

Picture Day

Picture Day takes place during the Back to School Fair on August 27. If you know your child can't make it, don't worry - we will have a makeup date in September. Slow Road Photo requests that families make an [appointment](#) for the 3:00-6:00 timeframe, so that they can manage traffic flow. This is not a required time! If you are early or late, they will still photograph your child. You will receive a link directly to your child's photos on **October 9**.

Before Care

CMS and CMES kindergarten families should have received the Before Care registration form already. For CMES 1st-6th grade families who would like to participate in Before Care, please click [here](#) for the form (you can also sign up with Lindsay at the Back to School Fair). As a reminder, Before Care for **all children** will begin at 7:45 this year.

School Meals

At Cornerstone, all children are offered breakfast and lunch daily. And while we will never turn away a child, we will also only order food that we know will be eaten. If your child requires any special dietary restrictions or will be bringing a home lunch, we would appreciate having this information well in advance. Meals are ordered on a monthly basis and we must have updates about any changes to your child's plan (switching to home lunch, for example) before the 15th of each month. Please click [here](#) to complete our school meal survey before August 20. Thank you!

Assessments and Intervention Services

We will continue to use FastBridge for internal assessments this year for our K-6th years. This year we will be adding a math assessment for kindergarteners and we are required by Minnesota to use the Capti ReadBasix tool for any Upper Elementary child who tests below grade level on FastBridge reading. Families may not opt out of these assessments unless children have an IEP/IFSP designating as such, however we will notify you when they are taking place and will be happy to share results.

Children who received intervention services in math or reading this spring with Jessy and Megan, respectively, will continue to receive those services this fall until assessments are complete.

New Staff

At CMES, we are very excited to welcome Latricia Domally (Tricia) and EG Saathoff to our special education team this fall! Tricia will be serving as a Special Education Coordinator, helping with scheduling, meetings, supporting our on-site team, and providing some service to children. In addition, she will cover Emma's schedule until Emma returns from parental leave in mid-late October. EG is our new School Social Worker. They will also provide special education services, as well as supporting our social-emotional curriculum and providing social skills and behavior regulation groups to children without IEPs. We can't wait for you to meet both Tricia and EG at the Back to School Fair!

In our early childhood program, we are delighted to have Madelyn Avila Flores working in Children's House 2 alongside Kristin and Katte. With Maggie moving into the Toddler Community full-time, we expect that after care for Children's House will be supported with staff that the children currently know (exact details to come).

A complete list of our staff, new and returning, can be found in the handbooks you will receive at the Back to School Fair.

CMS Alumni Survey

The annual CMS Scholarship fundraising campaign kicks off with the start of the school year! If your child attended CMS, we would love to hear what your experience meant to you. Click [here](#) to provide feedback.

Community Notes

Join Cornerstone and Family Values for Life between 3:00 and 6:00 on August 19 for FVFL's big back to school event. Not only will there be free food and activities for children, there will also be free backpacks, school supplies, and clothing. See the attached flyer for more information.

End of summer is prime farmer's market season here in Minnesota! If your family participates in SNAP, you can get \$30 for every \$10 you spend at the St. Paul farmer's markets. More information can be found [here](#).