

Getting Ready for Kindergarten





Parents and Caregivers are children's first and most important teachers!

**Many simple everyday occurrences provide excellent opportunities
to enhance your child's development.**

Never underestimate the value of even 15 minutes of quality time spent with your child.

85% of brain development happens by age 5.

- Talking, playing, and modeling are key to development
- Fun, frequent interactions
- Reading to children for 20 minutes a day builds attachment, resilience, and empathy (not to mention a love of reading and an increase in curiosity)
- Counting and talking about numbers brings math into daily life and builds confidence with math early.



Nurturing Kindergarten Readiness

- Practice 2-step and 3-step directions. (Example: Hang your coat up and go wash your hands for dinner)
- Gradually release the ways you have been helping them so they can prepare to do things for themselves (coat zipping up and down, bathroom routines, getting ready in the morning)
- Start your morning routine a few weeks before school starts (get to bed earlier, practice wake up time and all the steps to be ready to leave for school).
- Help them talk about their feelings. Use words to describe their emotions when they are happy, sad, scared, frustrated. Emotional awareness helps children manage their emotions more effectively.

Arrival and Dismissal

- ▶ Students who arrive and dismiss with parents will be using the bay side parking lot. Bus students will continue to arrive and dismiss from the front bus lot.
- ▶ If you are using parent drop off and pick up, please be sure to follow all traffic signs in the lot. You will need to park and walk up if you plan to accompany your student.
- ▶ Teachers will meet and dismiss students on the bayside.
- ▶ Aftercare is available for Kindergarten students. Please see the district website for more information.

A day in the life of a Kindergartener

Morning Meeting:

- Greet friends, go over schedule for the day, and a variety of other activities based on each teacher.
- Social Emotional Learning- Second Step

ELA:

- Alphabet Study and Word Study
- Types of Writing (narrative, opinion, nonfiction)
- Handwriting
- Small group with teacher OR independent work at a center
- Reading-comprehension, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and phonemic awareness

Mathematics:

- Into Math, Waggle
- Whole group instruction
- Independent practice time
- Math games to help students work on fluency and practice using new their skills.

Science/Social Studies:

- Seasons, Weather
- Holidays celebrated around the world, Community Helpers

Specials:

- Gym
- Spanish, Art, Music and STEM (one each marking period)

*Lunch and Recess- Kindergarten Students eat lunch in the cafeteria

How is Kindergarten different from PreK?

Concentrated academic time by subject (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies)

Pick up and drop off

No rest period

A/C and B/D schedule

Gym and specials (Art, Music, STEM, Spanish)

Lunch in the cafeteria

Recess

Center time (Ela and Math)

One to one computers/ web-based programs/ clever

Adjusting to a new school schedule, (time away from home, missing parents, learning challenging topics, and navigating the social scene), takes time. When children get home, they can be both emotionally and physically exhausted. If you have concerns on your child's adjustment, please reach out to your child's teacher and/or the school's guidance counselor.

Reminders:

End of August- you will receive an email with log in information to the parent portal. You will need to log in and complete the online paperwork. Once online information is complete, you will be able to view your child's teacher.

Kindergarten Orientation- you will receive a letter with the date and time of Kindergarten Orientation. We welcome you to come and meet the teacher and see your child's new classroom.

Back to school night- Mid September

All 2022-2023 parent volunteers must complete Volunteer training again in order to be a volunteer for the 23-24 school year.

Questions?

