



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Why is it called the "BEE Program"? "BEE" stands for Brownsville Elective Education. The Brownsville Elementary School mascot is the bee!

What are the goals of the BEE Program? The primary goals of the program are: ***broad curriculum*** (provide fun and educational classes not offered during the regular school day), ***convenience*** (courses are offered right after school (2:30 p.m.) at Brownsville); and ***affordability*** (rates are competitive and scholarships are readily available).

Who runs the BEE Program? The BEE Program is sponsored by Brownsville's PTO, a not-for-profit entity. A group of parent volunteers administers the program.

Does the BEE Program make a profit for the PTO? The goal of the PTO is to have the BEE Program break even. In its three years of operation, the BEE Program has operated at close to a break-even level.

Why do you need to have a Late Pick up Fee Policy? The BEE Program has to pay Brownsville staff to stay with children if they have not been picked up on time. Since we operate the BEE Program to break even, we lose money if we continuously have to pay staff for their time.

How are the BEE teachers and classes selected? The BEE Program Committee talks to parents, teachers, and children about classes to include. An annual survey to all Brownsville parents generates additional ideas. All prospective teachers are interviewed and must successfully complete an Albemarle County background check.

Are BEE teachers paid? Yes. The BEE Program strives to pay its teachers a competitive rate.

Why must we provide you with our contact information? Sometimes, BEE classes are cancelled at the last minute (i.e. the teacher is ill, the weather is bad) and we must be able to reach parents so they can provide direction for their children (i.e. go to BASE, ride the bus home, be picked up at 2:30). Please be sure you provide accurate contact information and respond as soon as possible if we contact you.

Are scholarships available? Yes, scholarships are available. In the first two years, the PTO funded scholarships. Last year and this year, the BEE Program has received a grant from Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Greenwood to fund the scholarships.

What is the scholarship criterion? Financial need is a consideration but there are also scholarships awarded for merit. We encourage people to contact the Guidance Office to inquire about scholarships.

