from God, and certainly not discipline, thus, our culture has become foolish. But change begins with us -with me-repenting of my failures and trusting the Savior to help me live my life according to Godly principles each day.

Our hearts yearn for mankind to know that they can stand secure on God's Word, and thus, I look at the coming school year with much anticipation and excitement, knowing that the purpose of this "school" is unchanged-"to pray for these students daily and train this generation to impact the next generation for Christ." With His wisdom and guidance, we have much to look forward to in this coming school year as He teaches us through the struggles, the mistakes, the opportunities, and the successes of each day here at Beyond the Classroom. May we give Him the praise and the glory for the great things He will do!

God Bless,

Mrs. Brink

THINGS TO DO BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS

1. Read over the booklet and contact us if you have questions, especially if we have dates incorrectly written down. We did try to match up with the public and private schedules.
2. Fill Out Family Information Sheet
3. Sign permission slips
4. Attend Open House and Potluck at BTC , **Wednesday, August 17th at 5:00 p.m.** Please bring all signed forms and school supplies. We will try to take pictures that night too, so on the first day of school you can just drop off.

What is Beyond the Classroom?

Beyond the Classroom is a place that desires to honor the Lord Jesus Christ by purposefully incorporating God's word into every aspect of school which includes developmentally age-appropriate Religion, Mathematics, Reading, History, Science, Music, friendships, serving others, and clean-up tasks.

The parents' support, encouragement, and ideas are necessary for discussions, projects, homework, etc. The home is foundational to Beyond the Classroom.

Preschool is a time for developing social, emotional, communication, fine motor, and gross motor skills.

If you have any questions about our handbook, our classroom, or our policies, please ask.

We know that children learn best through play and experiences. We firmly believe that children learn by doing, getting messy, investigating their questions and problem solving with their friends. They learn by playing games, using their imaginations, expressing their emotions, creating, and exploring the world around them.

As teachers, we set up intentional play activities and explorations that meet the needs of individual students. We question and extend their thinking and play to help them learn and grow. We provide high quality instruction and care for every student who comes into our classroom. We intentionally plan and organize the classroom, so students have the opportunity to develop in the areas of social/emotional, language and literacy, math, science, creative arts, fine motor and gross motor.

It is our goal for students to develop the dispositions and skills to become lifelong learners and be successful in kindergarten and life (both socially and academically).

Eligibility

In order to register for preschool, a child must meet the following criteria:

Be 4 years old by June 1st

MUST BE POTTY TRAINED! No Pull-ups!

Complete all forms

Pay registration fee

Hours of Operation and School Calendar

Preschool is from 8:00-10:00 am Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday during the school year.

Curriculum

Beyond the Classroom implements a faith-based and theme based curriculum. It is designed to facilitate learning through hands-on activities both teacher-led and student-led. We offer lessons and activities in the areas of language and literacy, math, science, creative arts, gross and fine motor and social skills (character education). It is based on current research, state and national standards, and aligned with the kindergarten curriculum.

Emergency Drills, Procedures, & Supplies

We strive to make sure our children are safe at school every day. We do this by making sure that our children are prepared for a variety of emergencies. We will practice fire drills, tornado drills, and earthquake drills a few times per year. Our classroom is equipped with an emergency backpack. It contains water, prepackaged snacks, gloves, wipes, flashlights, small first aid kit, hand sanitizer, a copy of our Emergency Response Plan, each child's contact and emergency information, and any life saving medication (epi pens, inhalers).

In the event of an emergency Beyond the Classroom has developed an Emergency Response Plan. Please know that Beyond the Classroom will make every attempt to notify you, so it is vital you keep your emergency contact information up to date.

Payment

Tuition payments may be paid annually or monthly.

If paid monthly, payment is due the first Monday of the month (September – April). The registration fee of \$50 is due upon application. All registration fees are non-refundable.

Drop-off and pick-up

Drop off time is from 7:45 to 8:00 am. Pick up time is from 10:00-10:05 am.

Please use the south side entrance door to pick up and drop off your child.

Please respect these times so we can focus our attention on learning during our day.

Only custodial parents/guardians and those listed on approved pick up lists will be allowed to pick up a student.

Items from home

Please do not allow your child to bring in items from home unless it is a security item or for a specific project assigned by the teacher. Beyond the Classroom is not responsible for any lost or broken items.

Photographs & videos

As a way to document student learning and share all of the wonderful activities and learning happening in our classroom, we take photos and videos of our learning. We will post ideas, photos, student work, and samples from the classroom on the website www.beyondtheclassroomsd.net and various social media. Please specify on the registration form if you do not want them published. We can also put stickers over their face/name.

Illness

Your child may not be accepted for school if he/she has any of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 100 degrees or above
- Contagious skin or eye irritation
- Unexplained rash or sore
- Discharge from eye, nose, or ears
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea, more than 3 times in two hours
- Cough lasting more than 1 week without a doctor's note
- Excessive crying, with the inability to be consoled
- Any illness that keeps a child from participating in regular activity

If your child displays any of these symptoms while in our care, we will call you and your child will need to be picked up within 30 minutes. Your child will need to be symptom and fever free for 24 hours before returning to school (24 hours fever free without fever reducing medication).

At any time Beyond the Classroom has reason to believe that your child has a communicable disease, we can request that he/she be seen by a doctor and that a note be provided from the doctor stating that your child is not contagious, is able to attend, and participate in a group care facility.

If your child has been diagnosed with a contagious illness, you need to notify Beyond the Classroom so we can notify other families.

Injury

In case of a minor injury, we will administer basic first aid. All injuries requiring immediate parental notification will be documented in the form of an Accident Report and notified via text message, email, or phone call.

In case of a minor injury in which an ambulance is not needed but immediate medical attention is required, we will contact the parents. If parents cannot be reached, emergency contacts will be notified.

Beyond the Classroom staff cannot transport students to a hospital or doctor's office. Injured students shall be transported for medical attention by parents or calling 911 for an ambulance.

Medication

Prescribed medication will not be administered at school. This is a short program so medication can be given before or after school by a parent or guardian.

Open Door Policy

Please know that you are ALWAYS welcome to visit or stay and play in our classroom during our day.

Food Allergy or Special Diet

If your child has a known food allergy or special diet, please provide us with a doctor's note or plan.

Dress and Extra Clothing

We request that students wear play clothes that are practical, comfortable, and washable. Please dress children for active play. We will do large muscle activities and possibly go outside whenever the weather allows us. Be sure your child is adequately dressed so he/she can enjoy the activities.

We ask that you provide your child an extra set of clothing, appropriate for the season, that can be kept in their backpack (socks too). Be sure to put your child's name on ALL clothing.

Birthdays

A birthday is a very special day for children. To celebrate your child's birthday, you may bring in commercially or homemade birthday treats. We will be cognizant of allergies. If you decide to invite students from preschool to your child's birthday party you must invite all the girls/boys or everyone in the class.

Termination of Enrollment

In some circumstances, it may be necessary to discontinue a child's enrollment at Beyond the Classroom. This decision will be based on the best interest for children and staff. Termination of enrollment may be a result of the following:

- Non-payment of tuition.
- Abusive, destructive, and/or dangerous behavior to children, staff, or property by a child, parent, or family member.
- Failure to follow our Family Handbook policies and procedures

What does a typical Preschool at Beyond the Classroom include?

DAILY SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

(Subject and times may vary at times)

7:45-8:00 – Students can be brought to the classroom and will be greeted by the teacher.

– Students will work on fine motor activities laid out for that day.

8:00-8:15 – Students will join the main classroom for primitive reflex and mindful breathing as well as pledge and prayers.

8:15-8:30 – Religion – This will contain stories and verses from the Bible and how we can relate them to our daily activities and life.

8:30-9:00 – Circle Time – this is where we gather around the calendar, music movement, story time. We discuss our day, review rules, prayer intentions, and incorporate different levels of questions depending on the age of the child.

9:00-9:15 – Letter recognition

9:15 -9:30 – Number recognition

9:30-9:45 – Craft and/or dramatic play

9:45-10:00– Daily tasks of reviewing and clean up.

10:00 Dismiss from south side door.

Ways to communicate

It is important for us to work as a team to ensure your child's success in preschool. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or other important information that you believe we should know, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Each day the students will carry back and forth a "Home Folder." Inside it will have any work completed, notes, or reminders. If you have notes or questions you can write them on there. We will check them each day. This is where you will also find notes, homework, etc. that may be sent home.

We will create an email and Team Reach app group. We will email weekly updates and/or reminders.

Newsletters

Each month, we will publish a newsletter to update you on what new exciting topics we are learning about and other things happening in preschool. The newsletter will include important dates, upcoming activities and events, a summary of previous learning, previewing new centers and studies.

DAILY REMINDERS AND EXPECTATIONS

All children MUST be potty trained prior to starting school.

WATER BOTTLES

A cold-water drinking dispenser is located in our classroom. If the students would like to bring a water bottle to refill and have it readily available, they may.

TASKS

During the day and at the end of the day each student will be responsible for clean-up tasks which keeps our classroom neat and tidy.

SHOW & TELL

Throughout the year we will have show and tell. It is simply telling about an event or object that is of interest to the student. This is encouraged, but not mandatory. Teachers will communicate with parents when this will take place.

SNOW DAY

Calling a "Snow Day" is a difficult decision because I do not have snow days built into our calendar, therefore we will not make them up. Please know that I understand if you do not feel it is safe to bring your children. Usually, if Pierre calls off school, we will as well. Please, keep in touch when the weather is questionable. Each family will be contacted when school is called off.

What is expected of a Preschool student at Beyond the Classroom?

Behavior

Beyond the Classroom is obviously a unique educational setting and we are committed to providing a safe environment for learning. Universal support strategies are available to all students to support their social emotional development by teaching expected behaviors (ex: visual supports, reteaching, class meetings, etc.) and teaching various social skills (sharing, taking turns, problem solving) all year long. We try our best to provide a consistent, challenging learning environment with physical activity which will prevent boredom and promote good behavior.

It is deeply embedded in my heart that students (and their teachers) be respectful of others. We learn to be with a small groups of individuals, in a small area. If or when incidents happen an attempt is made to deal with them using Godly wisdom by addressing the issue, asking forgiveness, and humbly accepting the consequences. If the group is not being respectful of rules, more severe than merely talking loudly or not staying on task, these are dealt with on an individual basis, using a variety of consequences depending on the incident, intending for consequences not merely to be dealt out, but lessons learned, apologies given, and forgiveness granted. Our learning environment will be productive, with responsible students who know the importance of honoring the Lord by being respectful, courteous, and obedient.

RECESS-MOVEMENT-SENSORY PLAY

Recess and body movement is an important part of our day, not only to get fresh air, move around and be free of work for a few moments, but it builds character. We will be taking advantage of nice weather and we will go outside, and play various movement games.

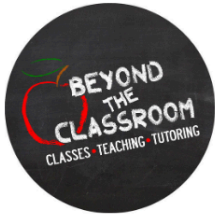
How are students evaluated at Beyond the Classroom?

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES/REPORT CARDS

We will provide you with updates and progress on your preschooler a couple times a year. We will schedule a conference with you in February. It is a time we can talk about your child in all areas of development, review their student portfolio and set goals for your child. You are always welcome to call, email, or talk to us about your student any time.

ABSENCES

If you plan for your student to be absent from school please notify us with a note, phone call, email, or telling me directly –NOT through your student, as sometimes information is not always relayed accurately.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026- 2027 32 WEEKS

PRESCHOOL

August						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

17 Open House Potluck 5:00

September						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

1 Preschool Starts
7 Labor Day

October						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

12 Columbus Day
15 End of 1st Qtr. (33days)

November						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

25 Early Release 12:15
26-27 Thanksgiving Break

December						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

10 Christmas Pageant 6:30
17 End of 2nd Qtr. (34days)
18 - 4 Christmas Break

January						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

5 School back in session
18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

18/ 19 Conferences

March						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

11 End of 3rd Qtr. (38 days)
26 Good Friday
29 Easter Monday

April						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

16-19 Spring Break

School Day T, W, TH
 No School
 Open House

Important Dates

August 17 - Open House
 September 1 - First day of preschool
 Dec 18 - Jan 4 - Christmas Break
 April 29 - Last Day of Preschool

What does it cost to attend Preschool at Beyond the Classroom?

There will be a \$50 non-refundable, one-time registration fee. The yearly cost is \$1520 for a student which is \$47.50/week for 32 weeks per student. This will be invoiced to you at the beginning of each month. You may pay via check, cash, or card Venmo.

School Supplies

Each child will need a backpack and a complete set of extra clothes in a Ziplock bag to be stored/kept in the backpack at all times.

Beyond the Classroom will supply most supplies needed. We do ask that each child bring:

- 1 piece of BTC apparel for special days, field trips, etc.(can be ordered on our website)
- 1 pkg. primary colored or white cardstock paper

As the year progresses, the need for supplies will come up. If you would like to donate money or gift cards to be used at Hobby Lobby, Walmart, or Amazon for classroom/craft supplies, we would greatly appreciate it.

We have various ways on our website to support BTC.

PRESCHOOL HANDBOOK

I have read and agree to the policies as written:

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____

FIELD TRIP PERMISSION:

I give my child/children permission to attend and travel with the teacher to and from events and field trips pertaining to Beyond the Classroom learning.

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____

PHOTO, VIDEOS, RECORDING PERMISSION:

We may take photos or videos of your child in the lesson, classroom, or in a performance. This allows us to send videos to you at home to practice, share with other students and also use for creation of educational materials and marketing purposes.

You consent to allow your child to be taped and otherwise recorded and agree that Beyond the Classroom may use, and grant others the right to use, your child's voice, name, and filmed/photo for all purposes, in and in connection with educational, marketing, advertising and promotional purposes.

Signature of consent:

Student/Parent/Guardian
signature _____ Date _____



If your information has not changed check here from previous years ☐

Emergency Contact and Medical Information Form

Child's Name	Date of Birth	Sex
Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Name	
Cell #	Work #	Cell #
Address	Address	
City, State, ZIP	City, State, ZIP	
Email	Email	

Alternative Emergency Contacts

Primary Emergency Contact	Secondary Emergency Contact
Cell #	Cell #
Work #	Work #
Address	Address
City, State, ZIP	City, State, ZIP
Alternative Pick-up/Drop-off Person	Phone #

Medical Information

Hospital/Clinic Preference	
Physician's Name	Phone #
Insurance Company	Phone #
Allergies/Special Health Considerations	
Medications approved to give your child:	Must fill out a permission Medication Sheet

Miscellaneous

I give permission to Beyond the Classroom, Inc. to take and use pictures of my child for advertising or educational activities. I give permission for my child to go on field trips and participate in activities.
I release Beyond the Classroom, Inc. and individuals from liability in case of accident during activities related to Beyond the Classroom, Inc., as long as normal safety procedures have been taken.

Parent/Guardian Name	Date
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