PARENTS' COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

4944 Wrightsville Ave Wilmington, NC 28403 910-799-9544

APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT

Return this form to above address with non-refundable registration (waiting list) fee of \$10.

Applications may be submitted on September 1st of the school year **prior to** the year your child will attend. Applications do **NOT** rollover, you need to reapply each year.

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Parent's Community Preschool

Statement of Principles

Before you make the decision to apply to Parent's Community Preschool (PCP), we would like you to know about our philosophy and history. We encourage you to think carefully about whether you share our perspectives and whether PCP is really the appropriate preschool for your child.

We are very proud of our school, as it is a caring, creative environment. As you may already know, PCP is quite different from other preschools. PCP was founded years ago by parents who were dissatisfied with standard preschool curricula and attitudes about children. The founders saw PCP as an alternative – a school with a different viewpoint.

Parents are the heart of the school, both at the board level and on a day-to-day basis. PCP expects a high level of personal commitment from every parent; there is a significant degree of hard work involved. Parents do much, much more than pick-up and drop-off kids! Once a month, parents aide in the classroom, which includes bringing the snack, a center for the children, and cleaning up the schoolhouse at the end of the day. It is the parents who enrich the children's preschool experience by contributing special talents and interests. It is rewarding participation, but time consuming.

Our school operates as a non-profit and therefore relies heavily on fundraising. All families are expected to participate in fundraising opportunities throughout the year.

We encourage and accommodate spontaneous expressions of self and discovery. Equipment and supplies are readily available to children throughout the day. Therefore, PCP can be a messy learning place. Consequently, children often finish the day covered with paint, glue, or whatever they might have worked with, as well as dirt from the playground.

We promote nutritional eating habits and have adopted a goal toward no sugar. Snacks are always healthful and nutritious, such as fruit, veggies, popcorn, muffins, etc. Lunches are to be simple, i.e. sandwich, yogurt, fruit, veggies, etc. Desserts and sweets are avoided.

We emphasize each child's unique artistic expression. The children's art is totally child-done and therefore sometimes unrecognizable by anyone else. We do not offer "cute" crafts, or any projects that are pre-fab or teacher-made creations. PCP is not interested in the classic Santas at Christmas, bunnies at Easter, and daffodils in spring. Often times, centers do not involve "making" something at all.

We foster a casual, relaxed environment, and do not attempt to keep children continuously sedate, quiet or passive. Although the classroom may seem chaotic and noisy at times, we believe that play is children's work and their way of learning.

PCP views itself as an alternative to mainstream, conventional preschool. We strive to be true to the founding principles of PCP as set forth briefly above. Because our commitment to these values are strong, we want you to think seriously about your own point of view with regards to your child's preschool years. We welcome your application for enrollment if you share these beliefs!