

Kindergarten Soft Start 2022-2023 School Year

Kindergarten Soft Start is a special week, August 8th-12th, dedicated to matching incoming kindergarten students with the teacher that can best support them socially, emotionally, and academically. **ALL** students will be assigned a teacher by 4:00PM on Thursday, August 11th and resume a normal day on Friday, August 12th. Please see the full schedule below.

Kindergarten Soft Start Objective: To observe incoming kindergarten students in academic, social, and emotional activities in order to best fit the student with his or her ideal teacher and classmates.

- **Academic activities:** Incoming kindergarten students will engage in reading, writing and math activities that allow teachers to get a small glimpse of baseline academic skills.
- **Social/emotional activities:** Students will participate in songs, purposeful play, centers, and recess time to allow teachers to observe how students interact and work with one another. They will be looking for skills like sharing, turn-taking, and getting along with peers.

Monday, August 8th:

Kinder families will receive an email from their temporarily assigned kinder teacher with a link for a 20-minute meeting. Parents may choose to come in-person or conduct the meeting via Zoom. During this time, teachers will review general kinder information and get preliminary information on student knowledge of the following: recognizing their name, identifying/counting 1-10, identifying letters of the alphabet. This will also be a great time for parents to share any additional information on their student(s).

Tuesday, August 9th:

ALL kindergarten students attend 7:25AM-2:25PM (regular school hours). Parents will meet teachers on the east playground (teachers will have signs with their name). Teachers will have additional help from grade levels that don't have kids attending yet. These staff members will assist students in getting in the building and to their classroom. Parents will have the opportunity to then meet with building administration in the gym for general information (if they choose). During the school day, students will be placed in a "mock" class and teachers will move between classes throughout the day in order to find the best fit for each student. Students will be introduced to the cafeteria for lunch and go to specials classes of art, music, P.E., and library. It will be as close to a regular school day as possible.

Wednesday, August 10th and Thursday, August 11th

ALL kindergarten students will attend 7:25AM-2:25PM (regular school hours) on Wednesday August 10th. During this time, students will be placed in a "mock" class and students may move between classes throughout the day as teachers try to find the best fit. Students will be introduced to the cafeteria for lunch and go to specials classes of art, music, P.E., and library. It will be as close to a regular school day as possible. **On Thursday, August 11th at 4:00, ALL incoming kindergarten students and parents are invited to 'Meet the Teacher Night' to find out who their finalized kindergarten teacher will be.** Parents and students will have the opportunity to come in to the kinder classrooms as well as explore the building. Additionally, students are encouraged to bring school supplies, explore their classroom, find their cubby, and meet their assigned teacher. At 4:30, students and accompanying family members can enjoy an ice cream treat on their way out.

Friday, August 12th:

All Kindergarten students will have a regular day (7:25-2:25) with their finalized kindergarten teacher.

Please contact our office at (719) 382-1370 if you have questions or concerns. We are looking forward to seeing all of our new kindergarten students!

Sincerely,



Megan Oleson, Principal

