

SWW@FS Fast Facts

- ❖ Small Class Sizes (16 to 20 students per PK class)
- ❖ Instruction beginning at 8:45am and ending at 3:15pm
- ❖ Breakfast beginning at 8:40am until 9:00am
- ❖ Visual impairment, Autism, Intellectually Disabled and Special Education Programs
- ❖ School-wide Uniform Policy
- ❖ Facilities include: two gymnasiums, recently renovated cafeteria, demonstration kitchen, library, auditorium, music room, art room, playground facilities, and much more
- ❖ Access to DPR fields, tennis courts and Rock Creek Park
- ❖ Fee-based before care beginning at 7:00am and after care ending at 6:00pm hosted by YMCA, A-Step and Capital Language at SWWFS
- ❖ Convenient to downtown and Metro accessible
- ❖ Student field trip opportunities via Metro Bus, Metro Rail, DCPS transportation or walk
- ❖ DCPS regulations state only children enrolled in our program can attend

Academic Excellence

The staff at School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens is committed to providing a high-quality educational experience for all students. The staff encourages students to become creative, critical, and reflective thinkers by providing a rigorous academic program. Here are some of our academic highlights:

- ❖ Storylab/reading classes for all students to strengthen vocabulary, fluency and comprehension
- ❖ Classes utilize technology to enhance learning
- ❖ Full-time librarian
- ❖ Diverse staff and staff body
- ❖ Curriculum aligned with DCPS Creative Curriculum and complimented with additional best practices
- ❖ Specials classes are hosted for 45 minutes for Art, Music, Physical Education, and Storylab
- ❖ Partnerships with GWU, FoodPrints, YMCA, DC Reads, Patton Boggs, Advisory Board, Capital Language, World Wildlife Fund, Everybody Wins, and many more!

The School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens

Early Childhood



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Website: www.swwfs.org
Facebook: facebook.com/WallsAtFrancis
Twitter: @WallsAtFrancis
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Emphasis on Community

SWWFS has an active and engaged group of parents whose main focus is the success of every child in our school.

Our Home & School Association works to support our school through a variety of committees. Please e-mail us to get involved!

hsapresident@swwfs.org

Early Childhood Frequently Asked Questions

How large are classes?

PK3 classes are capped at (15) students plus (1) seat reserved for an Early Stages student (Total: 16). PK4 classes are capped at (19) students plus (1) seat reserved for Early Stages student (Total: 20). The Early Stages team holds seats across the district and decides which school setting would be the best fit for the student. Each PK3 and PK4 classroom has (1) classroom teacher and (1) paraprofessional. The team is required to maintain a strict ratio of 8:1 for PK3 and 10:1 for PK4.

What am I expected to do with my child at home to support instruction?

PK classes will not have homework. Yet, sometimes teachers will share family projects. We also encourage reading to your child for at least (10) minutes every night. This can be "you" reading to your child or your child looking at pictures and telling you the story or reading.

What if my child doesn't want to sleep during nap?

We encourage students to rest their bodies at naptime, whether they sleep or not. At this age, every child benefits from a break during the structured day. In PK3, the nap is (90) minutes and PK4 naps are for (60) minutes.

What should students know before entering the program?

We take any child at any level and differentiate instruction to meet each student where he or she is. Often our students are strong in a particular area and developing in others.

What are the basic supplies my child will need?

Each teacher will distribute a supply list. Yet, the basic needs in every classroom are: a backpack, napping blanket, and two seasonal appropriate change of clothing that includes undergarments and socks. **Prohibited** items include: stuff animals, toys, candy, money, jewelry (stud earring are appropriate), and pillows.

What is the daily structured schedule?

Students arrive by 8:45am, host breakfast (25 min), attend specials classes (45 minutes), participate in whole group/centers instruction (90 min), attend lunch/recess (75 min), nap (60 and/or 90 min), and instructional closure/snack (30 and/or 60 min).

