

New Kindergarten Registration Information 2011-2012 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 2011-2012 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 needs 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 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, between January 31 and March 4. We will have special evening hours on January 31 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. March 4.
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 complete packet.

Kindergarten Welcome Days

Once you have completed your registration packet, you will be able to sign up for a Kindergarten Welcome Day appointment. During this session, parents will have an opportunity to meet with Principal Bowser for an informative conversation about kindergarten. If you chose 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 have an opportunity to work side-by-side with current kindergarten students and up to 5 other new students. Dates for Kindergarten Welcome Days are April 6, April 7, and April 13 from 9:00 am- 10:00 am. If you would prefer to attend in the evening, there will be a parent only meeting at 6:30 pm. on April 7.

Staggered Start For Kindergarten 2011

In order to provide a smooth transition and a timelier 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 17, 18, and 19) only one-third of the students will attend each day. The first day for all kindergarten students will be August 22. You will receive information regarding the day your child will attend when you receive your classroom assignment (on or around August 8).

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 4 (delivered to the Board Office):

- * Registration Form with 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 before September 30, 2011 is eligible to attend kindergarten.

4. What type of childcare does the district provide?

Our childcare program is a separate entity from our kindergarten program. Acceptance into any of our kindergarten programs does not guarantee placement in childcare. However, we will work to honor all requests. Class size, available space, and current staffing levels will determine which childcare programs we will offer. Currently, we offer before school care from 7:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. We offer after school care from 2:50 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Once your child is registered for Kindergarten, he/she is eligible to participate in the Summer 2011 Kids Club Program.

5. What costs are associated with Kindergarten enrollment?

There is no cost associated with kindergarten registration.

6. Will there be a parent informational meeting?

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

7. What is the status of Tuition-Based All Day Kindergarten?

Under current law, school districts are required to offer tuition-free All-Day Kindergarten. If parents would prefer a half-day program, we are required to offer a half-day option. In order to support an independent half-day kindergarten classroom, a minimum of 10 students must be enrolled in this option. If the minimum number of students does not request half-day kindergarten, they will be placed in an All-Day classroom and released at lunchtime. Currently, we are planning for half-day programming to occur during the morning session. We are not currently planning for PM kindergarten.

Governor Kasich has discussed possible repeal of the current Evidence Based Model for School Funding (a proposed bill has already been introduced in the House of Representatives). Part of the Evidence Based Model includes the requirement for school districts to offer tuition-free All-Day Kindergarten. We will not know the outcome of the budget and associated changes in law that may be part of the new budget until May or June. **If the requirement to offer tuition-free All-Day kindergarten is dropped, there is a possibility the district will reinstitute a tuition-based program.**

8. What if I have additional questions?

If your question pertains to registration or 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.