



Celebrating 50 Years of Service

Forum



**Serving the
Children of Those Who Serve**



Dear SCOPE Families,

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well during this very difficult time. Just weeks ago, none of us ever could have imagined that we would be facing the challenges we are now encountering. The shutdown of our schools and businesses has changed life for all of us. With so many people unemployed, businesses closed and thousands of individuals contracting the COVID-19 virus in our Long Island communities, we are all hoping that soon our lives will return to a more normal routine.

At SCOPE, we miss the children that attend our programs. We are busy planning for the opening of schools next fall and, with that, the reopening of our before- and after-school child care programs, UPK/pre-K classes, enrichment programs, SAT/ACT preparation classes and all of the other programs we offer to the children and families of the public school districts on Long Island. This edition of The Forum will provide information regarding the cancellation of this year's programs and reimbursement/reapplication of tuitions resulting from these cancellations. Additionally, information is provided on registration for before- and after-school child care programs, pre-K programs and enrichment offerings for the reopening of school in the fall of 2020. While it may seem like a long way off, I encourage you to review this information and register your children now. All of our programs fill quickly, and we do not want our current SCOPE families left out and placed on waiting lists. Of course, we at SCOPE will be prepared for the reopening and will be complying with all regulations necessary to provide the children with programs in a safe, fun, healthy and caring environment.

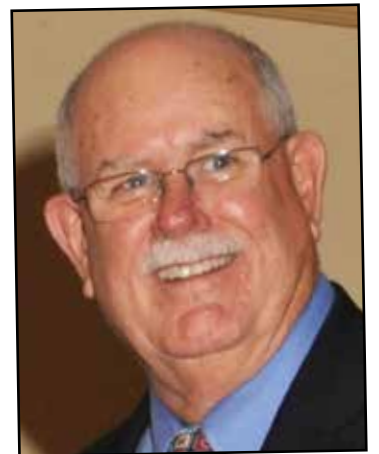
I would like to thank the true heroes, all of our first responders, medical employees and essential employees who have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 battle. Their courage, hard work and dedication have been nothing less than heroic, and they deserve our sincere respect and admiration.

A special thank-you to the SCOPE child care staff who have been working in the Emergency Child Care programs on Long Island. They have provided child care for the families of those designated as essential employees and have worked tirelessly to give these children a safe, healthy, enriching program, while at the same time enabling their parents to work each day with peace of mind, knowing their children are safe and happy. They are the unsung heroes and deserve much credit for all they have done to assist these children, while placing themselves at risk.

As we begin the reopening of Long Island and plan for the 2020-2021 school year, I hope you find this newsletter informative. Stay safe and stay well.

Sincerely,

George L. Duffy
Executive Director



Once again, SCOPE has stepped up to the plate and addressed the needs of our communities in the most professional manner.

Nassau BOCES District Superintendent, Dr. Robert R. Dillon

SCOPE Education Services

Joins the Battle to Fight

COVID-19

EMERGENCY

Child Care Services for Those Who Serve Others

In late March, New York State Gov. Andrew Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.4, closing all public schools in the state. The order also placed nonessential businesses on Long Island and across the state on pause. As part of this executive order, public school districts were directed to provide emergency child care services to essential workers, first responders and medical personnel, which would enable those individuals to work and provide services to those infected with COVID-19.

“On the turn of a dime, SCOPE was ready to provide child care for the essential workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic,” Hampton Bays Superintendent of Schools Lars Clemensen said. “It’s reassuring to know we can count on SCOPE Education Services as our partner to provide safe and high-quality child care at a time when our communities are facing uncertainty and unprecedented challenges.”

In coordination with the county executives’ offices in Nassau and Suffolk,

the Nassau County Council of School Superintendents and the Suffolk County School Superintendents Association, SCOPE Education Services turned the governor’s executive order into action and began to provide free child care services to the children of these essential workers, first responders, medical employees and transit workers.

“SCOPE’s efforts to provide child care during the pandemic have been invaluable to the students and families of Suffolk County,” Sachem CSD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kenneth Graham said. “In a time when we were facing the closure of our schools, SCOPE Executive Director George Duffy and the entire SCOPE team immediately offered their services to provide child care for the children of health care, emergency service, and essential workers. SCOPE’s efforts helped school districts address a critical variable in this incredibly challenging situation. We are truly thankful for their efforts.”



Inside Our Emergency Child Care Programs



There are currently 25 SCOPE emergency child care locations throughout Long Island. SCOPE Emergency Child Care programs, located in public elementary school buildings, are open Monday – Friday from 7 a.m.- 6:30 p.m. All programs are staffed with licensed, trained and approved child care workers who have been cleared by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

“We are so pleased to have been able to partner with SCOPE and offer the child care option for essential workers in and beyond our school community,” Huntington UFSD Superintendent of Schools James Polansky said. “This has been particularly important in Huntington, with a hospital right up the road, characterized by staff who continue to put forth extraordinary efforts during a challenging time.”

SCOPE child care workers are providing approximately 550 children of essential employees with safe, caring, fun and educationally enriching activities. In addition, utilizing technology, the children are participating in daily distance learning as part of their school district’s distance learning programs. These SCOPE child care employees are truly unsung heroes. Without their hard work and dedication, many of the essential employees would not be able to work as nurses, doctors, first

responders or transit workers.

“School districts across Long Island are grateful for the child care service provided by SCOPE that assisted with the requirements set forth by executive order during this pandemic,” Valley Stream UFSD 30 Superintendent of Schools and President of the Nassau County Council of School Superintendents Dr. Nicholas Stirling said.

These programs are vital to efforts to fight the COVID-19 virus, and the SCOPE employees are there every day providing free child care for these families. SCOPE will continue to provide these emergency child care programs for as long as there is a need and the executive order remains in effect. For a complete listing of these centers, please visit the SCOPE website at www.scopeonline.us.

A special thank-you to all of our first responders, medical employees and all essential workers for all they have done and continue to do. Each day these individuals place themselves in harm’s way to defeat the COVID-19 virus and keep us healthy and safe. SCOPE encourages all of our families to continue to take the precautions necessary to stop the spread of this virus. Working together, we will defeat COVID-19 and soon return to a more normal or “new normal” routine.

Thank you to Nassau County Executive Laura Curran, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Nassau and Suffolk county school superintendents, the public school districts that are housing the emergency sites and all of the public schools on Long Island, which have supported and made these programs possible.



SCOPE PROVIDES DISTANCE LEARNING **During COVID-19 Pandemic**

On March 13, teaching as we knew it came to a quick halt. Classrooms once filled with the voices of children and teachers became silent. The coronavirus pandemic changed the course of how learning was taking place. Educators across the world had to change their mindset and think differently about how to implement instruction.

School district administrators and teachers, including the pre-K teachers employed by SCOPE Education Services, spent endless hours working to put a curriculum and plan in place in which children would be educated within the safety of their homes. Platforms such as Zoom and Google Classroom transformed living rooms and backyards into classrooms. Family members became facilitators

of instruction and a support system for their children's learning. Children without access to the internet were provided with information via text messaging, apps and mail-delivered correspondence. Students with special needs received continued support from their instructional teams.

Almost 1,300 SCOPE pre-K students in 18 Nassau County and Suffolk County school districts participated in this distance learning endeavor. Our 53 teachers visited their students via Zoom meetings, YouTube, Google and other platforms. SCOPE is inspired by our teachers and their commitment to the ongoing development of their students.

SCOPE is grateful to those families who sit beside their children helping to support their math and

literacy skills, sharing in the discovery of scientific wonders and dancing to educational songs. This has been a cooperative effort with a focus on a strong partnership between home and school.

Looking forward, SCOPE is anxious to resume our learning experiences and move back into our schools and traditional classrooms. SCOPE is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for your children, and is currently accepting fall registration for the UPK/pre-K programs. SCOPE is also gearing up for the Fall Enrichment, PSAT/SAT and ACT courses. Information about all instructional service programs can be found at www.scopeonline.us. We thank our school districts and families for your continued support.



LOOKING AHEAD, PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

SCOPE BEFORE- AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The SCOPE staff is busy preparing for the 2020-21 school year and looking forward to the return of your children to our programs. Many of these programs are rapidly filling up, so don't miss out. Register today if you have not already done so. Registration for the Before- and After-School Child Care programs and the pre-K programs is open and available online at www.scopeonline.us.

DID YOU KNOW...

SCOPE Education Services is one of the largest child care providers in the state of New York, serving more than 7,000 students. SCOPE offers 195 before- and after-school child care programs located in 36 school districts across Long Island. With more than 55 years of experience in the child care industry, SCOPE is a name that parents have grown to know and trust.

SCOPE Before- and After-School Child Care programs are licensed by the Office of Children and Family Services and are housed in public elementary schools. All SCOPE staff undergo an extensive background check and must acquire a minimum

of 15 hours of professional development each year in areas including child development, health and safety, and program development.

WHAT SCOPE PROGRAMS OFFER CHILDREN

SCOPE's Before- and After-School Child Care programs provide a safe, fun, caring environment for the children of working parents. Each day, age-appropriate arts and crafts, games, sports and enrichment activities are offered, as well as scheduled homework or quiet time, healthy snacks, and, of course, daily opportunities to socialize with their peers. Throughout the school year, programs schedule educational and entertainment presentations, such as robotics, space show, sky lab, music and dance fun, puppets and magicians.

SCOPE PLANS FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

With the appropriate social-distancing protocols in mind, SCOPE has developed a new curriculum for the 2020-21 school year. Many of the activities SCOPE has planned for the school year can be done in small groups following social distancing

guidelines. Whenever possible, our activities will limit physical interactions among children, while still allowing them to play together.

SCOPE will give the children a wider variety of options, so they will not even realize they are socially distancing. Many of our newly designed activities call for group thinking, building on an idea that one person has initiated. SCOPE will still offer some favorite games, including LEGO and magnet tiles, but each child will be given a presanitized supply of pieces to work with. SCOPE also plans to limit the use of things that cannot be properly sanitized or that must be played in close proximity.

EVERY DAY WILL BE AN ADVENTURE AT SCOPE

For the 2020-21 school year, in addition to STEM activities, gym games, arts and crafts, snack and homework time, SCOPE will be featuring a different theme each day: Musical Monday, Trivia Tuesday, Wellness Wednesday, Theatrical Thursday and Fly Away Friday.

On Mondays, games will range from building a musical instrument to working together to create different beats which get incorporated

together to build a group song. Tuesdays will feature trivia games based on game shows, holidays, children's books and movies, and riddles. Wellness Wednesdays will focus on mental wellness and feature activities such as yoga, meditation and breathing exercises, games about emotions and developing self-control by learning tools to help cope when angry or upset. Thursdays will feature improv games, props, comedy and skits, and even creating commercials. Fly Away Fridays will focus on cultural and geographic discovery and learning about a new destination each week. Whether it's learning cultural dances from Ghana, making mandalas from India or creating messages in hieroglyphics from Egypt, children will have fun while learning. One of our favorite additions for the new school year is the Daily Chat segment. Daily chats allow staff to get children interacting with one another through pointed conversation, including funny games and activities that help express their feelings, promoting social and emotional awareness and growth.

SCOPE looks forward to welcoming everyone back in September. If you have not already registered for the 2020-21 school year, you are encouraged to register at www.scopeonline.us. Space is limited in SCOPE programs. If you have any questions, please call (631) 360-0800, ext. 120 or 164.

During these uncertain times, SCOPE has updated its registration and refund policies to better accommodate families:

- Only the annual registration fee (\$40 first child/\$60 max for family) will be charged for registrations submitted before July 14, 2020.
- Any credits from the 2019/20 school year closing will be applied to the September invoice.

- September tuition will be invoiced on July 15, with a due date of July 31, 2020.
- SCOPE will honor all refund requests made prior to Aug. 15 for Sept. 2020.

- In the event that the schools do not reopen in September, tuition will be applied to the next month of service. If programs are unable to open, all tuition and fees will be refunded.



**SCOPE PROGRAMS
OFFER A SAFE
ENVIRONMENT WHERE
LEARNING IS FUN**



Fun Activities to Enjoy With Your Children This Summer

OUTDOOR COLOR FUN

Do you have old paint chip cards of different colors? Give children the paint chip cards and ask them to explore the backyard and see how many colors they can match. How many colors were they able to match?

LEAF ART

Walk around the backyard and collect leaves and twigs. With the leaves and twigs, can your child make a butterfly, a bird or an owl? What else can they make?

MYSTERY BOX

Cut two armholes from a large cardboard box. Put a mystery object (comb, kitchen whisk, breakfast cereal, bar of soap, etc.) inside the box. Have your child guess what is in the box. No peeking!

WAVE BOTTLE

Using a plastic water bottle, fill with one-third water and one-quarter liquid vegetable oil, then add one or two drops of blue food coloring. Add glitter, sequins and small shells.

MEMORY GAME

Put 20 random items on a tray. Allow your child to study it for one to two minutes. Cover the tray. Challenge your child to write down or say as many items as they can remember.

WANT TO BRING THE OUTDOORS INSIDE? MAKE A COFFEE FILTER BUTTERFLY

- Flatten out a coffee filter on top of a gallon size zippered bag. Draw random designs on the coffee filter with watercolor markers.
- Mist coffee filter with water from a spray bottle and then let dry completely.
- Fan fold coffee filters to create each butterfly.
- Fold chenille stem in half and place coffee filters one-third of the distance from base. Twist the bottom loop of the chenille stem.

- Twist once above the folded coffee filter, creating a tight section.
- Leave a half-inch loop and twist again to create the butterfly head. Now curl the chenille stem to make antennae.
- Open and fluff out the wings of the butterfly.

FAMILY OLYMPICS

With the 2020 Summer Olympics canceled, why not create your own Olympics?

- Read about all the different countries that participate in the Olympics.
- Learn how to say hello in different languages.
- Draw flags of the different countries.
- Make Olympic medals out of craft paper and ribbon.
- Participate in your own Olympic events. Some examples in track and field are relay races, sprint races, discus throw (Frisbee) and long jump.



Looking To Go on a Little Trip This Summer?

Visit museums, zoos, parks, aquariums and points of interest without leaving your home.

SMITHSONIAN VIRTUAL TOURS

These individual museums offer specialized learning resources and virtual tours:

<https://airandspace.si.edu/anywhere>
<https://nmaahc.si.edu/visit/passes>
<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/education/educational-activities-you-can-do-home>
<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/education>

BRONX ZOO VIRTUAL TOUR

<https://bronxzoo.com/virtual-zoo>

YELLOWSTONE PARK VIRTUAL TOUR

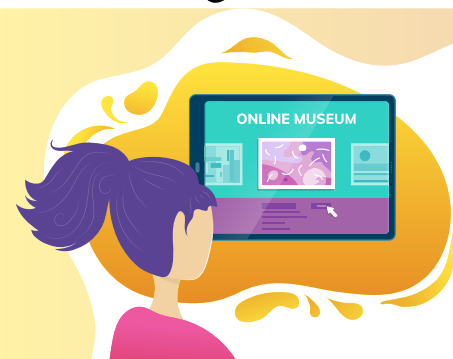
www.nps.gov/yell/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtours.htm

ELLIS ISLAND VIRTUAL TOUR

teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/webcast.htm

NATIONAL AQUARIUM VIRTUAL TOUR

www.aqua.org



SCOPE Education Services

Supporting Long Island Education Since 1964



SCOPE has part-time positions available in SCOPE

Before- and After-School Child Care Programs in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

SCOPE Education Services, chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting schools and education on Long Island.

We employ people of all ages. Retirees, college students and others who love working with children really enjoy working in our SCOPE programs.

**Hours are approximately 7-9 a.m. and/or 2-6:30 p.m.,
Monday through Friday.**

Competitive wages, free tuition for employees' children to attend all SCOPE before- and after-school programs, opportunities to earn college scholarships, employee discounts, bonuses for referrals and other benefits are available.

**Please send a cover letter and current résumé to
rmerc@scopeonline.us or call Renee Mercer at 631-881-9632.**

Please forward a cover letter and current résumé to:
rmerc@scopeonline.us or fax to 631-360-0356.

Visit our website at www.scopeonline.us.

SCOPE Education Services
Student Services Department
100 Lawrence Avenue
Smithtown, New York 11787

SCOPE is an equal opportunity employer.



The Voice of Long Island Education

SPRING/SUMMER

Forum

The Forum can be accessed online at www.scopeonline.us. If you have information about your school district that you would like to share, please send it to Kathy Beatty at kbeatty@syntaxny.com.