



Welcome to  
**KINDERGARTEN**  
 2023-2024



Learn  
 more &  
 enroll  
 by Jan. 20

[eccc.mn/  
 enroll](https://eccc.mn/enroll)



# 2023-2024 Kindergarten Important Dates

## **November 14, 2022 | Registration Opens**

Registration opens for the 2023-2024 school year, online at [eccs.mn/enroll](https://eccs.mn/enroll) or in person at the Welcome Center

## **November 14, 2022 | Preview Night** (boundary schools)

Learn more about the kindergarten experience, school choices, and visit with the neighborhood elementary school principals, more information at [eccs.mn/kindergarten](https://eccs.mn/kindergarten)

## **November 29, 2022 | Preview Night** (La Academia )

Learn more about La Academia Spanish Immersion, more information at [eccs.mn/kindergarten](https://eccs.mn/kindergarten)

## **November 29, 2022 | Preview Night** (Kinder Academy )

Learn more about the Kinder Academy program, more information at [eccs.mn/kindergarten](https://eccs.mn/kindergarten)

## **January 20, 2022**

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

## **May 2023**

Sneak-A-Peek Experience for you and your child to visit the school, invites will be sent to enrolled families in the spring

## **September 5, 2023**

First day of school

# Dear Parents / Guardians / Caregivers



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 safe, welcoming, and inclusive 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](https://eccs.mn/kindergarten) by 4:00 p.m. on January 20, 2023.

Please contact the Welcome Center (952)556-6112 or [WelcomeCenter@district112.org](mailto:WelcomeCenter@district112.org) with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,  
Elementary School Principals

Beth Holm, Bluff Creek Elementary  
Ryan Finke, Carver Elementary  
Greg Lange, Chanhassen Elementary  
Nate Slinde, Clover Ridge Elementary  
Pete Morse, Jonathan Elementary  
Gretchen Kleinsasser, La Academia & Kinder Academy  
Jill VeLure, Victoria Elementary





# Kindergarten Options

## Six Neighborhood Schools

Each neighborhood boundary school offers an outstanding kindergarten program 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.

### Kindergarten 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 - the answer is "yes." Kindergarten Academy is designed for young five-year-olds, such as those with summer birthdays.

### In all of the ECCS kindergarten programs, we are committed to:

#### 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/caregivers well informed about their child's progress.

#### Strong Curriculum

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.

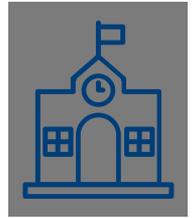
#### Safe & Secure Schools

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, student ID badges, 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.

#### Robust Supports

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

# Neighborhood Schools



Our kindergarten program develops children academically, socially, and emotionally. Students are introduced to reading skills, writing, 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](https://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

Jonathan Elementary  
110300 Pioneer Trail West  
Chaska

Victoria Elementary  
9300 Red Fox Drive  
Victoria





# 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 of kindergarten will stay in the program. The teacher will modify the curriculum for the older children's developmental level. 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. **Registration must be completed by January 20, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. to be included in the placement lottery.** Registrations received after January 20th will be placed on a waitlist.

Kinder Academy  
1800 North Chestnut Street  
Chaska



# 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 20, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. to be included in the placement lottery.** Registrations received after January 20th will be placed on a waitlist.

The immersion program pathway continues for grades 6-12 at Chaska Middle School West and Chanhassen High School.

La Academia  
1800 North Chestnut Street  
Chaska





## What Others Say About Our Schools

"My child is seen and appreciated at school. She thrives on the positive, supportive engagement with the staff at school."

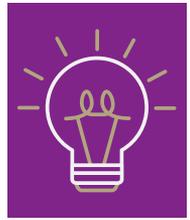
"All of the staff do an excellent job of making sure the kids feel welcome from the start of the day to the end of the day, every day."

"My children love their classroom teachers, they have done such a good job of making my children feel loved."

"This is a fabulous school community with strong leadership and dedicated staff members. From our first visit, we have felt welcomed and embraced by everyone."



# 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](https://eccs.mn/screening) or call (952)556-6402.

If your child was screened in another school district, please provide a copy of the screening record with your enrollment form.

## 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 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. 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](https://eccs.mn/healthform)) with the registration forms. This information helps us to prepare for all health needs on the first day of school.

## 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 in each elementary school. Club Care is a welcoming environment with friendly, caring staff who foster a child-centered, developmentally appropriate learning environment.

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.

Registration for Club Care is scheduled to open in early April. Learn more at [eccs.mn/clubcare](https://eccs.mn/clubcare).



# 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. Kindergarteners are assigned to neighborhood bus stops with student safety as a priority. When our students arrive at school, we greet them as they get off the bus, and 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. Parents can also access the MyStop app to monitor school bus location each day.

## 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.

## Connect & Assess

Kindergarten students and their parents/guardians/caregivers 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 how to schedule a Connect & Assess meeting will be available from your child's school in early August.



# Checklist to Enroll Now



- Student Enrollment Due January 20**  
Enroll at [eccs.mn/enroll](https://eccs.mn/enroll) or visit the Welcome Center (11 Peavey Road, Chaska) to complete the registration forms.
  - 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**  
If your child has not been screened, schedule an appointment as soon as possible online at [eccs.mn/screening](https://eccs.mn/screening) or by calling (952)556-6402. If your child has been screened in another school district, please send a copy of the screening record.
  
- Student Health Form**  
Complete the health form ([eccs.mn/healthform](https://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



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[instagram.com/ecarvercoschools](https://instagram.com/ecarvercoschools)

# It's time to **enroll** in **kindergarten!**



**Enroll at: [eccs.mn/enroll](https://eccs.mn/enroll)**

*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 más información en español, llame al (952)556-6104 horario 8AM a 4 PM.*



**EASTERN CARVER  
COUNTY SCHOOLS**

Welcome Center  
11 Peavey Road  
Chaska, MN 55318