

New Kindergarten Registration Information 2012-2013 School Year

Understanding the Registration Process

Coupled with the excitement of this wonderful time in the lives of our children, families have many questions and concerns as the 2012-2013 school year approaches. We have developed this information page in order to help you better understand the process and timelines which surround the enrollment of your child in the Kindergarten program of the Grandview Heights City Schools. We are here to help. Please take a moment to review this information prior to the completion/return of any paperwork.

What are the Steps of the Registration Process?

1. Each family will need to pick-up a registration packet at the Board of Education Office located at 1587 West Third Avenue (inside the High School). Packets will be available from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, between February 6, 2012 and March 9, 2012. We will have special evening hours on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
2. Packets need to be completed and returned to the Board of Education Office by 3:00 p.m. on March 9.
3. Once a completed packet has been received, you will be able to sign-up for a Kindergarten Welcome Day appointment. No appointment will be made until you have submitted your completed packet.

Program Offerings

Parents will have the option of electing to enroll their child in our Tuition-Based All Day Program or the traditional Half Day program. If you elect the Half Day Program, you may indicate a preference for AM or PM sessions, however, the number of requests received for our Half Day Program will determine whether we will be able to offer both an AM and PM session.

Kindergarten Welcome Days

Once you have completed your registration packet, you will be able to sign up for a Kindergarten Welcome Day appointment. During the Kindergarten Welcome Day, parents will have an opportunity to meet with Principal Brian Bowser for an informative conversation about kindergarten. If you choose to do so, your child will have an opportunity to spend 50 minutes with one of our current kindergarten classes during the time you will be meeting with Mr. Bowser. Your child will work side-by-side with current kindergarten students and up to 7 other new students. Dates for Kindergarten Welcome Days are April 11, April 12, and April 18 from 9:00 am- 9:50 am. If you would prefer to attend in the evening, there will be a parent-only meeting from 6:30-7:20 pm. on April 12.

Staggered Start For Kindergarten 2012-2013

In order to provide a smooth transition for all kindergarteners and a more timely individualized student evaluation, kindergarten will use a staggered start for the beginning of the school year. On each of the first three days of school (August 16, 17, and 20) only one-third of the students will attend each day. The first day for all kindergarten students will be August 21. You will receive information regarding the day your child will attend when you receive your classroom assignment (mailed in early June).

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What information do I need to provide before my registration packet is considered complete?

All families will need to provide the following prior to March 9 (delivered to the Board Office)

- * Registration Form with Student Social Security Number
- * Emergency Card (both sides)
- * Proof of current inoculations
- * Birth Certificate
- * Proof of Residency (see next question)
- * Proof of Guardianship (if appropriate)-court papers proving custody in cases of divorce, separation, or special guardianship.

2. What documents are needed to prove residency?

If you are a homeowner, you will need to provide a copy of your warranty deed or closing statement. You may remove financial information as needed, but the address of the property as well as your signature as buyer must be visible. We will also accept a copy of your Property Summary Page from the Franklin County Auditor's website if it is accompanied by two utility bills with your name and address on the bills. With this method of proof, you need to submit a notarized letter stating that you occupy the residence and do not use the property as a business or rental.

Please Note: If you rent property, the only acceptable proof of residency is a current lease agreement. The lease agreement must have the address listed as well as the names of all occupants of the property.

3. How old does my child need to be in order to attend Kindergarten?

Any child that turns 5 on or before September 30, 2012 is eligible to attend kindergarten.

4. What type of childcare does the district provide?

Our childcare program, known as Kids' Club, is a separate entity from our kindergarten program. Acceptance into any of our kindergarten programs does not guarantee placement in Kids' Club, however, we will work to honor all requests. Class size, available space and current staffing levels will determine how many students we can accommodate in each Kids' Club group. Currently, we offer before school care from 7:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. and after school care from 2:50 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Our summer program is offered from 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Students who are registered to start kindergarten in the fall may register for the summer Kids' Club program. If the student is not five years old at the start of the summer program, the student will not be eligible to attend until his/her fifth birthday. Placement in both the summer and school year programs is done on a first come, first placed basis.

5. What costs are associated with Kindergarten enrollment?

There is no cost associated with enrollment in the Half Day Program. If, however, you are requesting All-Day Kindergarten, your first month tuition (deposit) of \$330 is due by April 6th in order to finalize your placement. Tuition is collected from September through May (9 payments). There is no required payment for August and your deposit covers September's tuition. Your next payment will not be due until October 1, 2012.

6. How does the State Law requiring a sliding tuition scale for All-Day Kindergarten work?

Families that qualify for free lunch will not be charged tuition for participating in our All-Day Program. Families qualifying for reduced lunch prices will be charged \$165 a month for participating in our All-Day Program. Your family's status will be based on the Federal Guidelines used for our Free and Reduced Lunch Program. We will not have those guidelines from the government prior to Kindergarten Welcome Days. If you believe you may qualify and want to be considered for placement in the All-Day Program, indicate that you would like to be considered for All-Day Kindergarten on your registration form. Also, circle the line that indicates you will be applying for free or reduced tuition. If you are placed in the All-Day Program, and do not qualify for tuition assistance, you may opt to pay tuition or move into the Half-Day Program. We have attached the 2011-12 qualifying levels set by the government. Again, these rates will change, but they will give you an approximate idea if you may qualify for free or reduced tuition.

2011-2012 Income Guidelines for Reduced/Free Kindergarten Tuition*

Household size	Reduced Tuition		Free Tuition	
	Yearly Income	Monthly Income	Yearly Income	Monthly Income
1	20,147	1,679	14,157	1,180
2	27,214	2,268	19,123	1,594
3	34,281	2,857	24,089	2,008
4	41,348	3,446	29,055	2,422
5	48,415	4,035	34,021	2,836
6	55,482	4,624	38,987	3,249
7	62,549	5,213	43,953	3,663
8	69,616	5,802	48,919	4,077

Please note: This chart is for estimation only. The Federal Government will release new Income Guidelines this summer. You will need to formally apply for the free/reduced lunch program in August in order for us to determine your final status.

7. How are program placements determined?

All families requesting placement in the Tuition-based All-Day Program will be placed in the program pending completion of the registration process and completion of a Tuition Contract including the first month's payment (\$330). **Registration and first payment must be made before the established deadlines to guarantee placement in the All Day Program.**

In addition, we will be offering a Half-Day Program. We are uncertain as to whether we will have an AM Program, a PM Program, or both. Staffing, building needs, financial considerations, and parent requests will be factors in our decision.

8. My child has an I.E.P. Will they automatically be placed in the All-Day Kindergarten Program?

No. IEP Teams make recommendations based upon individual student needs. I.E.P. teams will meet this spring to review needs and consider appropriate placements for kindergarten. If Grandview Heights City Schools is not aware that your child has special needs, please make sure to notify us during the registration process. Because final placement decisions will not be made prior to registration, it is important that you check your preference for All-Day or Half Day on the registration form.

9. Will there be a parent informational meeting?

Yes. During Kindergarten Welcome Days, Principal Brian Bowser will hold an Informational meeting

10. What if I have additional questions?

If your question pertains to registration or the Welcome Day schedule, please contact Teresa Rill at 485-4016.

If your question pertains to Kindergarten curriculum, please call Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary at 481-3640.

If your question pertains to childcare, please call Courtney Price at 485-4040.