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Learn
more &
enroll
by Jan. 15



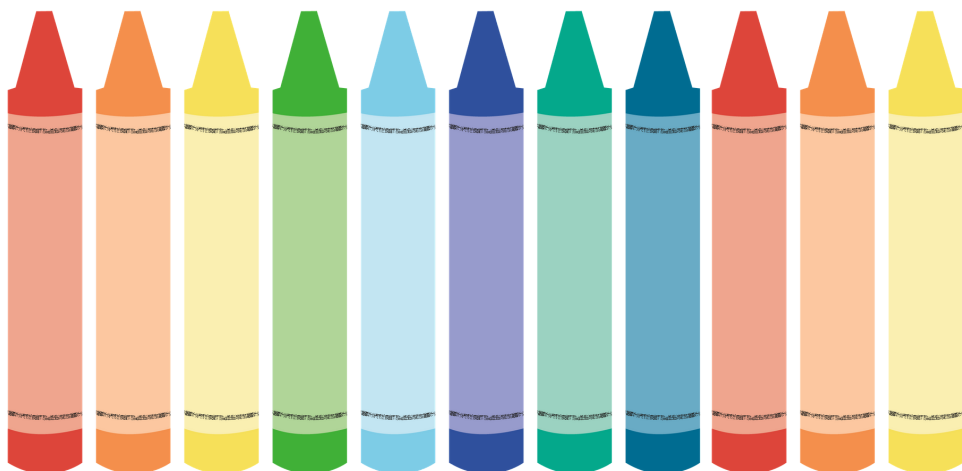
Welcome to Kindergarten

Eastern Carver County Schools

Exceptional, personalized learning



2021-2022





2021-2022 Kindergarten Important Dates

November 17

Registration opens online for the 2021-2022 school year at eccs.mn/enroll

November - December

Learn more about the kindergarten experience, school choices, and visit with the elementary school principals at eccs.mn/kindergarten

January 15

Registration due by 4:00 p.m., enroll online at eccs.mn/enroll or in person at the Welcome Center

May

Sneak-A-Peak Experience to see your child's school - detailed information will be sent to enrolled families in the spring

May 31

Schedule the Early Childhood Screening as soon as possible, but not later than this date, at eccs.mn/screening

September 7

First day of school

Dear

Parents / Guardians



In just a few months, we'll welcome your child into kindergarten. Kindergarten is when children meet friends, gain healthy independence, and learn fundamental lessons that they will carry throughout their lives. It is Eastern Carver County Schools' promise to provide a welcoming, inclusive, equitable, and personalized learning environment for your child. We know that your child comes to us with a unique set of talents and needs. We value those differences, and we're eager to make your child's kindergarten year an exciting and positive learning experience.

This registration booklet is full of information about our kindergarten options and registration information. Learn more about our kindergarten program, then register online at eccs.mn/kindergarten by the 4:00 p.m. on January 15, 2021.

We're looking forward to meeting you and your child at our Kindergarten Sneak-A-Peek experience in the spring. Until then, please contact the Welcome Center (952)556-6112 or WelcomeCenter@district112.org with any questions you might have. We are happy to help.

Sincerely,
Elementary School Principals

Joan MacDonald, Bluff Creek Elementary
June Johnson, Carver Elementary
Greg Lange, Chanhassen Elementary
Nate Slinde, Clover Ridge Elementary
Jay Woller, East Union Elementary
Nancy Wittman-Beltz, Jonathan Elementary
Gretchen Kleinsasser, La Academia & Kinder Academy
Jill VeLure, Victoria Elementary



Exceptional, Personalized Learning

National Leaders in Personalized Learning

In Eastern Carver County Schools, we place students at the center of the learning process, where the pace of learning and instruction is tailored to each learner. Instruction is something we do with, rather than to, students to promote growth, achievement, and lifelong success. Learning is a personal experience. Our practice of tailoring instruction to each learner is the most advanced in the community.

Your child has the opportunity to discover and learn in a way that works best for them through exceptional, personalized learning. Visit eccs.mn/pl to learn more.



Kindergarten Commitments



Strong Curriculum

Kindergarten is the beginning of a child's journey into elementary school. We have embedded S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) into our kindergarten curriculum to provide opportunities for problem-solving and critical thinking. We pair excellent teaching with the right technology. Creativity is fostered through student participation in Music, Art, Physical Education, and Media classes.

Safe & Secure Schools

Physical, mental, and emotional safety of students is our priority. We have substantial security measures in place to ensure the safety of your child including an ID scan for visitors, secure sign-out for students when leaving school, and video monitoring of our buildings and buses. Our staff is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, inclusive, and equitable learning environment for all students.

Open Communication

Parents and guardians are partners with teachers in our schools. We offer many opportunities for family involvement and tools for keeping parents/guardians well informed about their child's progress.

Robust Supports

Each school has a team of teachers who have additional training in the areas of special education, speech/language, English language learners, gifted services, adaptive physical education, social work, counseling, and school psychology.





Health and Safety

The health and safety of our students is always a priority, never more than this year due to COVID-19. We are hopeful that conditions will improve before your child starts kindergarten, but know that we maintain a close relationship with local and state health agencies to ensure we are fully aligned with all current health and safety recommendations in this ever-evolving situation.

Some of the steps taken this year include:

- All staff and students wearing face coverings
- Enhanced building HVAC systems to improve ventilation/airflow
- Signage to promote social distancing
- Frequent hand washing opportunities
- Installation of hand sanitizer dispensers
- Protective barriers in offices and common spaces
- Isolation rooms for sick children
- Regular cleaning of high touch areas
- Increased cleaning of buses and decreased bus capacity

More information can be found at eccs.mn/covid19.



What Option is Right for My Child?



Your Neighborhood School

Each neighborhood boundary school offers an outstanding kindergarten program that has been carefully designed for young learners.

La Academia Spanish Immersion School

La Academia is a two-way, dual language Spanish Immersion school; this immersion model is unique to the west metro. A typical day looks very similar to other kindergarten classes, but the curriculum is taught in Spanish.

Kinder Academy Program for Young Learners

Parents and guardians frequently ask, "Is my child ready for kindergarten?" If your child meets the state age requirement - five years old on or before September 1 of the kindergarten year - the answer is "yes." Kinder Academy is designed for young five-year-olds, such as those with summer birthdays.





Kindergarten Neighborhood School

Our kindergarten program develops children academically, socially, and emotionally. Students are introduced to reading skills, writing and, problem-solving and are provided personalized instruction and support as they progress. We have integrated S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) concepts into our rich curriculum, and technology is used in the classroom to enhance learning experiences for students. Students also attend specialist classes such as Physical Education, Music, Media, and Art.

To determine your child's neighborhood school, visit the school finder at eccs.mn/attendance.

Bluff Creek Elementary
2300 Coulter Boulevard
Chanhassen

Carver Elementary
1717 Ironwood Drive
Carver

Chanhassen Elementary
7600 Laredo Drive
Chanhassen

Clover Ridge Elementary
114000 Hundertmark Road
Chaska

East Union Elementary
15655 County Road 43
Carver

Jonathan Elementary
110300 Pioneer Trail West
Chaska

Victoria Elementary
9300 Red Fox Drive
Victoria



Spanish Immersion School La Academia



In this two-way immersion program, students have the opportunity to be both first-language models and second-language learners with native English and Spanish speakers beginning in kindergarten.

A typical day in La Academia looks very similar to a traditional classroom. Students work toward the same academic standards, attend specialist classes, and go to lunch and recess. Teachers in dual language immersion may be especially animated as they use unique methods and strategies to help students learn a new language; this includes many gestures, pantomimes, songs, props, and other instructional tools. Transportation is provided to La Academia students that live within our district.

La Academia families must complete a parent contract as part of the enrollment process. **Registration must be completed by January 15, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. to be included in the placement lottery.** Registrations received after January 15th will be placed on a waitlist.

La Academia
1800 North Chestnut Street
Chaska





Kinder Academy: Program for Young Students

Kinder Academy is a program for young five-year-olds, such as those with summer birthdays. The program follows Eastern Carver County Schools' kindergarten curriculum. Students who are ready to move on to first grade after one year will do so. Students who would benefit from an additional year will stay in the program. The teacher will modify the curriculum for the older children's developmental level. The older kindergarten students become leaders in the class and role models to incoming five-year-olds. This program is housed at La Academia and is not an early entrance option. Transportation is provided to Kinder Academy students that live in our district.

Kinder Academy families must complete a parent contract as part of the enrollment process.

Kinder Academy
1800 North Chestnut Street
Chaska



Club Care

Before & After School Child Care



Club Care is an optional, fee-based, before- and after-school child care program for students kindergarten through 5th grade. The program is in high demand due to its excellent quality, convenience, and competitive fees. Enrollment in Club Care is not guaranteed, and each school has a limited enrollment capacity. Students must be registered in kindergarten prior to registering for Club Care (eccs.mn/clubcare).

- A welcoming environment with friendly, caring staff
- A child-centered, developmentally appropriate learning environment
- Opportunities for academic skills reinforcement
- Recreation and enrichment activities that include art, science, computer lab, gym and outdoor play
- Before-and after-school hours conveniently located in your child's school
- Parent and family support in partnership with other school staff
- Opportunities for growth and the development of social skills
- School release days and summer program options
- Daily morning and afternoon snack

Registration for 2021-2022 Club Care is scheduled to open in early April. Watch for registration details on the eccs.mn/clubcare website.





Sample Schedule

This sample schedule gives an idea of how a day in Eastern Carver County Schools kindergarten could be structured. Depending on the school and teacher, your child's schedule may be designed differently. The hours for each school are found at eccs.mn/schoolinfo.

- 8:00 a.m. Arrival/Attendance/Breakfast/Morning Meeting
- 8:40 a.m. Math
- 9:20 a.m. Language Arts
- 10:00 a.m. Specialist Classes (Phy Ed/Music/Art/Media)
- 11:20 a.m. What I Need (WIN time*)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Recess
- 1:00 p.m. Rest/ Read Aloud
- 1:20 p.m. Social Skills/Science/Social Studies/Health
- 2:15 p.m. Pack Up
- 2:30 p.m. Dismissal

*What I Need (WIN) time is set aside during the day for tailored instruction for student's individual needs. This may mean working one-on-one with teachers or working in small groups. We meet students where they are at in their learning.



What You Need to Know



Required Early Childhood Screening

The State of Minnesota requires that students entering kindergarten complete an Early Childhood Screening prior to the start of school. The screening is free to Eastern Carver County Schools residents.

If your child has not yet been screened, please schedule an appointment as soon as possible online at eccs.mn/screening or call (952)556-6407.

If your child was screened in another school district, please provide a copy of the screening record to the Welcome Center (welcomecenter@district112.org).

Required Immunizations & Health Services

Your kindergartener must be up-to-date on all immunizations before starting school. Kindergarten boosters are required after the age of 4. The immunization form or a copy of your child's immunization record, even if partially complete, should be submitted with your registration. Please schedule an appointment with your child's pediatrician for a well-child check and immunizations before the start of kindergarten. Schedule the appointment early as August is a very busy time for clinics with many requests for well-child checks before school begins. Minnesota Immunization Law allows for the exemption of these vaccines for medical or conscientious beliefs with notarization.

All elementary schools are staffed with a registered nurse all day. Our health services staff will work with you to accommodate your child's health needs. Please complete and return the health form (eccs.mn/healthform) with the registration forms. This information helps us to prepare for all health needs on the first day of school.

Campus Parent Portal

Campus Portal will provide you access to information about attendance, busing, class schedule, grades, news, and alerts from your child's school. An activation code for your account will be emailed to you shortly after the kindergarten registration is fully processed.



What You Need to Know

Bus Transportation

Transportation is provided to Eastern Carver County Schools free of charge to those who live in the district boundaries unless you live close enough to your school to be in the no-bussing zone.

Neighborhood bus stops are assigned with student safety as a priority. When our students arrive at school, we greet them as they get off the bus, and then at the end of the day, we escort them back to the bus.

Information about the bus stops and schedule will be available in August via the Campus Parent Portal.

If your child will need an alternative or additional bus stop other than your home address, please complete the request form found here eccs.mn/transportation. You do not need to complete a form if your child will be picked up and dropped off from your home address.

Connect & Assess

Kindergarten students and their parents/guardians will join their teacher before the first day of school for a Connect & Assess meeting. Teachers meet one-on-one with each learner to begin a positive school-home relationship and to gather some baseline information about each child in areas such as number and letter recognition. These are not tests of ability or intelligence. This personal interaction allows teachers to better meet each learner's needs as the school year begins and gives students time to gain familiarity with their teacher, classroom, and school building. More information about these meetings and scheduling will be available from your child's school in August.

Checklist to Enroll Now



- ☐ **Student Enrollment Due January 15**
Enroll at eccs.mn/enroll or visit the Welcome Center (11 Peavey Road, Chaska) to complete the registration forms. Enrollment is not complete without these items:
 - ☐ Birth Certificate: A photo copy of your child's birth certificate
 - ☐ Immunization Record: Complete the online form or provide a copy of your child's immunization record
 - ☐ Proof of Residency: A current utility bill, signed rental/lease agreement, or signed purchase agreement
 - ☐ Early Childhood Screening (due ASAP): If your child has been screened in another school district, please send a copy of the screening record. If your child has not been screened, schedule an appointment as soon as possible online at eccs.mn/screening or by calling (952)556-6407
- ☐ **Alternate Address Bus Request**
Please complete the Transportation Registration Form (eccs.mn/transportation) only if your child needs transportation to/from an address other than your home address such as daycare
- ☐ **Student Health Form**
Complete the health form (eccs.mn/healthform) and submit with your registration, this information is shared with school nurses to help us to prepare for and accommodate any health needs on the first day of school

Stay Connected



facebook.com/ISD112



[@ISD112](https://twitter.com/ISD112)

Its' time to enroll in kindergarten!



Enroll at: eccs.mn/enroll

If your child will **NOT** be attending kindergarten in Eastern Carver County Schools next fall, please call us at (952)556-6100. Thank you!

Junta de padres para información de los estudiantes que irán al Kindergarten el próximo año. Nuestro programa de dos vías de lengua de inmersión en español en La Academia podría interesarle a su hijo/a. Para mas información en español, llame al (952)556-6104 horario 11AM a 4 PM.