# Get Ready for Kindergarten!

BUS

Your guide to enrolling your child in fall 2023 kindergarten

0.



Welcome Class of 2036!

#### Dear Edina Public Schools families,

e are excited to have your soon-to-be kindergartner join us next fall in one of our outstanding schools. On behalf of our elementary school principals and our kindergarten teachers, welcome!

As you look ahead to next year, you have great choices for your child. You can enroll in your neighborhood Edina elementary school, where your child will experience a warm and engaging education close to home. You can also consider one of our three choice programs: Continuous Progress, French Immersion or Spanish Dual Language. Whatever you choose, your child will be taught by caring and experienced teachers whose focus is on the needs and passions of each individual student.

Please take a few minutes to review this guide to help you enroll your child. Kindergarten is the first step in a 13 year journey, culminating in graduating in 2036 as a full-fledged Edina Hornet. We truly value the partnership between your home and our schools. Together, we'll work to ensure your child receives the enriching and supportive experiences that will help each and every student to discover their possibilities and thrive.

#### Welcome to the Edina Public Schools family!

*Dr. Stacie Stanley* Superintendent Randy Samsal, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent

#### **OUR CORE VALUES**

Everything we do, from the classroom to the cafeteria, is guided by our core values and our desire to nurture these values in our students: integrity, compassion, courage, commitment, appreciation and responsibility.





#### Why Edina Public Schools?

Edina Public Schools (EPS) is a nationally recognized suburban public school district with a long tradition of providing a rigorous and individualized education for all students, grades K-12. We consistently rank high in school rating systems, including being **recognized for "top rated schools" by Great Schools and receiving an overall grade of A+ by Niche.** We offer small class sizes as part of our commitment to preparing all students to realize their full potential. Through academics, activities and play, we encourage creativity, foster curiosity and develop critical thinking skills. We support each student's educational journey by creating a caring and inclusive school culture that supports the whole student.

## What do our parents say?

- 93% believe our quality of education is excellent or good
- 90% rate our teachers as excellent or good
- 90% are proud of our public schools and would recommend them to friends

May 2022 community survey



## **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPTIONS**

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS**

Five neighborhood elementary schools are located throughout Edina, providing an excellent education and personalized learning in a welcoming environment close to home. While each school has its own personality, all of our elementary schools use the same high-quality curriculum and innovative teaching methods to nurture students in their early years and prepare them for their later years.

## All of our neighborhood schools serve children in kindergarten through grade five and offer:

- A warm and welcoming community of students, staff and parents
- A personalized learning experience
- High expectations for all
- Support that helps students achieve at their highest potential
- Core academic learning and social-emotional development
- Specialized instruction in art, music and physical education



- Recent building enhancements that create flexible learning spaces that offer students creative and innovative opportunities to learn and grow
- Solid foundation for future education and beyond

#### Neighborhood Schools —

Concord Elementary – Cornelia Elementary – Countryside Elementary Creek Valley Elementary – Highlands Elementary

## **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPTIONS**



#### **CHOICE PROGRAMS**

In addition to our outstanding neighborhood schools, Edina Public Schools offers three choice programs available to families throughout the district. Families must complete an online choice form to request one of these programs; final selection is made through a lottery. If families do not receive their choice, they will be warmly welcomed in their neighborhood school.

#### French Immersion / Normandale Elementary

This program immerses students in a second language while they learn all subjects in French. Normandale follows the same curriculum used at our English speaking schools. Students not only learn a new language, but also acquire a greater understanding, knowledge and appreciation of the cultures who speak the language. Because of the advancing skill level each year, entrance is most successful in kindergarten.

#### Spanish Dual Language / Countryside Elementary

This program includes both native Spanish speakers and native English speakers in the same classroom so students have the ability to learn both languages together. Students not only learn a new language, but also acquire a greater understanding, knowledge and appreciation of the cultures who speak the language. Because of the advancing skill level each year, entrance is most successful in kindergarten.

#### **Continuous Progress** / Highlands Elementary and Countryside Elementary

This multi-age program is focused on developing meaningful long-term relationships with both students and families. A team of two or three teachers and a group of students stay together throughout elementary school, making students part of a multi-age educational family.

While the Continuous Progress program does not begin until first grade at Countryside and second grade at Highlands, we recommend families enroll in kindergarten to avoid changing schools.

### ENROLLING— Easy as 1-2-3!

If your child will turn five years old on or before September 1, 2023, they are eligible to enroll in fall 2023 kindergarten.

- Learn about our kindergarten programs. Reading this guide is your first step. Schedule a tour for schools that interest you. Visit the school websites. Talk to families who attend our schools.
- 2 **Complete the online Choice Program form.** If you are interested in one of our three choice programs, **complete the online choice form by Jan. 6, 2023, at 4pm**, available at **edinaschools.org/kindergarten**. Enrollment is determined through a lottery process. All choice forms received by the deadline are treated equally, with no benefit given to those submitted earlier than others. Completing a preference form does not guarantee placement in the program. Families will be notified of their enrollment status via email on Jan. 13.
- **3** Enroll your child online during the enrollment window: Jan. 16-27, 2023. Visit edinaschools.org/kindergarten to complete your child's enrollment. This step is for all families, regardless of whether their child will attend a neighborhood school or choice program.

If you know that your child **will not be enrolling** in the Edina Public Schools for fall 2023 kindergarten, please call our Enrollment Center at 952-848-4585 so we can update our records. Thank you!

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Dec. 6: Online choice forms are available

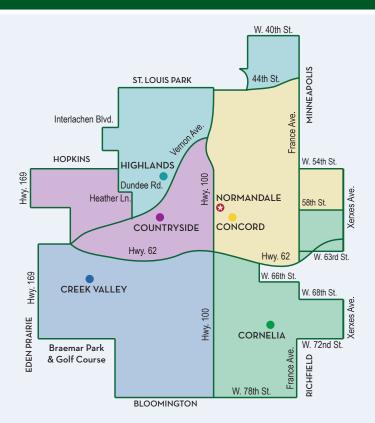
Jan. 6, 2023 - 4pm: Online choice forms deadline

Jan. 13: Families informed if they are accepted into a choice program

Jan. 16 – 27: Online enrollment period for all families, whether attending their neighborhood school or a choice program

#### **EDINA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

ATTENDANCE AREAS (GRADES K-5)



• Concord Elementary—5900 Concord Ave. S., Edina, MN 55424 School day: 7:50 AM to 2:25 PM 952-848-4300, concord.edinaschools.org

• Cornelia Elementary—7000 Cornelia Drive, Edina, MN 55435 School day: 7:50 AM to 2:25 PM 952-848-4600, cornelia.edinaschools.org

• Countryside Elementary—5701 Benton Ave. S., Edina, MN 55436 School day: 7:50 AM to 2:25 PM 952-848-4700, countryside.edinaschools.org

• Creek Valley Elementary—6401 Gleason Road, Edina, MN 55439 School day: 7:50 AM to 2:25 PM 952-848-3200, creekvalley.edinaschools.org

• Highlands Elementary—5505 Doncaster Way, Edina, MN 55436 School day: 7:50 AM to 2:25 PM 952-848-4500, highlands.edinaschools.org

Ormandale Elementary—5701 Normandale Road, Edina, MN 55424 School day: 8:40 AM to 3:15 PM 952-848-4100, normandale.edinaschools.org

NOTE: French Immersion, Spanish Dual Language and Continuous Progress choice programs are available to families throughout the district through a lottery process.

### WHOLE CHILD LEARNING





# Discover the wonders of kindergarten in Edina Public Schools!

Our kindergarten program exposes our littlest Hornets to a robust kindergarten curriculum while learning through play, fostering social-emotional development and sparking curiosity that sets the foundation for being a lifelong learner.

Families can enroll in their neighborhood school close to home or in one of our three choice programs: French Immersion, Spanish Dual Language or Continuous Progress.

#### Scan for more details



#### Schedule your child's screening

Early Childhood Screening is a quick and easy way to check in on your child's health and development and connect them to amazing early childhood programming before they begin kindergarten. **All Minnesota children must complete an early childhood screening before attending kindergarten.** This screening is a check of the child's development, vision, hearing, growth, health history and immunizations. Screening can help identify any concerns or issues early and access resources if needed. Screenings are done by appointment only:

Visit **edinaschools.org/developmentalscreening** to schedule online or call 952-848-3985 or email ecscreening@edinaschools.org.



#### Before and After School Care: Kids Club

Kids Club program offers a fun, engaging environment for your child that will enrich their experience in Edina Public Schools. We offer high quality childcare before and after school, on non-school days and during summer. Kids Club provides a safe place for children to develop friendships and grow in confidence, independence and respect for themselves and others.

Summer 2023 registration opens Feb. 14, 2023 online at edina.ce.eleyo.com School year 2023-24 registration will open in the spring. Watch our website for updates. Learn more at edinacommunityed.com/Kidsclub

#### Need help or have questions?

If you need assistance with the kindergarten enrollment process, please visit or contact our Enrollment Center: 5701 Normandale Road, door 3; 952-848-4585, enrollment@edinaschools.org.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 91349 TWIN CITIES MN

-

5701 Normandale Road Edina, Minnesota 55424





#### Learn More!

Visit our website for more information about our programs, helpful links and frequently asked questions: edinaschools.org/kindergarten

¿Necesita ayuda con la inscripción al jardín de infantes (kindergarten)? Envíe un correo electrónico a Blanca.DiazdeLeon@EdinaSchools.org

Ma u baahan tahay caawimo af soomaali ah? Kala xidhiidh Abdikadir Ibrahim at abdikadir.ibrahim@edinaschools.org