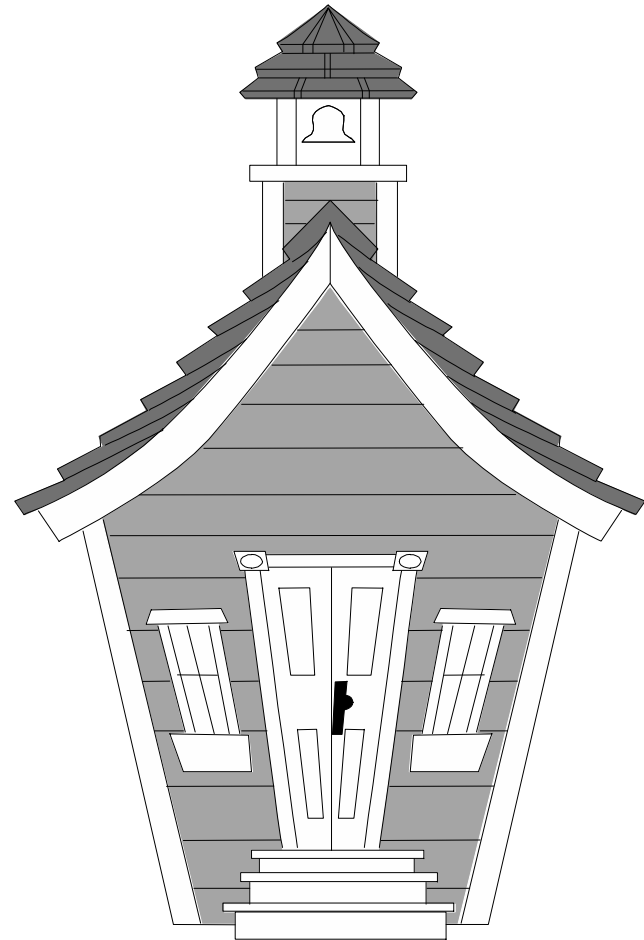


Enrolling in Kindergarten 2009



*Fully accredited by the
Nebraska Department of Education and
the North Central Association*

Board of Education

Mr. Bill Gess

Ms. Deborah Boykin

Ms. Patricia Conway-Boyd

Ms. Valerie Fisher

Dr. Dan Flanagan

Mr. Barry DeJong

Administrative Offices

537-9998

Dr. Rick Black

Superintendent

Dr. Ron Hanson

Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum

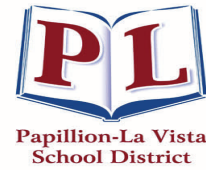
Dr. Renee Jacobson

Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Doug Lewis

Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Notes:



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to the Papillion-La Vista School District! There is nothing more exciting in a young person's life than the first day of kindergarten. Throughout the District, every effort will be made to continue this excitement for many years to come.

The entire staff is dedicated to providing an environment which nurtures each child's capacity to learn. Much time and effort have gone into preparing a positive experience for each student. To truly achieve the best results, a strong school and home relationship needs to be established. Two-way communication allows us to work as a team.

I encourage each of you to become involved in every aspect of your child's education. Visit your child's classroom, attend school functions, look at papers brought home, and review and encourage learning activities. An extremely important activity as a parent is reading to and with your child daily. If you ever have a question, please contact your child's teacher, principal or me. The doors throughout the Papillion-La Vista School District are always open.

On behalf of the entire school district, we look forward to working with you in making sure your child's first day, and all those that follow, will be positive and worthwhile.

Educationally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Rick D. Black', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

*Rick D. Black, Ed.D.
Superintendent*

Introduction

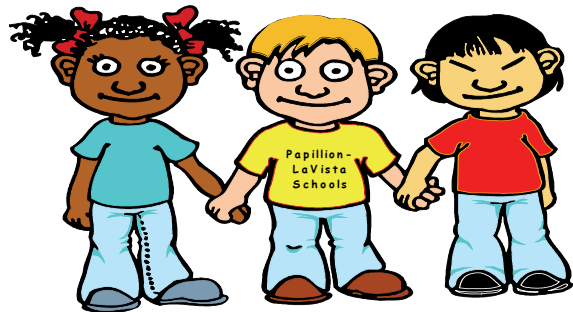
In the Papillion-La Vista School District, we provide a full day kindergarten program.

The full-day program:

- Allows time to explore topics in-depth.
- Reduces the ratio of transition time to class time.
- Provides for greater continuity of day-to-day activities.
- Provides an environment that favors a child-centered, developmentally appropriate approach.
- Integrates new learning with past experiences through project work.
- Uses mixed-ability and mixed-age grouping in an unhurried setting.
- Involves children in firsthand experience and informal interaction with objects, other children, and adults.
- Gives the students many opportunities to explore and practice.
- Works with parents to share information about their children.
- Sets the stage for parent-teacher partnerships.
- Offers a balance of small group, large group, and individual activities.

We look forward to continue offering to our kindergarteners a program with a strong emphasis in all social and academic areas.

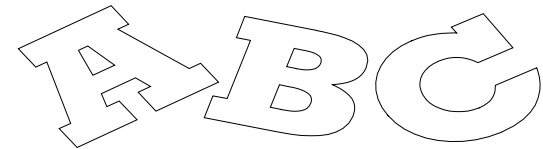
Notes:



Notes:

Enrolling in Kindergarten

All children must be five years of age on or before October 15 of the current year to enter kindergarten. There are no entry tests or skills required. We encourage all 5-year olds to attend school. Any child who reaches the age of 6 years old prior to January 1 of the current school year must enroll in school.



Registration

Kindergarten registration for students residing within the district boundaries is held each spring in conjunction with Kindergarten Roundup. This provides the students with the opportunity to visit the building. At this time, the school nurse should be made aware of any special medical or physical considerations (such as tubes in the ears or medications).

State law requires that parents enrolling a student for the first time must provide:

- a. A certified copy of the student's birth certificate
or
other reliable proof of the student's identity and age accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate
and
- b. the student's immunization record which verifies compliance with the immunization requirements
or
a signed waiver (see immunization requirements).

In addition, all families entering the District for the first time must provide proof of residency (address).

Physical Examinations

Students must receive a physical examination, including a vision exam no more than six months before entering kindergarten. State Law requires a printed or typewritten form, signed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner stating that a physical and visual examination were given. The form must also specifically name the person who received the exams and the date when the exams were given. By law, parents have the option to sign a waiver to refuse a physical examination and/or vision exam for their child. Waiver forms are available from the school nurse.

Immunization Requirements

All students are required to present their immunization record before beginning the enrollment process.

The minimum immunization requirements must include the day, month and year of administration for:

3 doses of DtaP, DPT, DT or Td vaccine with at least one dose given on or after the 4th birthday

3 doses of oral or injectable Polio vaccine

2 doses of MMR vaccine given no earlier than 4 days before the 1st birthday and separated by at least one month

3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine

1 dose of Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine or written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from the parent, guardian or doctor

A waiver option is the only alternative for enrolling students who do not meet the immunization requirements. The waiver is limited to one of the following:

1. A statement signed by the physician stating that the immunizations required would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student,
or
2. a notarized document signed by the parent/legal guardian stating the immunization conflicts with the practice of a recognized religious denomination to which the student belongs.

Rumsey Station Elementary Allison Kelberlau, Principal	898-0475
Tara Heights Elementary Pat Zeimet, Principal	898-0445
Trumble Park Elementary Kellen Czaplewski, Principal	898-0466
Walnut Creek Elementary Amy Wemhoff, Principal	898-9630

Elementary Schools

Anderson Grove Elementary Scott Blum, Principal	898-0479
Bell Elementary Kathy Szczepaniak, Principal	TBA
Carriage Hill Elementary Deb Rodenburg, Principal	898-0449
G. Stanley Hall Elementary Paul Bohn, Principal	898-0455
Golden Hills Elementary Heidi Henningson, Principal	898-0459
Hickory Hill Elementary Troy Juracek, Principal	898-0469
La Vista West Elementary Lisa Wood, Principal	898-0463
Parkview Heights Elementary Pam Lowndes, Principal	898-0433
Patriot Elementary Mary Scarborough, Principal	898-0405
Portal Elementary TBA, Principal	898-0425

Notes to Remember

- If your child must bring money to school, please put it in an envelope. Write on the envelope your child's name and the purpose for which the money was sent.
- If your child will be absent or tardy, a parent/guardian must notify the school before 8:15 a.m. If this is not done, the school will contact the parent/guardian to determine the reason for the absence.
- If your child should become ill while at school, teachers will send the student to the nurse or health assistant. First aid may be given, and you will be contacted.
- If your child needs medication at school, please send a permission slip that includes a parent's signature. This permission slip may be obtained from the nurse's office. In addition, a doctor's statement must accompany any pre-prescription medication.

What Will My Child Learn To Do?

As a part of kindergarten, your child will:

- Retell and comprehend stories.
- Use own experiences to tell and write about themselves.
- Read books using pictures and words.
- Understand alphabetical principle.
- Spell words using known sounds.
- Express ideas through writing.
- Choose reading and writing activities for enjoyment.
- Develop mathematical concepts and number sense.
- Learn science and social studies through hands-on opportunities.
- And lots, lots, more!

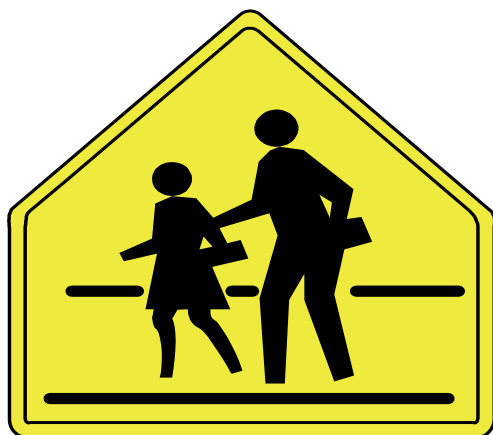


Safe Walk

The week before school starts, you and your child are encouraged to attend a *Safe Walk to School Night* specifically designed to give families the opportunity to acquaint with the safest walking route to school. Safety Patrol members are stationed at intersections near school for this special night as well as throughout the school year to help insure your child's safety. *Safe Walk* is another opportunity for you to become acquainted with the kindergarten teachers and principal.

Other goals of the *Safe Walk Night* include learning:

1. To respect traffic lights, police officers, adult crossing guards and school safety patrols.
2. To walk (not run) across the street - particularly when it is slick.
3. To cross streets only between the white crosswalk lines.
4. To use the route the parents want them to take to and from school.



Child Find Notice

The Papillion-La Vista School District has an ongoing goal of locating and identifying all children, birth through age 21, who have special needs. The district will provide any child or youth who has a disability an appropriate public education at no cost to the parents of the child. Children or youth with disabilities are those who have hearing impairments, vision impairments, behavioral disorders, both deafness and blindness, health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech and language impairments, physical disabilities, autism or traumatic brain injuries. In addition, children and youth with any disability which substantially limits a major life activity may receive modifications to allow them access to an appropriate education (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended).

The Papillion-La Vista School District requests your help in locating children and youth with disabilities who are eligible to benefit from Special Education. If you know of a child or youth who is a resident of the district who may have a disability and is not receiving needed services, please contact Mr. George Spilker, Director of Special Services, 420 S. Washington Street, Papillion, NE 68046, 537-6221. Also, if you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner, please contact the same person.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Papillion-La Vista School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, or age, in admission or access to, or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding complaints, grievance procedures or the application of the policies of nondiscrimination: **Employees:** Dr. Renee Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources, 420 S. Washington Street, Papillion, NE 68046. **Students:** Dr. Brad Conner, Director of Student Services, 420 S. Washington Street, Papillion, NE 68046, Phone: (402) 537-6214.

If parents, employees and students do not feel that their complaints regarding Title IX, Title VI, or Section 504 have met with resolution at the local level, they can appeal their grievances to the regional Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

Office for Civil Rights
8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037
Kansas City, MO 64114
816-268-0550
FAX: 816-823-1404; TDD: 800-437-0833

Important Do's and Don'ts for beginning school:

DO!

- Treat going to school like any other daily activity
- Answer questions on what children can expect - informed children are confident children
- Be honest
- Help children meet school responsibilities
- Make transportation plans clear
- Keep a normal routine at home during the first week of school
- Meet your child's teacher before school starts
- Make plans to visit your child's classroom
- Show appreciation toward your child's efforts
- Make separations quick and easy

DON'T!

- Talk about school daily during summer
- Let older children tease or scare younger children
- Give children the idea that there is a choice with school
- Try to force enthusiasm
- Think children will be the only ones anxious about school
- Use threats about school



DO ---
LOOK FORWARD
TO SCHOOL!

Self-help Skills

Self-help skills make the day go more smoothly and add confidence in the student's daily routine. Your kindergartener should be capable of dressing and using the bathroom alone. Please practice zipping, snapping, buttoning and tying. All of these accomplishments help decrease frustration and make students proud of themselves.

Students' clothing should be suitable for the weather. Boots, hat, and gloves or mittens are essential during the winter months. Please make sure the boots fit properly (over shoes if necessary). Every clothing item should be marked with your child's name or initials in case something should get lost. Also, clothing should be easy to manage with closures that are simple for young children to handle.

Other good habits the child should bring the first day (and every day) include: getting enough rest, eating a well balanced breakfast, arriving on time each day and displaying good manners.



Preparations at Home

Memory capacity varies with each child. However, if the child is able, please encourage memorization of certain facts such as the student's full name and address, important telephone numbers, and parents' full names. Babysitter or nursery school information and how the child is transported are also important items.

Parent Assistance

As a parent, you are a vital contributor to our educational system. A parent's interest and enthusiasm helps generate success during the first and following years. Every school offers an active parent/teacher group with exciting events planned annually for the students and community to enjoy. This volunteer program has added valuable hours and many great benefits to the learning process. We encourage your participation.

Open communication between the parents and teacher is critical to the success of each student. We encourage you to provide the school and your child's teacher with your email and contact information. Help start the year off right by sharing with your child's teacher information about your child and the best way to communicate with you. Teachers throughout the Papillion-La Vista School District are encouraged to communicate with parents via email, telephone, newsletters, web pages and most importantly face to face meetings. Periodic reports will be shared with you to help you monitor academic progress. Anytime you have a question or concern about your child's education, contact your child's teacher immediately. When school and home partner together, the academic gains for a child are endless.

The best way to learn about your child's school is to get involved!

School Lunch

School lunch is served in all elementary schools. Menus are published monthly in the school newsletter and on the district web site (www.paplv.esu3.org). Children may also go home for lunch or bring a sack lunch.

Carriage Hill, Golden Hills, G. Stanley Hall, and La Vista West Elementary Schools offer breakfast before each school day begins.

Meal prices will be announced at the beginning of each school year. They will also be published in the Elementary Handbook.

If you have any questions about our lunch program, call the school office or contact the Director of Food Service, 537-6250.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call 800-795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Get Involved in School!

