



Our mission is to empower all students to be self-directed, lifelong learners, who willingly contribute to their community, and lead passionate and purposeful lives.

Dear Beekman Elementary School Families,

On behalf of all of the staff who work at our school, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for sharing your children with us. Please know that we enjoy working with them very much! It is my hope that you appreciate the work our staff does every day and that you are proud to be members of the Beekman Elementary School community. It is our goal to fulfill the mission of the district in our work with your children and it should show in so many ways, big and small. Many examples of how we strive to meet the district's mission can be found in this family handbook. Please use this handbook as a reference as you support your children throughout the school year and interact with our staff and other school-related organizations. If, at any time, you have questions, concerns, or needs that are not addressed in this document, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, our main office staff, one of our support staff, or me. We are all here to help you with your child's education in any way we can.

I wish you and your family a safe, enjoyable, and rewarding school experience.

Sincerely,

Matt Latvis
Principal

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Daily time schedule

- 8:40 AM Students released from buses to go to classrooms
- 8:40-8:50 AM Breakfast available for students
- 8:50 AM Pledge of Allegiance, morning announcements, taking of attendance
- 9:00 AM Instruction begins

- 3:00 PM Instruction ends, 4th and 5th grade musicians may retrieve instruments
- 3:05 PM Students being picked up by families report to the gym.
- 3:10 PM Kindergarten and select classes dismissed
Start of parent pick-up
- 3:15 PM All remaining classes dismissed
- 3:25 PM Buses depart

Parent drop-off and pick-up

If you choose to drop-off and/or pick-up your child from school or have someone do it for you, please follow these procedures:

Drop-off (8:30-8:45 AM)

The area for dropping off students is along the sidewalk in front of the school past the bus loop. A sign marks the location. Cars should not be parked alongside buses, nor should students be dropped off in the parking lot and walk among the buses or cars. When driving to school, please use the entrance farthest from the school and proceed slowly to the drop-off area. Pull up alongside the curb and have your child get out and stand on the sidewalk. Your child should walk to the main entrance of the school and wait in the main lobby until 8:40 AM when all students are allowed to go to their classrooms.

Students may be dropped off at school between 8:30-8:45 AM. Students who arrive after 8:45 are to be escorted to the main lobby by an adult where the adult must sign in the student.

Pick-up (3:10-3:25 PM)

Students who are going to be picked up by a family member or another adult must bring in a note signed by their parent or guardian. The note must state the name of the person who will be picking up the student.

The area for picking up students at the end of the school day is on the blacktop near the modular section of the school. Families are to arrive at school between 2:55 and 3:05 PM and

drive onto the blacktop forming a single line of cars around the traffic cones. Family members will stay in their cars and a staff member will assist each family as they make their way around the loop. The staff member will take names and check IDs of the adults who are picking up students.

After being called, students will exit out of the school using the doors near the modular section and gymnasium and walk directly to their families' cars. As students load and leave with their families, cars will move forward and the process of checking IDs, calling for students, loading students, and moving cars will continue. As you leave the blacktop area, please drive slowly and carefully. Cars exiting the blacktop area have the right of way over those entering the blacktop area.

Leaving school early

If you need to pick up your child prior to the end of school, please send in a note explaining the reason for leaving school early and the time you will be coming to school. If you forget to send in a note, you may send an email to Mrs. LaGuardia dlguardia@acsdny.org, or Ms. Carey icarey@acsdny.org, or call the main office (845-227-1834). Please inform us of your plans to pick up your child early from school prior to 2 PM so the appropriate arrangements can be made.

When you arrive to pick up your child, please park your car in the parking lot and enter the school via the main entrance where our security greeter, Mr. Amicucci, will assist you. You will be asked to show ID and state the reason for your visit prior to entering the school. At the main desk, you will be asked to sign out your child and a request will be made for your child to be dismissed. We do not dismiss students from class until a family member has completed the sign out process.

Family members who come to school after 2:30 PM to pick up their children without notifying the school in advance will be asked to follow the afternoon pick-up procedure located on the blacktop by the modular section.

Attendance

NYS Education State law requires a written parental explanation for all absences from school. It is important for you to notify the school nurse on the first day your child is absent from school. Such information enables us to observe patterns of illnesses and to be of service to you and your child if the need arises. *Please keep your child home for 24 hours after a fever has returned to normal* for his/her protection as well as the protection of the other students. Students who do not attend school are not allowed to attend after-school activities on that day.

Absent from school

Upon returning to school, students must bring a written excuse, which will be given to their classroom teacher and then the main office. An absence is considered unexcused until a written excuse is received and accepted. The written excuse should include:

1. Dates of absence
2. Reason for absence and specify type of illness
3. Signature of parent or guardian

A form titled “School Note” has been created and posted to the school website for your use. You may use this form to document the reason for your child’s absence from school. Valid reasons for an excused absence are: illness or medical appointment, unfortunate family situation, or court appearance. Written excuses are expected on the day a student returns to school.

Late to school

If your child is late to school for any reason, please complete the “School Note” that can be found on the school website and give it to your child to bring to school. When you bring your child to school, please park your car in the parking lot and enter the school via the main entrance where our security greeter, Mr. Amicucci, will assist you. You will be asked to show ID and state the reason for your visit prior to entering the school. At the main desk, you will be asked to sign in your child.

School delays & early release days

When there is a scheduled or unscheduled delay or early dismissal, the daily schedule changes slightly. Please check with your child’s grade-level teacher as to how a delay or early dismissal affects snack time or other routines. When we have a delay or early release, some classes may not go to their special area class. On a three-hour delay, students do not have a scheduled 20-minute recess.

Two-hour delay: Students arrive at 10:40, instruction starts at 11:00

Three-hour delay: Students arrive at 11:40, instruction starts at 12:00, modified lunch schedule

Scheduled early dismissal: Students dismissed between 11:10-11:20, buses leave at 11:25

Emergency closing of school

When the district decides that the weather does not permit a day of school, it will notify families via School Messenger. There are times when we have had to close school unexpectedly because of a power outage or lack of electricity. There have been times when students have arrived at school and we lose power after the school day has already started. On

these occasions students have sometimes been sent home early and this causes much frustration for families. Please have arrangements prepared in advance for the supervision of your children when school is closed. When students are sent home early, we follow the instructions that you give us on the emergency form you complete at the start of each school year. Please make sure you update the information on the emergency form as needed throughout the year.

Visiting the school

The main entrance to our school is locked at all times while school is in session. A photo ID is required for all visitors and must be shown prior to entering the school. No firearms or any other weapons are permitted on school grounds. Anyone wishing to enter the building during school hours is to use the intercom system and our security greeter will provide assistance.

Volunteering at school

We encourage and support family involvement in many school activities and events. Each teacher has his/her own way he/she seeks and utilizes volunteers throughout the year. If you are interested in volunteering at school, please talk to your child's grade-level teacher or the principal.

Adults who are volunteering at Beekman are expected to maintain appropriate and respectful behavior at all times. Volunteering to work with children is a rewarding, challenging, and selfless act. It is important that the needs of the students be the top priority of anyone who is working at our school. If you are volunteering at our school, please be present, give support to any and all students, and be open to feedback and direction. If you have to use your cell phone while at school, please excuse yourself from the classroom and handle personal business outside.

Lost and found

Articles of clothing and other student items found in the school or on school grounds should be brought to the Lost and Found located outside the library. Students who find their items in the Lost and Found may retrieve them. However, items in the Lost and Found are not "up for grabs". Please make sure your child only takes what belongs to him/her/them. Valuable items such as musical instruments, jewelry, money, etc., should be brought to the main office.

Each year, hundreds of articles of clothing are left unclaimed at school. Many students do not even look for or identify what they have lost. Families are encouraged to check the Lost and Found for missing items. We will be periodically donating unclaimed articles.

Items not allowed in school

While we want school to be fun and enjoyable for students, we do not allow toys or other items in school because they often distract from learning or become a source of conflict for students. Items that are not allowed in school include: All forms of toys (Legos, cars, trading cards, action figures, games, fidget spinners, etc.), toy guns, water pistols, bean shooters, slingshots, and knives. These items and items like these will be taken and returned to families. Please ask your child to leave these items and items like these at home.

Students may not use cell phones or personal electronic devices at school or on the bus. If a cell phone or device is seen or heard by a staff member, it will be taken and a parent or guardian will be asked to come to school to pick it up.

Registration of new students (grades K-5)

Students who are new to the district should contact the Central Registrar at Central Office on 144 Todd Hill Road, LaGrangeville. The phone number is 227-1821 or 486-4460 and follow the prompts to get to the Registrar's Office.

To start Kindergarten, children must be five years old on or before December 1st.

More information on student registration and the appropriate forms can be found at: <https://www.arlingtonschools.org/Page/16> or you may call the Registrar for a registration packet. All students entering school must have a birth certificate, an updated immunization record and proof of residency.

School building use

Groups or individuals who would like to use the school building or grounds for a group activity or event must submit an application stating the reason for the request and providing the necessary information. More information on building use and the appropriate forms can be found at: <https://www.arlingtonschools.org/domain/81>

Classroom celebrations

Classroom celebrations and holiday events are at the discretion of the teacher and are typically shared with families at the start of the school year. In an effort to encourage healthy lifelong eating habits and following the District Wellness Policy please note:

- As a school we are responsible for providing foods that are high in nutrients, low in saturated fat and added sugars, have zero grams of trans-fat per serving, and are of moderate portion size for all foods and beverages available on school grounds.

- School-sponsored fundraisers conducted outside of the school day are encouraged to support the nutrition guidelines of the wellness policy by promoting the sale of healthy food items (fresh fruit and produce) and/or non-food items, such as water bottles, plants, etc.
- Staff and families are encouraged to provide students with healthy options at any event where foods and beverages are served to students (classroom parties, school-wide events, celebrations, rewards, etc.)
- At school-sponsored events outside of the school day where food or beverages are sold, 50% of the items sold must meet the USDA “Smart Snacks in Schools” Standards.

In addition:

- Due to student allergies, students will not be going into other classrooms to pass out snacks/treats for any occasion. Keep in mind, it is always an option to send in non-food items in lieu of food, such as coloring pages, stickers, pencils, etc.
- Party invitations should not be distributed in school unless the whole class is invited.
- Costumes are not permitted in school except for specific school events or scheduled classroom events set up by the teacher/school.
- Please do not send in balloons, streamers, party favors, etc. as they can be disruptive to the educational process and unsafe on the school bus.

Supply lists

School supply lists are provided to families at the end June for the following year. This gives families the entire summer to shop for school supplies and get the best deals. In addition, our staff has worked hard to prioritize the supply lists so families are only buying what is absolutely necessary. Our school provides items like glue, post-its, scissors, dry erase markers, and tissues to minimize the amount of money being spent by families.

Computer Use

Computer use for all students is implied, based on the parent letter mailed in the summer packet each school year. If you have any concerns or would like to opt out your child, please contact the principal.

Use of books

Textbook and library books are loaned to students and should be returned in a timely manner and in an acceptable condition. Students are responsible for replacement costs if items are lost or damaged. If lost books are later found, the amount paid will be refunded.

COMMUNICATION

At Beekman Elementary School we firmly believe in the importance of two-way communication that is timely, helpful, and respectful. There are many ways we will communicate with you and several options for you to communicate with our staff.

In general, please communicate directly with your child's grade-level teacher about questions or concerns related to your child's education and experience in school. As needed, please communicate with our main office staff, school nurse, school counselors, and other support staff regarding needs specific to their positions and roles. On matters of particular importance or of a serious nature, please contact our principal. Families have found email to be an effective means of communication at all times, especially with teachers who are busy working with students during the day and taking care of their own personal responsibilities in the evening. The best way to talk with a staff member via phone during the school day (8:30 AM-3:30 PM) is to contact the main office and have one of our office staff connect you with the person you are trying to reach. If the person is unavailable, a message to call you back will be delivered. If you leave a message during regular school hours, you should expect a response within one day.

School Messenger

An important tool the school uses to communicate with families is School Messenger. We can send messages via email, text, or phone. Emails are often sent with reminders about upcoming school events and announcements. The district uses School Messenger to notify families about emergencies or school closings/delays. It is very important that your contact information is up to date and that you have selected the communication preferences that work best for you. For example, if you do not check your email often, then a text message notification letting you know about an email from the school would be something to consider.

Website

The district and school website are useful resources with a great deal of information for families. The school website address is: <https://www.arlingtonschools.org/Domain/9282>. In the top left corner of the school's main page you will see a link to "District Home". Click on that link to go to the district's main page. On both the district and school websites you will see menus and links regarding a variety of topics. You are encouraged to explore both sites where we are certain you will find plenty of helpful information.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE

School security

The safety and well-being of our students, staff, and guests is a top priority at Beekman Elementary School. We have procedures in place to ensure that we are taking appropriate steps each day that keep everyone at school safe. Some of the procedures are inconvenient or may seem unnecessary. While we all want Beekman to be a welcoming and fun place for children and their families, we must make sure that the overall safety of the school community always comes first.

During the day, all of our exterior doors will be locked. We have one point of entry and exit for visitors and that is the main entrance at the front of the school. When you come to the main entrance, please push the button with the camera and speaker on the wall to the left of the main door. The security greeter will ask you to state the reason for your visit and to show ID into the security camera. Once you are in the school, you will sign in at the main desk and be given a visitor's pass that must be worn around your neck and displayed at all times. There are many family members who come to Beekman very often. Even those family members whom we know very well will be required to follow this process for being allowed into the school. Please know that we don't see our students' family members as security threats. However, if we do not follow the same procedure for every visitor, every time, we run the risk of having a security mishap when we can least afford it.

School rules

The district has adopted a Code of Conduct that must be followed by all students and staff. A simple summary of the Code of Conduct is provided to families each year. The full version is posted on the district website at: <https://www.arlingtonschools.org/domain/40>. In addition to the Code of Conduct, students in grades 3-5 are provided with an 8-page handbook as part of their school planner/agenda that includes basic rules and procedures for the school. Families of students in grades K-2 receive a copy of the student handbook at Back to School Night.

Staying safe on the playground

Students must wear sneakers for Physical Education class and recess. Sandals or flip flops are not allowed. Our staff reviews playground safety with students at the start of each school year. Students are given reminders periodically throughout the year as well. We stress the importance of waiting patiently, keeping hands to self, and being respectful at all times.

During the winter months, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We go outside for recess on days that the “feels like” temperature is 21°F or higher. If the “feels like” temperature is 20°F or less, we have recess indoors.

Bus regulations

For the safety of others, it is very important that students behave appropriately while riding the school bus. Please reinforce expectations for appropriate behavior on the bus with your child.

Students are expected to:

- Remain seated
- Use quiet voices when talking with others
- Show respect for the bus driver and all students
- Listen to and follow the instructions of the bus driver

If there is a problem on the bus involving your child, please try to work it out with the bus driver. If the problem continues, please contact the principal. We take bus behavior very seriously and do not tolerate actions that put others at risk or show disrespect.

Helping students learn appropriate behavior

It is our firm belief that students must be taught what it means to behave appropriately if they continuously make mistakes. While there are basic behavioral expectations all children should know before coming to school (for example, hitting or kicking others is not allowed), we know that some students require more support than others. When students make mistakes, it is an opportunity for us to teach them what they did wrong and show them how they can do better in the future. Having the support of families in these situations reinforces the expectations, and we have found that children learn quicker and have more enjoyable experiences in school when their family’s expectations for behavior match school expectations.

B.E.A.R.S.

At Beekman, we teach students five overarching behavioral expectations: Bravery, Empathy, Accepting Responsibility, Respect, and Safety. Students learn what it means to show these characteristics throughout the school. For example, students learn what it looks like to be brave and empathetic on the playground (help others who are being teased) and what it looks like to be respectful in the bathroom (leave others alone and wash hands). Students can earn “Bear Paws” when they are caught following the behavioral expectations and the Bear Paws are added to a class total which is updated weekly and shown on the main lobby TV. As classes reach certain benchmarks, they can choose from a selection of incentives.

In addition, we hold monthly whole-school meetings where we review the school expectations and give reminders and encouragement to students to be Beekman Bears in everything they

do. During whole-school meetings we use mindfulness activities designed to calm and center the participants. We also give students a chance to show off their talents and appreciate each other's gifts. Students and staff are encouraged to wear school clothing (Beekman Bear t-shirts, for example) or school colors on the days we have whole-school meetings.

Safety Patrol

We are very fortunate to have the Safety Patrol at our school. The Safety Patrol is made up of eligible 5th grade students who express an interest in serving the school community. Students on the Safety Patrol commit to making a positive difference in the lives of students and staff.

They are role models for others. Some of their duties include:

- Assisting with the arrival and dismissal of students
- Helping to supervise the hallways during arrival
- Assisting teachers with the dismissal of Kindergarten and 1st grade classes
- Assisting with special events and assemblies
- Organizing food drives and other good deeds

Students are introduced to the opportunity of being on the Safety Patrol in 4th grade. Students who are interested complete an application and submit it for review by the Safety Patrol advisor and principal. Eligible candidates are selected for the Safety Patrol and asked to sign a pledge.

HEALTH OFFICE

Our school nurse, Mrs. Adams, is an important member of our school community and a valuable resource for students, staff, and families. Here is her contact information:

- Phone: 845-227-1817
- Fax: 845-350-4170
- Email: padams@acsdny.org

Illnesses

Students need to rest at home until they are free of vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (without fever reducing medications) for 24 hours. Please let the school nurse know if your child is diagnosed with an illness. This is important to help keep the school community healthy.

Students who are absent need to bring a signed note from a parent or guardian when they return to school including the reason they were out (even if you have called the school). Please be as specific as possible. This is a New York State law and it gives the school nurse the ability to track illnesses in classrooms and watch for outbreaks.

Physicals

New York State requires all students entering grades K, 1, 3, and 5 (along with new students) to have an updated physical exam on file in the health office. The physical must be dated no more than 12 months prior to the first day of school. Please send any physical exams or immunization updates when they happen and then they will be on file. Paperwork can be dropped off anytime during the year (including summer months).

Physical education restrictions

Students who have an injury or illness requiring them to sit out of PE need to bring a doctor's order including when they may return to play. Students who are on PE restriction are automatically on recess restriction as well. Families may send in a one-day PE excuse with an explanation or reason.

Food allergies

There are several students at our school with food allergies. There may be restrictions in the classroom as to what can be eaten to protect those students with food allergies.

Change of clothes

It is recommended that you give your child a change of clothes in a ziplock bag that can be kept in their backpack. Spills, accidents, mud, etc all happen at school and the health office has a

limited supply of extra clothes. The health office is always looking for donations of elementary-sized underwear, sweatpants, t-shirts, and long-sleeved shirts.

Medications

Any student who needs to take medications (including over-the-counter medications and cough drops) during the school day must have a doctor's order, parent permission, and be brought to school by an adult in the pharmacy labeled container. Students may have a self-carry/self-administer order and attestation given by their doctor.

Injuries at school

The health office is intended to be a welcoming place for students and they are encouraged to go to the health office for all health-related issues - small and large, minor or serious. Our school nurse will communicate with you via email when she provides treatment to your child, however, small. For example, if she checks a paper cut, she will let you know via email. The emails from Mrs. Adams do not signify that there is a problem or that you should discourage your child from visiting the health office. We would rather have children visit the health office for minor needs, than avoid going at all. In addition, please know that staff members are asked to send students to the health office when they have a cut or head injury, no matter how minor.

If the injury or illness is more serious and warrants a conversation, our school nurse will call you. You are encouraged to consult with your own physician as needed and report back to our school nurse with any updates or new information.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Curriculum

Our district organizes opportunities every year for our teachers to review and update the curriculum. The curriculum is aligned to the appropriate learning standards and the resources and instructional programs we use support the teaching of the curriculum. Families may review the curriculum by subject area and grade level on the district website at:

<https://arlingtonschools-public.rubiconatlas.org/Atlas/Public/View/Default>

If you have any questions about the curriculum or what your child will be learning, please contact the appropriate teacher.

Reporting grades

Report cards are issued three times a year: December, March and June. Interim reports may be sent at any time during the school year to indicate academic difficulty or special achievement. You can also set up a system to check in with the child's teacher in between report cards.

For reporting to parents, the elementary school uses a combination of conferences and report cards. Parent conferences provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss a child's strengths, weaknesses and the education program. We urge all parents to attend these conferences, as they are the best way to find out how your child is doing in school.

Parent-Teacher conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences are held in December and timing of the conferences is coordinated with grade-level teachers. Parents and teachers are encouraged to communicate with each other immediately if a problem rises at any time during the school year. It is the responsibility and commitment of our school to ensure open lines of communication in the best interest of the students we serve.

Field trips

Field trips are intended to be valuable educational experiences. A field trip request form and parental permission slips must be obtained before a student is allowed to participate on the field trip. Forms will be sent home by the teacher organizing the field trip. Students are expected to behave as if they were at school, following the Code of Conduct and Beekman B.E.A.R.S. expectations. Students whose previous behavior did not meet district or school expectations may not be allowed to attend future trips, depending on the severity of the behavior.

Music program

All students have music class as one of their special area classes. In 3rd grade music, students get their first chance to try out an instrument - the recorder. This is a good opportunity to see if your child is interested in an instrument and likes to practice to get better.

During their 3rd grade year, an assembly is held where students have opportunity to learn more about band and orchestra. Students meet the band and orchestra teachers and learn about the different instruments that are available.

Here are some of the many benefits related to participation in performing music:

1. Increased memory capacity
2. Refined time management and organization through being responsible
3. Enhanced team skills
4. Self-taught perseverance
5. Enhanced coordination and concentration
6. Self-expression and stress relief
7. Better social skills and listening skills
8. Increased happiness for the musician and those around them

Here is what you can expect if your child participates in band or orchestra:

- 4th grade:
 - Students begin with lesson groups once a week. Students come out of class for lessons, but the lessons rotate so your child will not miss the same instruction each week.
 - In January, students begin whole group rehearsals with the rest of the band or orchestra. This is at a designated time during the day once per week (usually during recess and part of class).
 - Band and orchestra students perform for their families at a spring concert usually held in May.
- 5th grade:
 - Students continue with weekly lessons that rotate each week so students do not miss the same instruction.
 - Band and orchestra rehearsals start in September and continue throughout year twice per week.
 - Students perform in two concerts, one in December and one in May.

As part of their music class, all students in grades 4 and 5 will participate in chorus. Students have the opportunity to perform with the chorus in December and May at our evening concerts.

School clubs

We are fortunate to have several before-school or after-school clubs at Beekman. The clubs change from year to year, but information about the clubs that are available is sent out in September and students are invited to sign up for clubs that interest them. There are limited spots and students may be put on a “wait list” if a club is full. Families are responsible for providing transportation and students who are often late or do not attend will be removed from clubs so that other students may participate.

Student records

A permanent record file is kept for each student. The file contains placement information, report cards, emergency contact forms, important correspondence, etc. If a student transfers to another school or district, the records will be forwarded.

Testing

New York State assessments are administered to all students in grades 3-5 in the areas of Math, ELA and Science (Grade 4) each year. We encourage you to have your child take the NYS assessments so we can see how they perform compared to other students in our school, district, and around the state. We also use the information to gauge how we are doing as a school compared to other similar schools. Additional information on the NYS tests can be found at: <https://www.engageny.org/3-8>

Speech/language

This program is provided to students experiencing difficulties in one or more of the following areas: language, voice, fluency, stuttering, articulation and swallowing. If the speech/language disorder adversely affects a child’s academic performance, speech services are recommended.

Response to Intervention (RtI)

Response to Intervention is an approach for identifying and supporting students who are struggling in school (academically, socially, emotionally, or behaviorally). Teachers use interventions in an attempt to provide support for students and help them achieve success. If the interventions being used do not result in improved performance, then an RtI meeting may be held where educators and families members come together to discuss the issue and identify possible remedies. Parents or guardians are always encouraged to attend RtI meetings and we value your input and feedback regarding the development of your child.

Academic Intervention Services

We will provide academic intervention services to students who have been identified as being at risk of falling below the state learning standards in English/Language Arts, and/or Mathematics. A student's eligibility for academic intervention services will be determined based on his or her performance on State assessment examinations and/or in accordance with District assessment procedures. Students will rotate through groups (Tier 2 or Tier 3) throughout the school year as the "team" determines a need. Our RTI Team includes several members of our faculty and you may be requested to attend a collaboration meeting as we identify needs and appropriate interventions.

504 Committee

Students with a medical diagnosis or condition that substantially interferes with their ability to learn or function in school could be eligible for a Section 504 accommodation plan. Families who would like a meeting to review their child's eligibility for a 504 plan should write to the principal. After receiving the letter and the appropriate documentation from a physician or psychiatrist, a review meeting will be scheduled.

Special education

Special education provides services for student with specific disabilities such as learning disabilities, speech related impairments, and other health impairments. Upon entering special education, an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) is written which outlines the services to be provided.

PARENT/TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

A message from the PTA:

“Whether you are a new PTA member or a returning member, we thank you for your contributions, time, and commitment to our school community. As a member of the Beekman PTA, you are a voice for our students and part of the largest child advocacy program in the world! PTA participates at the state and national level in lobbying for educational funding and representing parents on education issues.

In past years, our PTA facilitated over \$25,000 in programming for Beekman. We support:

- Arts-in-Education residencies at all grade levels
- Author visits
- Exciting events: Harvest Walk, School Dance, Ice Cream Social, Carnival, Talent Show, Pancake Breakfast, Free Bingo, Holiday Fair, the Book Fair, and much more!”

Membership

All family members and staff of Beekman students are invited to join the Beekman PTA. Check out the Beekman PTA website for information on how to become a member:

<http://www.beekmanpta.com/>

Meetings

PTA meetings are held once a month (Mondays at 7 PM) at the school in the library. A schedule of meetings can be found on the PTA website or on the school website.

Volunteering

There are countless ways to volunteer with the PTA. Not only can you help with events, the PTA needs members to sit on councils across the district to be a voice for parents.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Beekman Town Library

The library provides town residents with materials and services that meet their needs for lifelong learning, literacy, enrichment, and pleasure. The Youth Services Programmer is Ms. Jo Ann DiSalvo. She organizes activities for elementary students.

For more information about the library, go to: <http://beekmanlibrary.org/>

For a schedule of events at the library, go to:

<http://host6.evanced.info/beekman/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>

Beekman Recreation Department

The Beekman Recreation Department organizes annual events such as the Fall Festival, Community Day, etc. It also offers programs for students in grades K-8 which include activities and after school programs/camps.

For more information about the Beekman Recreation Department, go to:

<http://www.beekmanrec.com/info/default.aspx>

Beekman Moms' Facebook page

This is a resource that many parents find useful and informative. This is a closed group. You would need to request to join, if desired. To request access, go to:

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/1449766798630734?ref=bookmarks>