Kindergarten students invited to Smooth Sailing into Kindergarten event

New Kindergarten students entering New Bedford Public Schools this fall are invited to join their soon-to-be classmates, school leaders and the animals at the Buttonwood Park Zoo for an event celebrating their start to school.

'Smooth Sailing into Kindergarten' will kick off at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 4 at the zoo, 425 Hawthorn Street.

Admission is free for registered incoming NBPS Kindergarten students and their families, who must bring the postcard that was mailed to them for free admission to the zoo. Kindergarten students who have not yet registered may attend and begin the registration process at a Family Welcome Center booth at the event.

Snacks and water will be provided; the event is sponsored through People Acting in Community Endeavors (PACE), Inc., and the Buttonwood Park Zoo.

Principals of the district's elementary schools will be on hand to meet and greet their new students and families, welcome them to New Bedford Public Schools, and answer any of their questions about starting Kindergarten.

"We are so excited to welcome our newest students to New Bedford schools, and to introduce them to their Principals and educators, who are eager to meet their new students," said Superintendent Pia Durkin. "We invite all newly registered Kindergarten students and their families to join us at the zoo to celebrate the first step in a successful educational journey from kindergarten all the way through college." Any families with questions should contact the New Bedford Public Schools Family Welcome Center at 508-997-4511 ext. 3275 or ext. 3310.