



**FRIDLEY**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Primary Years  
Programme

**2021-22**



# Kindergarten Parent Handbook



# Welcome to Kindergarten!

We are pleased to welcome you to Fridley Public Schools! Hayes Elementary and Stevenson Elementary are both International Baccalaureate (IB) World Schools. As such, your kindergartner has access to the full IB magnet programs. This handbook should answer many of the questions you have about kindergarten, and please keep this handbook as a reference throughout the year. If you have additional questions, contact your student's school directly at the numbers listed below.



## About Kindergarten at Fridley Public Schools

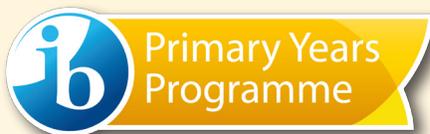
- Fridley Public Schools offers kindergarten programs at both Hayes Elementary and R.L. Stevenson Elementary Schools.
- Each kindergarten student begins his or her journey to college readiness with the following core academic disciplines: reading, math, science and social studies.
- Students have experiences in music, art, physical education, media and Spanish.
- All students at each school have access to International Baccalaureate magnet program.

**Locations:** **Hayes Elementary School**  
615 Mississippi Street NE  
Fridley, MN 55432  
763-502-5200

**R.L. Stevenson Elementary School**  
6080 East River Road  
Fridley, MN 55432  
763-502-5300

**Hours:** 9:10 AM – 3:45 PM (free breakfast: 8:55 AM)

**Bussing:** Transportation is provided to students who live within the district boundaries and open-enrolled students through NWSISD



## International Baccalaureate Continuum

At the center of an International Baccalaureate (IB) education are students with unique learning styles, strengths and challenges. The IB focuses on each student as a whole person. Thus, IB programmes address not only cognitive development but social, emotional and physical well-being. The aim is to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people with adaptable skills to tackle society's complex challenges and who will help to make the world a better place.

## Primary Years Programme (PYP)

In Fridley Public Schools, the PYP is offered to all students from Preschool through Grade 4. Founded on a philosophy that recognizes a child's natural curiosity, creativity and ability to reflect, the PYP generates a stimulating, challenging learning environment to nurture those assets and foster a lifelong love of learning in every child. Like all IB programmes, it is transdisciplinary, meaning students learn across subject areas while investigating big ideas:

- Addresses students' academic, social and emotional well-being.
- Encourages students to develop independence and to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Supports students' efforts to gain understanding of the world and to function comfortably within it.
- Works within global contexts. Students increase understanding of languages and cultures, and explore globally significant ideas and issues.
- PYP students take Spanish classes, where they are introduced to Spanish language and culture.
- Explores significant content that is broad and balanced, conceptual and connected.
- Helps students establish personal values as a foundation upon which international-mindedness will develop and flourish.

## Meet the Principals



Principal Iverson welcomes you to  
**Hayes Elementary School!**

**Gaeli Iverson**  
Hayes Elementary School Principal  
[Angaelicka.Iverson@fridley.k12.mn.us](mailto:Angaelicka.Iverson@fridley.k12.mn.us)  
763-502-5202



Principal Mathison welcomes you to  
**Stevenson Elementary School!**

**Veronica Mathison**  
R.L. Stevenson Elementary School Principal  
[Veronica.Mathison@fridley.k12.mn.us](mailto:Veronica.Mathison@fridley.k12.mn.us)  
763-502-5302



# WELCOME TO FRIDLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

International Baccalaureate World Schools



IB CONTINUUM

*Our district is proud to offer the full International Baccalaureate Continuum. All students have access to IB programming: Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme, Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme.*



Welcome to Fridley Public Schools, International Baccalaureate (IB) World Schools! We are proud to be the only school district in the state of Minnesota to offer the full IB Continuum from Preschool - Grade 12.

We are an urban school district located within the City of Fridley, and offer a small school atmosphere with large school opportunities for all students. Fridley serves 3,000 students at its schools that include: Fridley Preschool (3- and 4-year-old programs), Hayes Elementary (K-4), Stevenson Elementary (K-4), Fridley Middle School (5-8), Fridley High School (9-12), and Fridley Moore Lake Area Learning Center. The district also has a thriving Community Education program that provides year-long educational and enrichment programs to community members, ages birth to senior citizens.

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is offered at Fridley Preschool, Hayes and Stevenson Elementary Schools; the Middle Years Programme (MYP) is offered at our middle school and high school; and the Diploma Programme (DP) and Career-related (CP) Programme are offered at the high school. All Fridley Public Schools are authorized IB World Schools.

Education through the IB framework has an emphasis on international-mindedness, rigorous curriculum and assessment, instruction in a second language and teaching the whole child. In the ever increasing globalized world economy, Fridley is proud to prepare its students with the skills they will need to be successful in the 21st century.

To learn more about our district, please visit [www.fridleyschools.org](http://www.fridleyschools.org).



## The International Baccalaureate Advantage:

- » **Holistic Development of the Whole Child**  
In addition to preparing all students for college and careers, we develop internationally-minded young people who recognize humanity, empathy, compassion, and respect.
- » **Community Service**  
IB learners take action and responsibility to explore ethical dilemmas, think of solutions, and volunteer to participate in service opportunities.
- » **Intercultural Understanding**  
Learning to communicate in a variety of ways, and in more than one language, is fundamental to develop intercultural understanding. All IB programmes require Second Language learning.
- » **Real World Connections**  
Students learn from real-world connections and relevancy to societal contexts.
- » **Transdisciplinary Approach**  
Subjects are transdisciplinary, allowing students to further develop conceptual understanding and connections across subject groups.

We offer a *Small School Size* with **Large School Opportunities!**



## POINTS of PRIDE at Fridley Public Schools

### IB WORLD SCHOOLS

All Fridley Public Schools are authorized International Baccalaureate World Schools

### AWARD WINNING SCHOOLS

Our schools have been named Minnesota Schools of Excellence and Minnesota's Best School, U S News & World Report

### STRONG COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Fridley enjoys strong community support through volunteers, passage of referendums, and numerous collaborations

### OUTSTANDING LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The District's Community Education program encapsulates all ages: from newborns to seniors

### FOCUS ON COLLEGE & CAREERS

AVID (FMS & FHS) & GET READY (FMS & FHS) proudly offered, as well as many college exploration opportunities



# Things to Know

Important information for parents throughout the school year

## Health & Safety

Kindergarten students learn:

- Fire safety practices
- Bus safety practices
- Basic personal hygiene habits required to maintain health (*caring for teeth, gums, eyes, ears, nose, skin, hair and nails*)
- The importance of exercising and ways to maintain fitness
- Ways to manage stress
- The importance of sleep
- Stranger dangers
- Aspects of substance use and abuse (tobacco)

## Health & First Aid

The health office is staffed by a Health Assistant with CPR and First Aid training and is equipped to handle illness and minor injuries. If a student experiences a more serious medical emergency at school, 911 will be called and a parent/guardian will be contacted. Please contact your school's Health Assistant if your child has any special medical needs including allergies.

## Immunizations

You are required to provide updated immunization documentation to the school. If there are medical exemptions or you conscientiously object, please contact the Health Assistant to ensure proper documentation. If immunizations are not on file, or proper releases, your child may not be allowed to start/return to class until these records are updated. The following shots are required by Minnesota's School Immunization Law before your child can attend kindergarten: DTaP-5, Polio-4, Hepatitis B-3, Measles Mumps Rubella MMR-2, Varicella-2

## Illnesses

Please call the Health Assistant to report chickenpox, strep throat, head lice, influenza, measles, mumps, pertussis, and meningitis. Remember, children with an infectious disease are contagious before symptoms appear and they can also spread the disease when they are in contact with others in the family or community, not just at school.

*A child should stay home if they have:*

- Fever 100 or more. Child should remain home until fever free for 24 hours without medication
- Persistent cough
- Open/draining sores which are unable to be covered
- If your child has vomited or has had diarrhea, he/she should stay home for 24 hours after the last episode
- Rash of unknown cause, please check with family physician before sending to school

*Give your child a healthy start by assuring they have:*

- Necessary immunizations.
- Periodic health exams
- A good healthy diet that includes breakfast
- Plenty of sleep each night (10-12 hours are recommended for this age group)
- Neat, clean, comfortable clothes appropriate to the day's activities

## Attendance

*The Attendance Policy is:* If your child is sick, please call the attendance lines at Hayes (763-502-5207) or Stevenson (763-502-5307) and leave a message with your child's name and the reason for absence/tardiness. For the security of your child, it's imperative that we know that when they are not in school they are home with you. If your child is injured or becomes ill at school, the Health Assistant will contact you. It is important to keep phone numbers current with your child's school.

## Transportation

Students eligible for transportation will ride regular morning and afternoon buses. Our contractors are Voigt's Bus Service (763-571-1241), 1st Student (763-421-5785), and R and D (763-767-1804).

Items for parents to keep in mind:

- Please review bus safety information with your child.
- Arrive at your bus stop 5 minutes before scheduled bus time.
- If your child misses the assigned stop in the afternoon, tell your child not to get off at another stop, but to notify the driver immediately and the driver will bring the child back to the assigned stop.

## Transportation and Daycare

Please keep the Transportation department and your school's office updated if you have a change in address during the school year. If your kindergarten will be in daycare, you will need to submit a form online at [www.fridleyschools.org/transportation](http://www.fridleyschools.org/transportation). Once the district receives the form, we will set up transportation to and from the daycare, if eligible. Before changing daycare, please make sure the daycare is located within your school's enrollment boundaries. The district will not provide transportation to a daycare that is located outside Hayes/Stevenson enrollment boundaries.

School boundaries are available on the Transportation page of the website. Visit [www.fridleyschools.org/transportation](http://www.fridleyschools.org/transportation) or from the homepage, navigate to About Us > Departments > Transportation.



# Things to Know

Important information for parents throughout the school year

## How do I get my bus stop information?

- You will receive your child's bus information at the Back-to-School event prior to the start of school. This information can also be found on our Parent Portal site. Please visit our district website to sign up for an account. Visit [www.fridleyschools.org](http://www.fridleyschools.org) and click PARENTS at the top of the homepage.
- If you have any questions, call Transportation at 763-502-5151 or email [transportation@fridley.k12.mn.us](mailto:transportation@fridley.k12.mn.us)

## Safety Guidelines:

Please teach your child:

- About traffic lights, police officers, bus drivers and school safety patrol members
- To use only crosswalks to get safely to the other side of the street
- To use sidewalks wherever possible, and to walk facing traffic if there are no sidewalks
- To avoid strangers: don't talk to or accept rides from them
- To go directly home from school
- To follow all safety rules on the school bus.

## School Start and End Times

Hayes and R.L. Stevenson: 9:10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.  
Free Breakfast: 8:55 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.

## Class Lists

Class lists are finalized in August. Families will receive classroom teacher information in a "Welcome Back-to-School" letter from principals in the beginning of August.

## Back-to-School Information

In mid-August, watch for back-to-school information including a school supply list, Kindergarten Orientation times, and other important information from your school in the mail.

## Staying Connected

Fridley Public Schools uses several tools to communicate with families including:

- Peachjar, an e-flyer system. With Peachjar, parents receive digital flyers via email about school activities, after school programs and other school-approved programs in the Fridley area. Watch for emails from Fridley Public Schools Peachjar. If you aren't receiving Peachjar emails, please search for [school@peachjar.com](mailto:school@peachjar.com) in your inbox and add to your safe contact list, or register at [Peachjar.com](http://Peachjar.com).

- District and school website: Access school information and updates at [www.fridleyschools.org](http://www.fridleyschools.org)
- Facebook – Visit our schools and district Facebook to stay current with school happenings throughout the year:  
*Hayes* - Facebook.com/HayesElementarySchoolFridley  
*Stevenson* - Facebook.com/RLSElementary  
*District* - Facebook.com/fridleypublicschools

## Volunteers & Visitor Check-In System

To help ensure the safety of all of our students, we require all building volunteers and field trip chaperones to complete a full background check. To complete a background check, please visit [www.fridleyschools.org](http://www.fridleyschools.org) and navigate to Employment and you will find our volunteer information. Follow the steps to complete the volunteer application. Upon entering the building, our schools use a visitor check-in system. Visitors will be required to scan their driver's license when entering the building and identifying where they will be visiting or volunteering. We will create a visitor's badge that must be worn throughout the building. Please bring your driver's license in the building with you.

## Flexible and Affordable Before- and After-School Care: Tiger Club

Our Fridley Community Education tuition-based childcare program (Tiger Club) provides high quality services that will grow with your child from Preschool through 6th grade. The school-age-care component of Tiger Club is located at the Fridley Community Center, and provides before- and after-school care, where students can participate in a variety of fun and challenging activities designed to build confidence and explore interests. For more information, please contact 763-502-5107. You can also learn more about our program at [FridleyCommEd.com](http://FridleyCommEd.com) by clicking on "Tiger Club (Childcare)".

- Before-school care (6:00 a.m. to School Start) and after-school care (School Release to 6:00 p.m.) for grades K-6
- Full-time or part-time tuition-based care options are available - county childcare assistance (CCAP) accepted
- Full-day care on most days that school is closed (includes meals and all activities)
- A complete summer program including field trips, swimming and meals (Kindergartners may enroll or the summer program before kindergarten begins)





# What is Kindergarten Readiness?

At Fridley Public Schools, we want all children to be successful and enjoy school when they start kindergarten. 'Kindergarten Readiness' is a term often used when talking about entering kindergarten. We'd like to help you answer the question "Is my child ready for kindergarten?" by providing the indicators listed below. If you have questions about your child's readiness, observe him/her over the next few months, watching for some of the behaviors listed. If you have concerns or questions about your child or kindergarten, please feel free to contact the principal.

## Social Behavior:

- Participates in group activities
- Interacts easily with a familiar adult
- Keeps hands and feet to self
- Moves through routines and transitions smoothly
- Plays or works cooperatively with peers
- Takes turns

## Reading / Writing / Math:

- Begins to recognize letters and sounds
- Counts objects to 5
- Counts to 10 or higher
- Identifies colors and shapes
- Prints name (uses lower case letters)
- Has experience with writing tools (pencils, crayons)

## Listening and Speaking:

- Uses words to communicate needs and wants
- Listens to stories for 5-10 minutes without restlessness
- Follows two-step directions
- Recalls stories and events

## Fine / Gross Motor:

- Cuts on line or patterns
- Can run, jump, hop, and march

## Self-Help Skills:

- Takes care of bathroom needs independently
- Organizes his/her belongings
- Shows progress toward tying shoes, zipping, buttoning, etc.

## Please be sure to complete your child's Early Childhood Screening

Early Childhood Screening is an early look at how your child is growing and developing. Between the ages of 3½ and 4 years, screening can detect possible health or learning concerns so children can get help before they start school.

**Minnesota law requires every child to participate in an Early Childhood Screening prior to entry into public school.** The screening includes a height, weight, vision and hearing check, as well as a developmental screening. Screenings are conducted at the Fridley Community Center (6085 7th Street NE) throughout the year.

To schedule an Early Childhood Screening, please call 763-502-5102 or visit <https://fridley.ce.eleyo.com>





# Grade Level Expectations

The Grade Level Expectations outlined in this guide describes the learning goals for kindergarten students. They are based on the Minnesota State Standards and the Fridley School District Curriculum Content Standards. Families can support their children in meeting these grade level goals by helping them come to school ready to learn and involve them in home learning activities.

## Language Arts

Communicate using interrelated processes including listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking.

### READING

#### *Comprehension and Response*

- Identify fiction and non-fiction texts
- Identify characters and settings
- Sequence events in a familiar story
- Identify a problem and solution in a familiar story
- Make a connection to a familiar story

#### *Phonics and Word Recognition*

- Name all uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet
- Produce sound for each letter of the alphabet
- Recognize rhyming words
- Read common high-frequency words by sight
- Segment and blend beginning, middle, and ending sounds

### WRITING

#### *Types of Writing*

- Write about events and opinions using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing

#### *Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics*

- Write a sentence using a capital letter at the beginning, punctuation at the end, spacing between words, and phonetic spelling

## Mathematics

Explore mathematics using a hands-on, standard based approach. Investigate patterns, geometry and spatial sense, money, graphing, counting, numeration and order, patterns, time and an introduction of addition and subtraction operations.

### *Number and Operation*

- Recognize how many objects are in a set
- Read whole numbers from 0 to at least 31
- Write whole numbers from 0 to at least 31
- Represent whole numbers from 0 to at least 31
- Count forward to at least 31
- Count back from 20
- Compare numbers from 0 to 31
- Order numbers from 0 to 31
- Use objects/pictures to add numbers between 0 and 10
- Use objects/pictures to subtract numbers between 0 and 10
- Find 1 more and 1 less than a given number

### *Algebra*

- Identify, create, and extend patterns
- Identify unknown number partners (3 and 4 are partners of 7, 5 and 2 are partners of 7, etc.)

### *Geometry and Measurement*

- Recognize two and three-dimensional shapes
- Sort objects using characteristics such as shape, size, color and thickness
- Compare and order objects according to size



All kindergartners will receive instruction and have experiences in visual arts, media literacy, music, physical education and Spanish. Each student will also participate in International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) Units of Inquiry in science and social studies.



## Ready to Register!

Your child must be five years old on or before Sept. 1, 2021  
 Students must fall into the birthdate range: Sept. 2, 2015 - Sept. 1, 2016

There are two easy ways to register your child in Fridley Schools:

### 1. Go online

- Visit [www.fridleyschools.org](http://www.fridleyschools.org) and click the “Enroll” button at the top of the page. Click the “Online Enrollment” button and follow the steps to register your child.
- To complete the registration process, you will need to submit the required documents (*listed below in red*) to the Enrollment Center.

### 2. Visit the Enrollment Center, 6085 7th Street NE, Fridley

- Staff will assist you in completing the online registration. To complete the registration process, you will need to submit the required documents (*listed below in red*) to the Enrollment Center.

The following documents are required for registration:

- Proof of address (driver’s license, utility bill, rental/purchase agreement) **OR** Open Enrollment Form
- Child’s original birth certificate
- Up-to-date immunization records
- Preschool screening documents if screened outside our district

How to submit required documents:

Enrollment Office Fax Number: 763-502-5082

Mail to: Attn: Lori O’Dowd, Enrollment Coordinator, Fridley Community Center, 6085 7th Street NE, Fridley 55432

Email: [lori.odowd@fridley.k12.mn.us](mailto:lori.odowd@fridley.k12.mn.us)

Copies will be made of each document and originals will be returned to you.

**PLEASE REMEMBER: REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED.**

**\*If your child is already enrolled in our four-year-old preschool program, there is no need to re-register for kindergarten.**

Do you have questions? Want more information?  
 Contact Enrollment Coordinator Lori O’Dowd at 763-502-5081.

