

Kindergarten Preview

March 17, 2025



Naperville 203
Community Unit School District

Welcome!

Principal Thurman



Naperville 203
Community Unit School District



Outcomes

- To provide information about our kindergarten program
- To provide parents and guardians an opportunity to ask questions related to our kindergarten program and school

Naperville 203
Community Unit School District

What does our kindergarten program offer?

- skilled teachers prepared to meet the needs of young students
- Excellent curriculum and resources
- Multiple opportunities to learn and grow
- A developmentally appropriate learning environment
- All Day Kindergarten
(8:15am-2:30pm)



We Are the Mustangs!



Naperville 2023
Community Unit School District

Home & School

Co-Presidents: Julianne Fox & Angela Rose Garcia

Co-Vice Presidents: Sabrina Corson & Krystel Marshall

Treasurer: Carol Cantor

Secretary: Caroline Connell



Naperville 2023
Community Unit School District

Mill Street Home & School

As a parent or guardian of a Mill Street Elementary student, you are automatically a member of the Mill Street Home & School Association (H&S).

What is H&S ?

A connection. As parents of Mill Street students, we encourage & facilitate a cooperative partnership among our students, parents/guardians, and school staff and administration to support and enhance the school experience of each student.

H&S is our school's version of a PTO or PTA, except there are no dues -- just an open invitation to stay informed and get involved at whatever level you can.

Our Home & School mission is to promote closer cooperation & communication between school and home for the education of our students.

Volunteer Programs & Fundraising

Home & School
Mill Street Elementary School

YOUR SUPPORT HELPS US...

- Enhance Student Experiences
 - Field Trips
 - Mustang Stampede (Field Day)
 - 5th Grade Outdoor Ed & Celebration
 - Publishing Center
 - Book Fair, Author Visits & Assemblies
 - Kindness Week & Red Ribbon Week
 - Run Club & Science Club
 - Movie Nights
 - School Supply Kits & School Store
- Provide Student and Staff Support
 - Hospitality & Appreciation
 - Mill Street Cares Program
 - Teacher Allowances & Gift Card Program
- Communicate and Collaborate
 - Directory Spot
 - Mustang Minute Newsletter
 - Social Media
 - Volunteer Opportunities
 - Yearbook

CONTACT US

Home & School Presidents
Millstreethands@gmail.com
Millstreethands@gmail.com

The Office of Community Relations
203 West Illinois Road
Naperville, IL 60540
(630) 520-5475
naperville203.org

Home & School is an official 501(c)(3) registered with the IRS.

Naperville 203
Community Unit School District

GET INVOLVED

Join us to support the students and schools in our community by contacting us!

VOLUNTEER!

Please email us at
Millstreethands@gmail.com

OUR MISSION

Naperville 203 Community Unit School District

- To produce students who are:
- Self-Directed Learners
 - Collaborative Worker
 - Complex Thinkers
 - Quality Producers
 - Community Contributors

Naperville 203 Home & School Association

- Encourage a cooperative partnership among our students, parents/guardians, District staff, and administration
- Support and enhance the school experience of each student
- Initiate and/or support various programs through the donation of time and sponsorship for the District 203 school population and community members
- Remain constantly fluid to meet the ever-changing needs of our diverse student population

DONATIONS

Direct dollar contributions and in-kind donations are pooled to support a myriad of programs, services and special purchases that tax dollars could not otherwise provide. Over the years, MILLIONS in tax-deductible donations have been given and allocated through H&S.

DID YOU KNOW?



Naperville 203's system of H&S was formed during the Great Depression. Parents in the community wished to keep resources local and focused on initiatives aimed at helping Naperville students and staff. An executive board now provides support and oversight to all the individual H&S divisions.

- H&S currently operates 35 committees.
- We host 4 Home & School General Meetings per year.
- We'd love for you to get involved!



Mill Street Communications

Type	Frequency
Talk 203 Mustang Minutes	Weekly via email each Monday morning
Principal Parent Newsletter	Monthly from Ms. Thurman
Canvas Classroom Sites	Ongoing from teachers
Mill Street School Website	www.naperville203.org/millstreet
Virtual Backpack	Weekly via email from District
www.cheddarup.com Email and website link	As needed to fill volunteer opportunities in each grade level as well as a sign-up for before school activities

Home & School	
	@MillStreetElementary
	@MillStreeHome&School

Mill Street Communications

Mustang Minute

Week of February 27, 2023

Welcome to the Mustang Minute!

The Mustang Minute is a weekly newsletter brought to you by Home & School (H&S).

As parents of Mill Street Students, we encourage and facilitate a cooperative partnership among our students, parents/guardians, and school staff and administration to support and enhance the school experience of each student. H&S is our school's version of a PTO or PTA, except there are no dues—just an open invitation to stay informed and get involved at whatever level you can.

If you have any questions, or would like more information on how to get involved, please email us at millstreeths@gmail.com.



This Week at a Glance:

Tuesday, February 28th -

- School Store, 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.
- Registration Opens for Mustang Dance Fit

Thursday, March 2nd -

- No School for Current Kindergarten Students

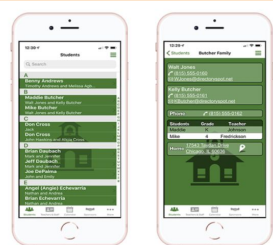
• Kindergarten Preview

- Families with the last name A-L will be from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
- Families with the last name M-Z will be from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Friday, March 3rd-

- No School, County Institute Day

Directory Spot Mill Street's Online Directory



Student Info

DirectorySpot is populated with parent names, emails, and phone numbers, a home phone and address, and student names, grades, and teacher assignments when applicable.

Parent Info

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Cheddar Up Mill Street's Payment Platform



Mill Street Home & School

<https://www.naperville203.org/Domain/15>

Incoming Kindergarten Students



Kindergarten Preview
(2024/2025)

Opens 03/11/24



Popsicles on the Playground
(August 2024)

Opens 03/11/24

Mill Street H&S Programs



2024, MILL STREET SCHOOL
SPRING PLANT SALE

Active



Service Club 2023/24

Active



Mustang Spirit Wear
(Immediate Availability)

Active

Important Details

- School Supply Kits
 - ◆ Ordering available today through June 22nd via **School Tool Box**
 - ◆ All supplies are delivered directly to Mill Street and will be in your child's classroom on the 1st day of school.
- Available for purchase today:
 - ◆ Kindergarten Red Tote Bag + headphone bundle \$20 (Required)
 - ◆ Class of 2031 Kindergarten T-shirts (\$13) & Mill Street T-shirts (\$13)
- Save the Date!
 - ◆ **Kindergarten Popsicles on the Playground**
 - Friday, August 8th @ 1 pm
 - ◆ **New Family Tours**
 - Friday, August 8th @ 9 am
 - ◆ **Back-to-School Ice Cream Social and Teacher Meet & Greet**
 - Tuesday, August 12th in the afternoon
 - ◆ **New Family Coffee**
 - Friday, August 22nd @ 8:30 am



How do I enroll my child?

- Visit Naperville203.org/Kindergarten
- Click on Enrollment Intake form
- Complete and submit the form
- You will receive an email with next steps (within 48 hours)

Welcome Class of 2031!

Kindergarten Enrollment for 2025-2026 is NOW OPEN!

To enroll a new student, complete the [Enrollment Intake Form](#).

Enrollment in kindergarten for the 2025-2026 school year, a student must turn 5 years old on or before September 1, 2025. On March 17, all District 203 elementary schools will hold **Kindergarten Preview**. At this special event, you and your child will meet the school's administrators, the kindergarten teachers, other school personnel, and representatives of parent organizations. While your child remains in the classroom and enjoys a sample of the kindergarten experience, school personnel will meet with you and other parents to share information about the kindergarten program. Due to the nature of this meeting, we respectfully ask that you make childcare arrangements for your younger children during this event.

Important Dates:

- February 1: Kindergarten enrollment begins
- February 3: Dual Language Information Night at Naperville North High School from 6-7 p.m.
- March 17: Kindergarten Preview. Please contact your school directly for specific information.
- March 21: For participation in the Dual Language Lottery your student's Kindergarten enrollment must be completed by Friday, March 21st. Enrollment must be COMPLETE to be considered for the Dual Language lottery. Complete means that you have turned in all the paperwork and received an enrollment confirmation.
- April 11: Dual Language Lottery results will be emailed.

For general questions, please call our Centralized Enrollment Office at (630) 548-4320.

If you need additional assistance, contact Maureen Dvorak, School Services Manager at mdvorak@naperville203.org or (630) 420-6446.

In addition to our daily hours - Monday thru Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm, we will be open and accepting appointments for enrollments on the following dates:

Wednesday, February 19th - 4:00 - 7:30pm
 Saturday, March 1st - 8:00am - 12:00 noon
 Tuesday, March 4th - 4:00 - 7:30pm
 Saturday, March 15th - 8:00am - 12:00 noon

Appointments can be made through
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/d203centralizedenrollment>





What is required before I enroll?

- Children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2025
- All students-verify residency through the **online enrollment** process

Naperville 203
Community Unit School District



May I choose half day?

Yes-Families may choose half day.

Program specifics:

- Attend at your home school as part of the full day class
- Begin school at 8:15; dismiss at approximately 10:45
- Participate in instruction scheduled during those hours

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What do kindergarten specials look like?

Art...once per week
(50 minutes)

Music ...twice per week
(25 minutes)


P.E....twice per week
(25 minutes)



Eligibility for Bus Transportation



- The District provides bussing for all families who live 1.5 miles or more from their home school.
- In some special circumstances, families who cross streets designated as hazardous are also provided bussing.



What would my child experience in Spanish Dual Language?

The philosophy of the Naperville School District Dual Language Program is to educate our students to become bilingual, bi-literate, and multicultural in this ever increasing global society.

In addition to the components of the all day model, Dual Language students will experience:

- Literacy and content (Math, Science, Social Studies) learning in two languages throughout the whole day using the same curriculum as the general education classes. (In Kindergarten, 80% of instruction is conducted in Spanish with built-in language support for students who are learning Spanish as an additional language.)
- Opportunities to learn about the cultures of the Spanish and English-speaking worlds.



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How can I enroll my child in Dual Language?



Available at our school or in the magnet program:

- Enroll your child in Kindergarten by **Friday, March 21, 2025** to be entered in the lottery
- Mark that you want your child to be considered for the Dual Language program on the enrollment form
- Lottery results will be emailed on April 11, 2025
- Younger siblings of current Dual Language students are given priority enrollment (**they must be fully enrolled by March 21, 2025 as well**)
- Classroom Makeup: Approximately 50% students who speak English or other languages at home and 50% students who speak Spanish at home



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Dual Language Sites

Sites for students from attendance area only:

Beebe Mill Street Elmwood Steeple Run

Magnet sites for all others who wish to participate in
the Dual Language Program: **River Woods**

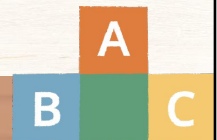


Lottery application deadline is Friday, March 21, 2025

Want to learn more ?

Visit the district website www.naperville203.org

(Academics-->Dual-Language-->Kindergarten Information)



Naperville 203
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Meet our Kindergarten Team



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How to Prepare for a Smooth Transition

- Build confidence
- Build independence
- Build stamina
- Taking risks
- Promote self-regulation skills

KINDERGARTEN LIFE SKILLS CHECKLIST

BATHROOM SKILLS

- ☐ Flush the toilet
- ☐ Use a urinal without pulling your pants all the way down
- ☐ Wipe yourself
- ☐ Shutting and locking a bathroom stall door
- ☐ Undo clothing

EATING LUNCH

- ☐ Open a milk carton
- ☐ Open string cheeses
- ☐ Open every item in their lunchbox independently
- ☐ Clean up at the end of lunch
- ☐ What to throw away vs what to keep (disposable vs reusable)
- ☐ Know if they brought a lunchbox that day
- ☐ How to put their lunchbox in their backpack
- ☐ Know what their lunchbox looks like

CLOTHING

- ☐ Zip, button, snap, tie
- ☐ Put on a jacket
- ☐ Fasten their belt
- ☐ Tie shoes
- ☐ Understand that they must keep their clothes on at school

FAMILY INFO

- ☐ Their first and last name
- ☐ Their parents first and last name
- ☐ Caretakers phone number

CLASSROOM 101

- ☐ Sit in a chair
- ☐ How to follow a 2-step direction
- ☐ Sit quietly and listen to a story
- ☐ Keep hands to themselves
- ☐ How to do NON-PREFERRED tasks
- ☐ Pack their backpack independently
- ☐ Positional words
- ☐ Blow their nose

MOTOR SKILLS

- ☐ hold a pencil
- ☐ use crayons
- ☐ hold scissors
- ☐ roll play dough

SOCIAL SKILLS

- ☐ Respectfully answer an adult
- ☐ Respond when their name is called
- ☐ How to wait their turn
- ☐ How to gracefully lose
- ☐ Be kind to one another
- ☐ Tattling vs telling

© Maria Weiss Pajamas



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Building a Love of Literacy and Math

Literacy

- Write their first name and know some letters and sounds
- Read aloud to your child and talk about books
- Share your love of reading
- Recognize print in the environment
- Encourage storytelling and story writing using pictures

Math

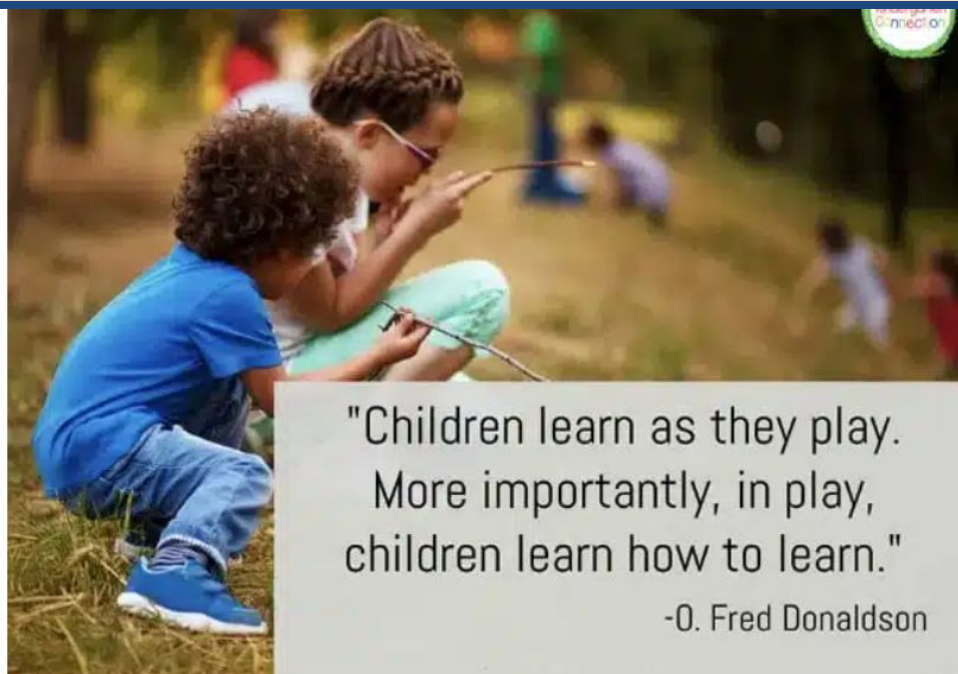
- Count and recognize numbers
- Play games that involve numbers and counting
- Sort objects by size, shape and color
- Look for patterns in everyday objects
- Create sets of objects

Play to Learn

A program that...

- is grounded in research and best practices.
- engages the whole child.
- integrates social emotional learning and academic content.
- guides and differentiates using the learning standards.
- allows for the authentic application of skills through play.

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"Children learn as they play.
More importantly, in play,
children learn how to learn."

-O. Fred Donaldson

Play to Learn



Play to Learn



Play to Learn



Play to Learn



deep thoughtful
conversations



Play to Learn



A Kindergarten Day

Typical
Kindergarten
Morning



Arrival & SEL Play
Reading Direct Instruction
Literacy/Social Science Play
Word Study Direct Instruction
Snack & Read Aloud
AM Recess
Writing Direct Instruction
Literacy Play

Typical
Kindergarten
Afternoon



Lunch & Recess
Math Direct Instruction
Specials- Music, PE, LC or Art
Math Play
Debrief of Day & Dismissal

Kindergarten Lunch



At lunch, kindergarteners...

- Have a 40 min. lunch/recess period
- May bring lunch or purchase lunch
- Will eat in the MPR with support from staff
- Accommodations are made for students with food allergies

Helping your student prepare for eating lunch at school:

- Students should be able to eat within the allotted time.
- Students should be independent in eating and managing containers. (Staff will provide support in opening containers as needed.)

Breakfast is also provided for those who opt for that meal.

- Information about menus and purchasing school meals will come via email.

Getting to and from school



Bussing - Enter the back of the building

- Provided for families who live 1.5 miles or more from their home school
- Bus stop locations & Information available on Infinite Campus as of Aug 13

Day Care Transportation - Enter the back of the building

- Provided by various businesses

Walking or Carpool Drop Off - Enter the front of the building

- Students can be designated as walkers and must be escorted to and from school by an adult
- Students can also be driven to school and dropped off in the front of the building

Arrival Procedures

AM Carpool

- Parent remains in the car - we have staff to assist in the carpool lane
- Your child should sit behind the passenger for easy access to exit the car
- No cell phone use in the carpool lane

Day 1 & 2 of school

- All Kindergarten students meet in the MPR
- Teachers will meet students in the MPR and walk them to the classroom
- Ensure your child knows their teacher's name

Arrival after day 2

- Students enter the building after 8:00 AM either in the front of the building (carpool & walkers) or the back of the building (bus riders)

Late arrival - After 8:15 AM

- Must be signed in by an adult in the main office

Kindergarten Red Tote

Why?

- Safety-identify k-students
- Packing and unpacking ease
- Used for winter gear
- Can be personalized



Dismissal Procedures

- Dismissal time for Kindergarten and 1st grade students is at 2:25 PM
- Kindergarten teachers and other staff will escort students either to the buses, Champions after school care or the front for carpool and parent pickup for walkers
- Teachers will provide tags for student bags to indicate their method of transportation
- All changes in transportation must be made in writing (email or note) or via phone call to the office no later than 2:00 PM

Carpool Pickup - Front of the building

- Have your child's name displayed in your front windshield to assist with locating students
- Pull as far forward as you possibly can. We will bring your child to you :)

Welcome from the Health Office

Certified School Nurse

Holds professional educator license endorsed in school nursing in Illinois

- *Promotes the physical, mental, emotional and social well being of students by providing comprehensive school health services.*

Health Technician

CPR and first aid certified

- Works under the direction of the School Nurse; provides first aid treatment, including emergency care.



Health Requirements: Physical Exam

- All physical exam and immunization requirements should be fulfilled prior to the first day of school.
- Exam must be performed within 1 year prior to the first day of school.
- May be completed by licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant.
- Health history portion must be completed and signed by parent for physical to be valid.

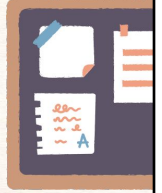
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Health Requirements: Immunizations

- Immunizations must be up-to-date and verified by a healthcare practitioner



Health Requirements: Vision Exam



- The vision requirement should be fulfilled prior to the first day of school.
- Exam must be performed within 1 year prior to the first day of school
- To be completed by an licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.



Health Requirements: Dental Exam



- Required by **May 14, 2026**
- May be performed any time within the 18-month period prior to the due date (**November 15, 2024-May 15, 2026**).

Procedure for Ill Students

- Attendance
- Fever: A temperature of 100.3°F is considered a fever
- Undiagnosed Rashes
- Head Injuries
- Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)
- Medication
- Emergency Contacts

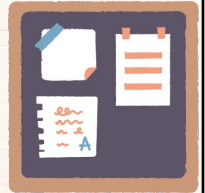


Students must be **HEALTHY** to be **EDUCATED** and **EDUCATED** to be **HEALTHY**



- Working together is ideal!
- Please feel free to contact your school nurse with any concerns or questions regarding individual student health situations.

Mill Street Office:



Amelia Galindo - Principal Secretary

Monika Bicker - Building Secretary

Renee Hicks - Clerical Assistant

Regular hours: 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Naperville 203
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Questions?



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