



Welcome to
Kindergarten!

2021-2022

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Kindergarten School Personnel – 1
Kindergarten Age Requirement– 2
Kindergarten Options – 3
Developmental Approach – 4
Kindergarten Assessment – 5
Brigance Testing Dates – 6
Kindergarten Report Card – 7
Vision Screening – 8
Immunizations – 9
Transportation Information – 10
Dining Services – 11
Children’s Garden Latchkey – 12
Kindergarten Orientation/Teddy Bear Bus Ride – 13
Student Liaisons – 14
Partnership – 15
Getting Ready for School – 16-21
Questions & Answers – 22-24

Grand Blanc Community Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Susan Kish, President
Martin Ray, Vice President
Meredith Anderson, Secretary
Yasmeen Youngs, Treasurer
James Avery, Trustee
Amy Facchinello, Trustee
Curtis Jablonski, Trustee

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Clarence Garner, Superintendent
Trevor Alward, Deputy Superintendent
Michelle Maya, Director of Business Affairs
J.P. Adams II, Director of Operations



Grand Blanc Community Schools supports and adheres to the principles, rules, and regulations of Title IX of the Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Michigan Civil Rights Laws. The school district hereby notifies all employees, residents, and students that it does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, creed, political affiliation or belief, age, height, weight, marital status, against qualified handicapped individuals, or any other condition covered by law with respect to the school district's educational programs, activities, and employment practices.

The school district has established a grievance procedure to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints of discrimination. Any employee or member of the community or the school district who believes he or she has been discriminated against, should contact Trevor Alward, Deputy Superintendent (591-6015), who coordinates processing of discrimination complaints, including Title IX compliance. Any student in the school district who believes he/she has been discriminated against should contact Barb Bailey, Special Education Director (591-6373) or write either of them at Grand Blanc Community Schools, 11920 S. Saginaw Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439.

KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL PERSONNEL 2021-2022

Location	Principal	Teachers	Student Liaison
Anderson 591-5829	Barbara Watkins Secretary: Jody Nickola	Chloe Hartzell Amy Lopez Stevens Wray	Gemma Donnelly
Brendel 591-6137	Doris Goetz Secretary: Nicole Brown	Starletta Rett-Henry Jana Forgach Tiffany Nardizzi	Chris Mathews
Cook 591-7910	Tia Dale Secretary: Valerie Spink	Noreen Briggs Jennifer McDaniel Suzanne Perlin Amy Zagata	Robert Burchell
Indian Hill 591-4100	Duane Engleman Secretary: Andria Auker-Tykocki	Bethany Good David Hernandez Lisa Larsen	Nick Thomas
Myers 591-3000	Betsy Kato Secretary: Rochelle Boehnke	Amy Johnston Christopher Riccobono Wendy Sheridan	Sally Hohn
Reid 591-7121	Jamie Wagner Secretary: Aimee Pizzo	Brooke Martin Kristina McCarron Neely Thompson	Carrie Kuhlmann

Other Program Personnel

Children's Garden Director – Brandi Anderson (591-6083)

Transportation Director – Kim Coon (591-8966)

Food Service Director – Karen Smith (591-6674)

Curriculum Director – Amber Hall (591-6077)

Parents As Teachers - Elizabeth Themm (591-6135)

Kindergarten Age Requirement

An enacted Michigan law amended the Revised School Code (MCL 380.1147), which changed the minimum age requirement for a child enrolling in kindergarten. Legislation changed the “cut-off” date which has been phased-in over three years; changing the requirement by one month each year.

For the 2021-22 school year and beyond,
children must be five years old
by **September 1st**.

Parent Option:

If the child is not eligible for enrollment per the guidelines specified above, the child’s parent or legal guardian can sign a waiver to enroll their student in school as long as they are 5 no later than December 1st of that school year (Section 6(4)(l)(iii)).

Districts can make recommendations to the child’s parent or legal guardian, as to the child’s readiness for school, and whether or not the child should be enrolled early. Regardless of a district’s recommendation, the parent or legal guardian retains the sole discretion to enroll their child.

KINDERGARTEN OPTIONS 2021-2022

Full Day Kindergarten

Children in this program will be in school for seven hours and ten minutes daily. Academic areas such as reading readiness, writing, math, social studies and science are taught using developmentally appropriate instructional strategies. Vocal music and physical education are offered for 35 minutes on an alternating day basis. **Full day kindergarten programs will be offered in ALL kindergarten buildings based upon enrollment and space.**

Full Day Young Five's Program

This program is designed to give a younger child eligible to enter kindergarten an additional year in a controlled educational environment to develop emotionally, socially, and educationally prior to a formal kindergarten experience. Late fall birthdates will be given priority. Children in this program are placed as a result of all three: school assessment results, birth date, and parent request.

A full day Young Five's program will be offered at all buildings based on enrollment and need.

*There will be no half day classes offered.
Kindergarten and Young Fives are full day programs.*

DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

In Grand Blanc Schools, we offer a full day kindergarten program with a developmental philosophy.

A developmentally based instructional program recognizes that learning takes place in an environment based on a child's natural inclination of active learning.

The goal of the Developmental Approach is to provide a foundation upon which children can build a positive self image and express themselves successfully in a variety of active learning experiences.

Developmentally appropriate programs are flexible in their expectations about when and how children will acquire certain competencies. Recognition of individual differences dictates that a variety of teaching methods be used.

Instruction focuses on more choices for students: selecting reading material, writing topics, and joining team partners. Less classroom time is devoted to fill-in-the blank worksheets, dittos, workbooks and other seat work.

The components of our Developmental Approach Educational Program are described in terms of what is appropriate and inappropriate for young children and is based on research from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).



KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENT

During Kindergarten Registration, you will be asked to sign your child up for the Brigance Assessment. This assessment is play-based and serves to give the school information about your child's development.

The Brigance consists of three screening areas:

- **Motor skills such as hopping, skipping, copying, etc.**
- **Concepts such as identifying letters, colors, and numbers**
- **Language development such as speaking skills, problem solving, sorting, answering simple questions and identifying objects**

The Brigance is administered by staff members who will individually screen your child in each of the areas. This screening is for information only and takes between 15-20 minutes. The school will be able to use this information to better meet the needs of your child.

Note: You and your child will be separated during the Brigance. Parents are kept busy in a separate room!

Please be sure to keep your assessment time. The information that the school receives is very valuable in helping us meet the needs of your child. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your building principal.



BRIGANCE TESTING DATES

2021-22

If you are not able to have your child tested at your home school, below are other dates and locations that are available. Please plan to sign up at the time of enrollment.

- Friday, April 16, 2021 @ Indian Hill 591-4100
- Wednesday, April 28, 2021 @ Brendel 591-6137
- Thursday, May 6, 2021 @ Myers 591-3000
- Friday, May 7, 2021 @ Reid 591-7121
- Wednesday, May 12, 2021 @ Anderson 591-5829
- Friday, May 14, 2021 @ Cook 591-7910



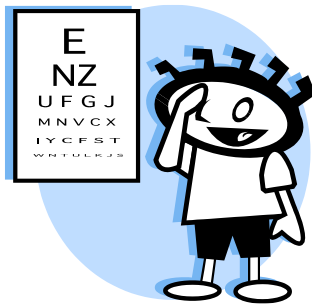
VISION SCREENING FOR KINDERGARTEN

The Michigan House Bill 5094 requires that children entering kindergarten present a statement to school officials confirming that they have received the Michigan Department of Community Health vision screen.

The law further requires that school officials report vision screening for all kindergarteners to the local health department with the November immunization report. Therefore, all screening must be reported to the school before October 1.

The primary purpose of this vision-screening requirement is to ensure early identification and prevention of visual problems in young children, especially amblyopia (or “lazy eye”), which can lead to permanent vision loss.

Your family physician may provide this screening. If not, please contact the Genesee County Health Department to obtain testing site information (810-257-3123). Another alternative would be to call your elementary secretary for any updated information regarding vision screenings.



IMMUNIZATIONS

Listed on the following page are recommended immunizations for children from Birth through 6 years of age. A completed immunization record is required for enrollment, unless your doctor has signed a medical waiver or you have a certified Non-medical Waiver Form issued by the County Health Department.



TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT



We are looking forward to transporting your child safely to and from school. Listed below are some important items that will assist us in transporting your kindergarten students. We look forward to seeing you and your child this coming fall.

IDENTIFICATION TAGS - given by schools should be worn daily for two weeks.

CROSSING - We teach the students to only cross in front of the bus. Students will need to follow the driver's directions, wait for driver's signal to cross, and then proceed to walk seven more steps in front of the school bus before crossing. We need your help as parents to reinforce this with your children.

NAME/BUS # - Parents should learn and teach their child the bus driver's name and bus #.

BE READY - Student should be ready and waiting at the bus stop five minutes before the bus is to arrive (rain or shine). The bus driver will not wait for students.

All Kindergarteners and Young Five students are picked up and dropped off at the established elementary stops.

To avoid confusion, it is Board Policy that your child be picked up at the same location daily and dropped at the same location daily. In case of an emergency situation, contact the Transportation Department at 591-8965 to make other arrangements for that day.

The bus drivers will not drop off your child without seeing a parent or guardian if your kindergarten student gets off at a stop by himself/herself. // upper grade student(s) also get off at that specific stop, your kindergarten student will be dropped without seeing a parent or guardian.

You will hear from the Transportation Department in late August in reference to the driver's name, bus #, stop location, and pickup time.



DINING SERVICES

The mission of the Grand Blanc Dining Services Team is to provide quality food services for the students and staff, giving them the nutritional energy to achieve their highest potential daily.

A nourished student is a learning student. Each day, students have an opportunity to participate in their school breakfast and lunch program that provide them with a balanced, nutritious meal that meets all federal nutrition guidelines. On our district website (www.gbcs.org) go to the Food Service page. Here you will find information such as menus, meal prices, student meal account link, newsletters, free/reduced meal application, charge lunch policy and much more.

Grand Blanc Schools also offers both breakfast and lunch at a reduced price or free for low-income household families who qualify for the program. A free/reduced meal application is available on the Food Service page of the district web site. Applications are always available in your school office, on the Food Service web page and each school kitchen throughout the year. Families are welcome to apply for reduced/free meals any time there is a need during the school year. You can complete an application on our web site, submit it and receive a response email with what you qualify for immediately.

A menu is sent home with every elementary student and is available on the Food Service web page. This includes the daily lunch and breakfast selections, meal prices, nutritional information, school kitchen phone numbers, the charge lunch policy, as well as, meal payment options. Students are automatically set up with a meal account that aligns with their student ID number. Parents can put money into their child's account at any time. At school, we accept cash, check and on-line payments through *SchoolPay*, our on-line payment provider. The on-line payment site, *SchoolPay*, can be accessed by going to www.gbcs.org, then go to the Food Service web page.

You may access your student's account at any time. The site will offer useful information so you can be knowledgeable about your student's meal account. Did we receive your check? How much money is in your child's account? What is your child eating each day and more. The login and password for your student's meal account is different than other logins and passwords you may use for school purposes. If you wish to access your student's account and need your family login and password, please call Jan Edinger at (810) 591-6928.

Grand Blanc Community Schools, in partnership with Chartwells, uses Nutrislice to publish the school menus to a new interactive website and a free smartphone app! Now you can access your menus anywhere, anytime. Information for downloading this app can be found on the Food Service web site and every menu. Look here for:

- **More information** about menu items, including a photo and description
- Filter for common **food allergens** like nuts, wheat and dairy
- A **translation** feature to translate your menus into a number of different languages
- Access to nutrition information like **carb counts** and **calories** with just a few clicks
- **Grandblanc.nutrislice.com**



Grand Blanc Community Schools

Kindergarten Orientation and Teddy Bear Bus Ride



**Wednesday, August 11, 2021
Myers, Indian Hill & Cook**

**Thursday, August 12, 2021
Anderson & Reid**

**Monday, August 16, 2021
Brendel**

- Fun activities for parents and children
- Registration opportunity for parents who have not enrolled their child
- Information on Latchkey program
- Teddy bear bus ride

More Information to come!



**Don't wait until the last minute to register
your child for school!**

What is a Student Liaison

Every elementary school in the Grand Blanc Community School district employs a Student Liaison. The purpose of the Student Liaison position is to build a bridge between home and school. The Student Liaison addresses the needs of all general education students at school. They help facilitate support groups, and provide assistance with development and behavior of children at school and home.

For example, a student at school may not be “thriving” due to any number of reasons. At home, there may be a divorce, a new sibling, financial problems, a recent move or transfer into the area, or medical concerns. At school, there may be learning difficulties, peer problems, self-esteem issues, attendance problems or difficulty making transitions from one classroom teacher to the next. For the child, he/she may need help with social skills, conflict resolution techniques or self-discipline. Your Student Liaison can offer help in all of these areas.

Each school’s liaison has information available in the form of books and/or articles on these issues our children face in childhood. In addition, ideas about discipline at home and parenting are available. Workshops, such as Parent University or 5th Grade Transition are sometimes offered throughout the year. At school, support groups are provided for kids going through separation or divorce. Conflict resolution techniques are taught by the Student Liaison in the classrooms. The Student Liaison can direct you toward outside agencies, if necessary, which might be able to offer further assistance for your specific problem.

The Student Liaison is available to make home visits to talk with parents about their children and problems they are experiencing. Often, kids are met one-on-one to discuss their concerns and provide support and guidance. The goal is to help children at both home and school to get on the right road toward success.



PARTNERSHIP

When parents and families get personally involved in education, their children do better in school and grow up to be more successful in life. Sounds like common sense, doesn't it?

Yet parental involvement is one of the most overlooked aspects of American education today. The fact is, many parents don't realize how important it is to get involved in their children's learning. As one dad said when began to read to his daughter every day and discovered that it improved her learning, "I never realized how much it would mean to her to hear me read." Other parents would like to be involved, but have trouble finding the time.

All parents and family members should try to find the time and make the effort because research shows that when families get involved, their children

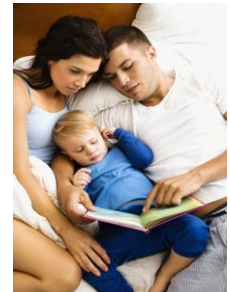
- Get better grades and test scores.
- Graduate from high school at higher rates.
- Are more likely to go on to higher education.
- Are better behaved and have more positive attitudes.

What is "Family Involvement in Education?"

It's a lot of different types of activities. Some families may have the time to get involved in many ways. Others may only have the time for one or two activities. But whatever your level of involvement, remember: If you get involved and stay involved, you can make a world of difference.

Family involvement in education can mean:

- Reading a bedtime story to your preschool child
- Checking homework every night
- Getting involved in PTO/partnership
- Discussing your children's progress with teachers
- Voting in school board elections
- Helping your school set challenging academic standards
- Limiting TV viewing on school nights
- Getting personally involved in governing your school
- Becoming an advocate for better education in your community or state
- Insisting on high standards of behavior for children



Or, family involvement can be as simple as asking your children, "*How was school today?*" But ask every day. That will send your children the clear message that their schoolwork is important to you and you expect them to learn.

Many parents across the country believe that they are not devoting enough time to their children's education. And schools say that increasing parental involvement in education should be the number one priority for public education in the next few years.

The six keys to successful school, family, and community involvement are: Partnership, Communicating, Volunteering, Learning At Home, Decision Making, Collaborating with the Community.

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

Parents need to understand that every child is an individual and that not all children behave alike. Some children reach the customary stages of development at the appropriate time, while others may experience them sooner or much later. Following are some of the typical behaviors that a five-year-old child might exhibit.

Most five year olds:

- ☺ share with others
- ☺ are able to make friends with children and enjoy participating in games
- ☺ love being read to and talked to by adults
- ☺ are able to request help with a frustrating or difficult activity
- ☺ are able to dress and clean themselves
- ☺ are curious and eager to please parents and teachers
- ☺ find it difficult, at times, to admit wrongdoing
- ☺ complain of aching heads, stomachs, ears, faces, or feet when overexcited

The following points should be considered as your child prepares to begin his/her school experience.

A child should:

- Be able to be away from parents for periods of time without getting panicky. If they can't, now is the time to let the child spend the night at grandmother/ father's or the afternoon with a friend.
- Assume some responsibility for themselves and for a few chores around the house.
- Show an interest in and play with other children cooperatively.
- Know their first and last name and address and be willing to give it when asked.
- Be able to dress and care for them self. Don't forget that a kindergarten teacher may be responsible for 26 children during the day. That's 26 top buttons to button and 52 mittens to put on.
- Be able to listen, follow directions, and complete simple tasks.
- Be able to enter into activities and enjoy them.
- Show a desire to experiment with materials such as paints, clay, sand, and paper and to make things from these materials.
- Participate willingly in new experiences (e.g., scissor cutting, painting, and body movements) and exhibit perseverance with new tasks.
- Show pride in efforts well done.
- Be able to express thoughts fairly well and speak in complete sentences.
- Be attentive when listening to a story.
- Respond with appropriate comments after a story or during general discussion.
- Understand concepts such as in/out, up/down, big/little, over/under, same/different, left/right, and before/after.

What activities can you practice at home to help prepare your child for kindergarten?

- ⇒ Count out loud to 100 by 1's and 10's
- ⇒ Count groups of objects
- ⇒ Point to numbers and say their names
- ⇒ Teach your child colors and shapes
- ⇒ Touch and say letters of the alphabet; match them with the sounds they make
- ⇒ Read books every day
 - Have your child help you read books with simple words
 - Say "point to the word 'go'", "can you find the letter 'F' on the page?"
 - Ask him or her to tell you what the story was about when you are finished reading
- ⇒ Make up silly songs with rhyming words
- ⇒ Give them scissors and paper to cut; monitor for proper scissor grip
- ⇒ Hold a pencil with appropriate grip to form letters and numbers
- ⇒ Practice recognizing and writing their name
 - Cut apart letters of the child's name, mix up the letters, and place them back together in order
- ⇒ Trace letters, shapes, and numbers
- ⇒ Give them chores and responsibilities to help with at home
- ⇒ Let your child learn to zip coats, fasten buttons, tie shoelaces, and put on outdoor gear on their own
- ⇒ Have conversations; ask and answer questions
- ⇒ Color in the lines of pictures
- ⇒ Make learning fun!

SEVEN READINESS SKILLS

1

Enthusiasm Toward Learning

Does your child approach learning enthusiastically? Is he/she eager to explore and discover? Does he/she ask questions, take initiative, and persist when tasks are difficult?

Parents can set aside a little time each day to investigate the world with their preschooler and answer those endless questions. As you drive or walk along in the park, point out your child's surroundings – the different trees or the various birds at the feeder. Demonstrate how things work. You'll help your child develop beginning science skills—the ability to form a hypothesis, test it out, and come up with new questions and theories. The more kids notice the more curious they'll become. Kindergarten builds on that curiosity.

2

Solid Oral-Language Skills

Children need wide background knowledge about their world and the words to go with it. You can help build language skills by taking your child to many new places and giving him/her words and descriptions for what they are seeing. At the zoo, explain, "There's a tiger. See how he has stripes and looks different from the lion?" These experiences have a huge impact on literacy. If you're reading a book about zoo animals and it says 'Look at the tiger,' and you can't tell the difference between a lion and a tiger, then you won't have the background knowledge to help you tackle the word. When children come to words that they don't know, they won't be able to make a good guess because it isn't in their vocabulary.

Research shows that one of the best predictors of later reading success is a well-developed oral vocabulary in Kindergarten. Pre-Kindergarten students are learning vocabulary at the rate of five to six words a day. It's just amazing how they will retain words if you use them several times in context and conversation.

3

The Ability to Listen

Children's literature is a rich resource for expanding language. As educators, we expect parents to be reading to kids every day. Fostering vocabulary and comprehension, reading develops the attention skills necessary in a Kindergarten classroom. Listening is a key part of school behavior. Students must be able to concentrate on what the teacher is saying, listen carefully for directions, and tune in to the sounds in letter and words.

The more animated you are as you read, the better you'll focus your child's attention on what they are hearing. Use different voices for the characters. Promote critical thinking by asking questions like, "Why do you think that happened?" and "How would you feel if that happened to you?" and "What do you think will happen next?" Engage your child by inviting them to clap or stomp when they hear a rhyming word, and letting them finish sentences in familiar stories. Books with rhyme and repetitive refrains (like those by Mother Goose and Dr. Seuss) help kids predict what's coming and detect consonant sounds at the beginning and end of words, which fosters phonemic awareness—the ability to hear and break down the subtle sounds in words. Your child won't be able to read the word "cat" until they understand that it actually has three sounds: "cuh," "ah," and "tuh." Singing fosters pre-reading skills, too. Take turns substituting new sounds in nursery rhymes and songs.



4 The Desire to Be Independent

Encouraging self-help skills is an important step to preparing your child for Kindergarten. Many kids come to Kindergarten not knowing how to hang up a jacket. It might be quicker for you to do it, but independence is critical for helping your child adjust to school. Some children are so dependent on their parents that they expect the teacher to do these things for them. Teachers expect children to:

- Get coats on and off and hang them up
- Follow simple two-step instructions such as "take off your boots and put on your tennis shoes"
- Go to the bathroom and wash their hands
- Blow their nose and cover their mouth when they cough
- Fasten and unfasten simple buttons and snaps
- Eat neatly and pour into a cup
- Open up a juice box and get the straw in



5

The Ability to Play Well with Others

Your child will need your assistance refining essential social skills such as sharing, compromising, turn-taking, and problem-solving. Children are naturally egocentric at this age, and we don't expect them to be able to share everything. But by the time they reach Kindergarten, they should be able to express their feelings in words and begin to understand that two people can use the same thing at the same time.

If you and your child are building with blocks and he reaches for one you're using, you first encourage your child to ask, "May I have the block?" Then model sharing by saying something like, "I'm glad to share my block with you." When you notice your child sharing with others, celebrate it by saying, "I'm so proud of you. It's really hard to share your favorite doll, but you were able to do it. Good for you!"

On play dates and park outings, stay within earshot so you can help kids problem-solve when conflict occurs. If your child gets in a power struggle over a toy and can't seem to work it out, step in and say, "It looks like we're having a problem here. What can we do about it?" Encourage them to come up with possible solutions, offering your own suggestions, if necessary. Help kids understand the feelings of others. Students need to know when a friend is sad by looking at their face and seeing that their mouth is frowning or eyes are crying. This nurtures compassion and empathy.



6

Strong Fine-Motor Skills

Your child's hands must be strong enough to master coloring, cutting, pasting, and holding a pencil—fine-motor tasks that kids use every day in Kindergarten. By week one, Kindergarten students are already writing a letter of the alphabet. If kids can't hold the pencil correctly, they will fall behind. To hold the pencil the right way, kids need to develop the small muscles in their palms and fingers. One suggestion is to give your child a pipe cleaner and some Cheerios (or similar, colorful cereal) to make bracelets. It requires them to pinch with their fingers, the same motion needed for grasping a pencil. Or ask your preschooler to mist your houseplants with a spray bottle, an activity that boosts both writing and scissor skills. Scribbling in clay with fingers is a fun alternative to doing it on paper and especially helpful for children who are resistant to writing and drawing. A child can practice cutting the clay into small strips, too.

Offer writing utensils in a variety of sizes and shapes. Some people think that fat pencils are easier to hold, but that's not always true. For a child with weak hands, a smaller, shorter pencil might be easier to manage.



7

Basic Letter and Number Recognition

Kindergarten teachers believe that it is their responsibility to teach kids letter sounds and how to write, but they do hope incoming students can recognize most letters by sight. They also hope children can count to 10, identify numbers 1 to 5, and know some shapes and colors.

Teachers don't want you to quiz your child or use workbooks, flashcards, or phonics kits. So much learning can happen without quizzing or sitting down with a pencil. The lessons unfold naturally as you and your child sort Legos by color or shape. Your daughter practices counting as she doles out pretend cookies for the dolls in her tea party. Your son builds letter recognition while scrambling alphabet magnets on the fridge.

Every outing is a spontaneous opportunity to learn. Play guessing games like, "I spy with my little eye something with the number 3." Teach by "immersion" and show kids how letters are all around us. Say, "See that sign, that spells Target. Let's spell it together. T-A-R-G-E-T." Point out objects that contain the letters in your child's name. Most important, always keep the focus on fun. Relax, and enjoy your child. Read, play, and go places. And talk the whole time you're doing it!

KINDERGARTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1Q. If my child will not be five years of age before the September 1st date, can I still enroll my child?

A. If your child is not eligible for enrollment with a birthday on or before September 1, 2021, but he or she will be five years old by December 1st of that school year, the child's parent or legal guardian can enroll their child in school.

2Q. Is there a deadline for enrolling my child?

A. The sooner you enroll your child, the better it is for the district to plan for the upcoming school year. Online registration begins Wednesday, February 24th.

3Q. Do I have to have everything needed in order to enroll?

A. No. You can enroll (online enrollment and submit what you have); however, students who have completed the enrollment process will go ahead of those who have not fully completed the process.

4Q. Can I enroll my child for kindergarten without his/her physical or up-to-date immunizations?

A. The physical form can be turned in any time before the first day of school. Your enrollment can be complete without this form, but it must be submitted before the first day of school. All required immunizations, however, must be up to date and submitted to the school office for an enrollment to be considered complete. Students without updated immunizations will not be able to attend school.

5Q. Will my child have gym and music instruction?

A. At this time, kindergarten students receive, on a rotating basis, either physical education or music instruction for 35 minutes every day.

6Q. Can I decide if I want my child in Young Fives or does the school decide this?

A. A parent cannot enroll their child into the Young Fives Program. All children are registered as kindergarteners until testing takes place. Students are placed in Young Fives based on a combination of their Brigance score, birth date, and parent choice. Late fall birthdates will be given priority. On the Kindergarten Program Choice form, you would indicate that you prefer that your child be placed in Young Fives, but also indicate your second choice if he/she does not qualify.

7Q. Can I go in with my child during the Brigance screening?

A. We like to see the children interact and complete the assessment without their parents. Sometimes, if a child has a problem separating, we ask the parent to come in.

8Q. What does my child need to know and be able to do before they come to kindergarten?

A. In the kindergarten information packet, you will find a list of skills that your child should be familiar with before he or she starts kindergarten. Also included in the packet are a copy of the kindergarten report card and a brief overview of the curriculum.

9Q. How much time will my child have at lunch/recess?

A. Kindergarten students receive 50 minutes of lunch/recess daily. Other recesses are determined by the classroom teacher. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor recess.

10Q. Will each school have some orientation activity before school starts so my child can meet the teacher?

A. Yes, you will be notified by mail when this will be.

11Q. How does bus transportation work?

- A. Kindergarten students are picked up and dropped off at the established elementary stops. You will be notified in August of bus stops and bus numbers. Please make sure your child wears their identification tags, given by elementary schools, daily for two weeks. Also, please work with your child to remember his/her bus number(s). It is Board Policy that your child be picked up at the same location daily and dropped at the same location daily, unless there is an emergency situation and you have contacted the Transportation Department.

