

Kindergarten Preview



Naperville 2013
Community Unit School District 

2022-2023



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Welcome to Kindergarten!

Kindergarten is a special time during which children are introduced to new ideas, new skills, and new friendships. It is our hope that this information, along with your first opportunities to meet your child's teacher, school principal and staff, will help you and your child as you begin this new and exciting chapter in your family's life.

All Naperville 203 schools offer an all-day kindergarten program. As the name suggests, all-day kindergarten is a full day of learning for kindergartners that is responsive to their need for content learning, critical thinking, curiosity and discovery, independence, social interaction, and movement.

Naperville 203 also offers a half-day program to all kindergarten students as required by the school code. Every student, whether in a full or half-day program, will work toward the same standards. You will be asked to indicate your kindergarten program choice (half or full day) at the time you enroll your child.

A special meeting for kindergarten families, called Kindergarten Preview, is held at your school each year. This meeting is designed to help you become better acquainted with the kindergarten program and the school.

When school begins in August, you will have more opportunities to get to know your school community and your child's teacher. Look for specific information about these events as August approaches.

As your child embarks on the first day of kindergarten, be assured that our teachers have a special understanding of how young children learn. While firsts can be exciting, they can also cause some concern, especially for young children. Your child's teacher has planned for an engaging and student-centered transition to kindergarten, designed to calm any worries your child(ren) might have.

We warmly welcome your child and your family to kindergarten and to our learning community.

Age, Residency and Enrollment Requirements

Families enrolling Kindergarten students in Naperville 203 for the 2022-2023 school year are asked to enroll their student through our online enrollment application.

Age Requirements

Children who are residents of Naperville 203 and who have attained the age of 5 years on or before September 1 of the year of enrollment are eligible to attend kindergarten at the school assigned to their residence (their home school).

Students moving into the district who have been attending kindergarten in a public school in another state are also enrolled in Naperville 203 provided their fifth birthday meets the kindergarten admission guidelines of their former state of residence.

Enrollment Requirements

- Original (or certified copy) birth certificate
- Health exam and required immunizations, eye and dental exams
- Proof of Residency (see below)
- Parenting Agreement (if applicable)

The documents above must be brought, in person, to the Naperville 203 Centralized Enrollment Office after you have completed the online enrollment application.

Please visit our website at www.Naperville203.org/Enrollment or call our Centralized Enrollment Office at (630) 548-4320 for more information.

Age, Residency and Enrollment Requirements



In accordance with the Illinois School Code:

- The District must offer a half-day program to all students. During the online enrollment process, parents will be asked to indicate their preference.
- Parents of all new students must complete Home Language Survey questions during the online enrollment process. After a review of the Home Language Survey responses, an assessment of English language proficiency is conducted for students as appropriate. English Language Learning Services are offered to eligible students as determined by the results of the English language proficiency assessment.

Notes

Other Requirements to Complete Enrollment

Health Requirements

Naperville 203 complies with the mandates of the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois School Code. Documentation specified should be completed by a health care professional. All forms are available on the Naperville 203 website: <http://www.naperville203.org/Page/2384>. The following examinations and immunizations are required for students enrolling in kindergarten:

Physical Examination and Immunization Record

Documentation needed: State of Illinois Certificate of Child Health Examination (available on District 203 website).

A physical examination is required for kindergarten entrance, and/or when transferring from an out of state school. The health history portion of the physical examination form must be completed and signed by the parent in order for the physical to be valid. The exam must be dated within one year prior to the date the student enters school.

Required immunizations: Diphtheria, Hepatitis B (given at the appropriate intervals), Measles, Mumps, Pertussis, Polio, Rubella, Tetanus, Varicella (Chicken Pox). Additional information can be found [here](#).

All physical exam and immunization requirements should be fulfilled prior to the first day of school. Due to State of Illinois regulations, please keep in mind that any missing requirements will result in your child being excluded from school on October 15th.

If you need a referral to find a physician or financial assistance to obtain your child's exam, please contact your school's Health Office for assistance.

Other Requirements to Complete Enrollment

Vision Examination

Documentation needed: State of Illinois Eye Examination Report.

An eye examination is required for all students entering kindergarten or entering school for the first time from out of state. The eye examination requirements should be fulfilled prior to the first day of school.

Oral Health (Dental) Examination

Documentation needed: Illinois Department of Public Health Proof of School Dental Examination Form.

A dental exam is required by May 15 of the kindergarten year but maybe returned before that date.

- If you need a referral to find a dentist or financial assistance to obtain your child's exam, please contact your school's Health Office for assistance from the nurse.
- The exam must have been performed any time within an 18-month period prior to the due date.



Transportation



Vehicles used by Naperville 203 meet all federal and state safety standards.

Any bus driver hired by Naperville 203 must meet all required federal and state standards for licensing.

Naperville 203 provides free bus transportation to students who reside 1.5 miles or more from their assigned schools. The District also provides transportation to students who live within 1.5 miles of the assigned schools, but for whom walking would constitute a serious hazard as determined by I.D.O.T. standards.

In establishing or revising the routes, the pickup and drop-off points will be as safe and convenient for students as possible. District bus schedules will be distributed to parents by the Transportation Department through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal prior to the beginning of each school year.

Our Transportation Department would like to stress the importance of your presence (or the presence of another responsible adult) at the bus stop when children are picked up and dropped off for school. If there is not an adult present at drop-off time, kindergarteners will be returned to school for their safety. Parents will be called to pick up their child.

Please refer to <http://www.naperville203.org/transportationdept> for additional information.

Kindergarten Start and End Times

All Naperville 203 schools offer an all-day kindergarten program. As the name suggests, all-day kindergarten is a full day of learning for kindergartners that is responsive to their need for content learning, critical thinking, curiosity and discovery, independence, social interaction, and movement.

The District also offers a half-day program to all kindergarten students as required by the school code. Every student, whether in a full or half-day program, will work toward the same standards. You will be asked to indicate your kindergarten program choice (half or full day) at the time you enroll your child.

All-day kindergarten begins at 8:15 a.m. and dismissal time is 2:30 p.m.

Half-day kindergarten is approximately 2.5 hours and the building principal determines the start and end times.



Kindergarten Readiness

Suggestions for Helping Children Prepare for Success in School



Build your child's confidence

- Offer encouragement when you notice new skills that may be difficult for your child to master.
- Praise your child for repeated attempts to acquire new skills.
- Acknowledge improvements no matter how minor they seem.

Talk with your child

- Children need many opportunities to improve their speaking and listening skills.
- Listen to and respond to your child's ideas, opinions, and experiences.
- All experiences provide opportunities to build new vocabulary. For example, preparing dinner together, trips to the pet, grocery, or hardware store, or time exploring a forest preserve can lead to engaging conversation and new vocabulary.



Kindergarten Readiness



Help your child develop fine motor skills

- Encourage the use of art supplies and writing tools like pencils, markers, pens, sidewalk chalk, paint brushes, tape, glue, and scissors.
- Provide tools and toys that operate by squeezing such as hole punches, bottles, tongs, squirt toys, and squeeze balls.
- Suggest playing with toys that have connecting pieces such as Legos and puzzles.
- Encourage projects that use a variety of “found treasures.”

Build a love of books

- Read stories to your child.
- Ask questions as you read together. For example, you might ask, “What do you think will happen next?” “Why did the children go into the house?”
- Choose reading as a leisure time activity to show that you consider reading important and enjoyable.
- Visit the local library regularly.



Kindergarten Readiness



Build your child's social skills

- Encourage group activities that involve taking turns, following instructions, listening attentively to others, and negotiating conflict. Games played in small groups with family and/or friends are recommended.
- Encourage your child to help put toys away. This develops an understanding of sorting and classifying. For example, all animals go in the animal basket and all blocks go into the block bin.

Build mathematical thinking

- Count as you go about your daily routines. For example, count stairs or steps on the way to the child's bedroom; count plates, cups, silverware, etc. as you prepare for a meal; count the number of game pieces in a favorite game.
- Sort and classify everyday items such as silverware, laundry and toys.
- Play dice games, card games and board games. These games help children develop number sense and number recognition.
- Help your child to notice numbers around him or her.



Kindergarten Readiness

Before School Opens

Your child will feel more confident and independent if he or she can do the following:

- Recite full name and telephone number.
- Take coat on and off without assistance.
- Manage clothing such as buttons, zippers and fasteners independently.
- Use the toilet independently, including flushing and refastening clothes.
- Wash hands with soap and use tissues properly.
- Be a polite listener when someone else is talking.
- Show respect for other classmates and adults.
- Share and play with others and put away toys and materials when finished.

Notes

Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

All-day kindergarten is an expanded day of learning for kindergartners that is responsive to their need for content learning, critical thinking, curiosity and discovery, independence, social interaction, and movement.

The increased number of instructional minutes that kindergartners will receive in a full school day provides more learning time as children continue to build a foundation for cognitive development, acquisition of literary and mathematical content, social skills, critical thinking, and independence.

In accordance with the Illinois School Code, the district must offer a half-day program to all students. Every student will be working toward the same standards regardless of their program and the half-day program will continue to be a quality learning experience for all students.



Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

Literacy

Literacy is the ability to construct meaning and manipulate the language for a variety of purposes through reading, writing, and speaking and listening.

Literacy skills are taught in kindergarten through a balanced approach. The program provides students with a secure foundation to ensure that they emerge as readers and writers. Children are encouraged to demonstrate reading ability when it is developmentally appropriate. Methods of instruction include: read aloud, shared reading, interactive reading and independent reading. Children will construct and convey meaning supported by a variety of materials and programs.

Students will learn to:

- Demonstrate phonemic awareness
- Recognize upper and lower case letters of the alphabet
- Produce appropriate sounds when shown letters of the alphabet
- Use knowledge of letter sounds to decode simple words
- Develop concept of words by tracking print and identifying words in familiar text
- Read and track familiar text
- Demonstrate understanding of stories and respond to simple questions
- Read high frequency sight words
- Make predictions based on illustrations or story text
- Read grade level text with independence



Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

Writing

All kindergarten students engage in various writing settings. Methods of writing instruction include: modeled writing, collaborative writing, shared writing, guided writing, and independent writing.

Students will learn to:

- Write through illustrations, class books, written response, writing workshop
- Apply sound-letter knowledge in written communication
- Write text that is related to a created picture
- Recognize and read their own writing
- Develop an understanding of the writing process
- Use appropriate kindergarten conventions: spacing, appropriate capitalization and end marks
- Write words based on letter sounds using initial consonants, some medial sounds, and ending sounds



Speaking

Students will learn to:

- Express ideas, thoughts and feelings orally
- Contribute appropriately and meaningfully to group discussions
- Engage in speaking during appropriate times
- Respond orally and appropriately to questions in various settings

Listening

Students will learn to:

- Actively engage as a listener
- Face the speaker and make eye contact while listening
- Listen and demonstrate understanding of the story
- Follow multi step oral directions

Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

Math

Mathematics is a universal language that allows us to make sense of our world. In order to develop and enrich student understanding of mathematics, kindergarten students will have opportunities to experience the utility, power, and beauty of mathematics as they become proficient in using and applying fundamental mathematical concepts.



The kindergarten math curriculum includes units of study in:

Number and Operation

Students will learn to:

- Know number names and count sequence
- Count to tell number of objects
- Compare numbers
- Understand concepts of addition/subtraction
- Work with numbers to gain base 10 foundations for place value

Algebra

Students will learn to:

- Explore patterns
- Use concrete models to solve problems
- Solve addition and subtraction word problems within ten

Geometry

Students will learn to:

- Use geometry to deepen their sense of numeracy
- Identify and describe 2D and 3D shapes
- Analyze, compare, and compose shapes

Measurement

Students will learn to:

- Describe and compare measurable attributes
- Sort objects into given categories
- Understand comparative terms

Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

Science

Young children are naturally curious about their surroundings. Science learning in kindergarten is designed to spark that curiosity and provide opportunities for students to ask questions, develop and use models, and construct explanations in order to make sense of the world around them. Students will engage in a variety of explorations and hands-on investigations where they will observe patterns, cause and effect relationships, and understand the concept of a system.

Science learning in kindergarten will help students formulate answers to questions such as:

- "What is the weather like today and how is it different from yesterday?"
- "What happens if you push or pull an object harder?"
- "Where do animals live and why do they live there?"

The science curriculum units of study consist of the following:

Weather

Students will develop an understanding of patterns and variations in local weather and the purpose of weather forecasting to prepare for, and respond to, severe weather.

Forces and Motion: Pushes and Pulls

Students will apply an understanding of the effects of different strengths or different directions of pushes and pulls on the motion of an object to analyze a design solution.

Plants, Animals, & Their Environments

Students will develop an understanding of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive and the relationship between their needs and where they live.

Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

Social Science Inquiry

Students will engage in learning about history, civics, geography and economics through inquiry-based learning. The theme for kindergarten is "Me and My World." Each unit has a compelling question that students can relate to and answer as a result of the learning that takes place.



Students will explore relationships that they have with their families, friends, teachers, and neighbors. Students learn that people live differently, and that they can help care for the world. Learning takes place in four units:

HISTORY

What would my life have been like long ago?

Students will explore why they are special. They will discover what a family is and the different traditions that exists.

CIVICS

How can I help a new student at school?

Students will learn how to get along with others, how to make friends and explore how to solve problems.

GEOGRAPHY

Where is my place in the world?

Students will learn how to use map keys to find places in their neighborhood. They will explore where they live and be able to identify different places around the world.

ECONOMICS

How can I meet my needs while taking care of our world?

Students will learn how to shop for items, and explore ways to protect the Earth and find out how to meet their needs.

Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

Visual Arts

Visual art and music are essential to human development. Through inquiry into the origins and traditions of art and music, students become more literate. They learn about concepts, cultural traditions, historical perspectives and the progress of civilizations which enrich their experiences and shape their understanding of the world.



Technology

Kindergarten students learn with, from and about technology in an engaged, educationally focused environment. Kindergartners have opportunities to work with iPads, computers and other technologies in a way that transforms learning and impacts the manner in which they learn.

Kindergarten Curriculum Overview



Physical Education

Physical education will provide every student with a variety of challenges that will contribute to the development and maintenance of their physical, cognitive, and affective well-being. Students will be provided with the foundation for making informed decisions that will empower them to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Physical Education is a lifelong process, which is the primary responsibility of the student, shared by home, district and community.

Notes

Dual Language Program

Naperville 203 offers opportunities for students to participate in the Dual Language program.

Please see the District website for more specific information regarding Dual Language - <http://www.naperville203.org/duallanguage>.

Parents interested in enrolling their children in the Dual Language Program will be asked to submit their names to a lottery. Students must be fully enrolled before the date of the lottery in order to be included in the lottery.

The goal of the Dual Language Program is for students to develop bilingualism and biliteracy (read, think, write and speak) in both English and Spanish. In the Dual Language classroom, approximately half of the students have Spanish as their home language while half have English as their home language.

Once the students begin in the Dual Language program, they will continue to move through the elementary grade levels with the same group of students. In each classroom, students receive literacy instruction in both English and Spanish.

Other curricular areas are taught in either English or Spanish, according to the language allocation plan. All students are taught using the curriculum objectives designed by Naperville School District 203 which is aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards.

English Learners (EL)

Naperville 203 values students' diverse backgrounds and their unique contributions to the learning community. In order to empower learners who are meeting the challenges of a new language and culture, Naperville 203 will support English Learners (EL) as they develop social, cultural, and academic competence by creating a supportive learning environment.

Upon enrollment in Naperville 203, parents of kindergarten students must complete a Home Language Survey. An assessment of English language proficiency will be conducted for students as appropriate after a review of the Home Language Survey. EL services are provided for eligible kindergarten students as determined by the English language proficiency assessment.

Transition of Services from Early Childhood

If your child received special education services in the Naperville 203 Early Childhood program, the staff will work with you and the school to facilitate the transition to the appropriate kindergarten setting.

If your child received services in an educational setting outside of this District, Naperville 203 staff will work with that school to transition your child to the appropriate kindergarten setting.



Support Services

Speech/Language Service

Many speech sounds and language structures are acquired during kindergarten; some will develop during first, second or even third grade. Please talk to your child's teacher if you have concerns.

Referral Process

When a teacher or parent has concerns about a child's academic or social-emotional progress a referral may be made to the Instructional Support Team (IST). The general education teacher, parents, and specialists in a building will collaborate to identify and develop a plan to support the child. If anyone, school staff or parent, suspects a child has a disability, the child should be referred for a special education evaluation. Parents may make a referral by submitting a letter to the building principal outlining their concerns.

Notes

Getting Involved

Communication

Communication between home and school is essential to your child's successful transition to and continued progress in kindergarten. Your child's teacher will share suggestions for effective ways for you to communicate with him or her and the methods he or she will use to communicate with you.

Naperville 203 Website

The District Website is a rich source of information about the District. You will also find a link to your school's website. Please visit both sites to learn the most up to date information.



Talk203

Talk203, powered by Blackboard Mass Notification, is a service provided by the District to keep the community informed. Regular updates concerning a wide range of topics are sent directly to you via email. In the event of a school or District weather or other emergency, you will receive a special Talk203 phone and email message. The District uses the email and phone numbers you provide when you register your student. Please inform your school office whenever this contact information changes.

Getting Involved

Let's Talk!

At Naperville 203, we are committed to engaging in meaningful two-way conversations with our community. Parents, students, staff and community members are invited to send in their questions, concerns, suggestions, and/or compliments via our two-way engagement platform Let's Talk. Once someone clicks on a topic and submits via Let's Talk, the District employee who can best address your question or comment will be notified. To learn more, please visit www.naperville203.org/letstalk.



Parent Involvement

There are many opportunities for you to become involved in your child's school. While they vary between buildings, all schools invite parents to attend events and volunteer. Your child's teacher will share a wide range of opportunities for parent involvement with you.

All parents belong to the Home & School Association, a parent group similar to the PTA.

The mission of the Home & School Association is to encourage and facilitate a cooperative partnership among our students, parents, District staff and administration to support and enhance the school experience of each student. Home & School initiates and/or supports various programs through the donation of time and sponsorship from its District school population and community members.

Additional Naperville 203 Volunteer Groups

- School Family Community Partnership (SFCP)
- Business Partnerships
- Naperville Education Foundation (NEF)
- HURRAH (Happy, Upbeat, Retirees and Other Residents Actively Helping)

What If?

WHAT IF my child can't come to school today?

When a child is too ill to attend school or can't attend school for another reason, the parent must call the school health office and report the child's absence each day the child remains home. The parent is asked to state the child's name, his/her teacher, the date of the absence and the reason for the absence.

WHAT IF my child is ill at school?

The student will be sent or taken to the health office. The nurse or health technician will assess the problem and call you if the child is too ill to remain in school.

WHAT IF my child has a fever at school?

A temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit is considered a fever. This is the point at which a child cannot remain in school and will be sent home. Normally, children must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school, unless there is a recommendation from the County Health Department that students with certain illnesses remain home longer.

WHAT IF my child is sick and does not have a fever?

There are times that a child is ill and he/she does not run a fever. Undiagnosed rashes, continued vomiting, persistent diarrhea, "pink eye," and cold symptoms serious enough to interfere with learning are examples of health concerns that may not be accompanied by a fever. These symptoms should be evaluated by a physician OR your child should be kept home until he/she is symptom free. If you are unsure whether or not to send your child to school, call or visit your child's physician.

What If?

WHAT IF I am not home when my child is ill?

Should your child become ill at school, every effort will be made to reach a parent at home or at work. In the event that both parents are unavailable, one of the authorized individuals listed as your local emergency contacts will be called to pick up your child. Please be aware your child will only be released to a parent or persons you have designated as authorized by you to pick him or her up. It is your responsibility to let others know you have indicated them as emergency contacts for your family. If we are unable to contact anyone, the child will remain at school until we reach you or it is time to go home.

WHAT IF my child has a medical emergency at school and I am not home?

We will provide emergency first aid, call 911 and transport your child to the nearest emergency room. We will contact you and the emergency numbers you provided to us if we cannot reach you. Please remember to update your emergency contacts if they change and to alert your teacher if you have travel plans that will make it difficult for you to be reached.

Naperville 203 Mission

The Mission of Naperville 203 is to produce students who are:

- Self-Directed Learners
- Collaborative Workers
- Complex Thinkers
- Quality Producers
- Community Contributors

Naperville 203 Vision

Building a Passion for Lifelong Learning

Naperville 203 Beliefs

Naperville Community Unit School District 203 believes an exemplary school district...

- Values the dignity and uniqueness of each individual
- Promotes responsible citizenship
- Is the result of a collective partnership of students, staff, parents and community

Kindergarten To Do List

- Complete Online Application
- Make appointment with Centralized Enrollment
- Original (or certified copy) birth certificate
- Health exam and immunizations
- Eye exam
- Dental exam
- Proof of residency
- Parenting agreement (if applicable)
- Review Kindergarten Readiness
- Plan on attending Kindergarten Preview
- Get excited about kindergarten!

Contact Information

Ann Reid Early Childhood Center	630-420-6899
Beebe Elementary School	630-420-6332
Ellsworth Elementary School	630-420-6338
Elmwood Elementary School	630-420-6341
Highlands Elementary School	630-420-6335
Kingsley Elementary School	630-420-3208
Maplebrook Elementary School	630-420-6381
Meadow Glens Elementary School	630-420-3200
Mill Street Elementary School	630-420-6353
Naper Elementary School	630-420-6345
Prairie Elementary School	630-420-6348
Ranch View Elementary School	630-420-6575
River Woods Elementary School	630-420-6630
Scott Elementary School	630-420-6477
Steeple Run Elementary School	630-420-6385
Jefferson Junior High School	630-420-6363
Kennedy Junior High School	630-420-3220
Lincoln Junior High School	630-420-6370
Madison Junior High School	630-420-6400
Washington Junior High School	630-420-6390
Naperville Central High School	630-420-6420
Naperville North High School	630-420-6480
Naperville 203 Administrative Center	630-420-6300
Centralized Enrollment	630-548-4320

Naperville 2013

Community Unit School District

