



# 2023 Kindergarten Information Night

WASS ELEMENTARY – APRIL 12, 2023

***Welcome Class of 2036!***

# MISSION STATEMENT

*The purpose of Wass Elementary School is to ensure that each child reaches his or her highest learning potential.*





# YOUR FAMILY'S PRINCIPAL



**MR. MATT JANSEN**

**25 Years**

**13 Years Teaching**

**12 Years as Principal**



**Wife – Lisa**  
**Daughter – Jessica**  
**Son - Brett**



***Kindergarten at Wass***

# QUESTIONS

- ▶ You are welcome to ask questions throughout the program. Like a conversation.
- ▶ We will also have time to answer questions at the end of the presentation.
- ▶ Remember, if you are thinking of a question, chances are someone else is too.





# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

- ▶ Currently there are **52 students** that have completed the enrollment process.
- ▶ We have **13 more students** that have not completed or started the enrollment process.
- ▶ Possible **65 total** kindergarteners
- ▶ We traditionally have had **3 sections of Full-Day Kindergarten at Wass.** Class size is limited to 26 students.
- ▶ **53** is our magic number to add a third section.
- ▶ **Waiver Birthdays** – Sept. 1 to Dec. 1
- ▶ A full in seat program will be available to your child next year.





# Preschool: “Nice to Have” or “Must Have”?



- Does your incoming kindergartener have a younger sibling who will be 3 or 4 by August?
- Have you considered or have you committed to a high-quality preschool for that child?
- If not, some food for thought: research shows that preschool is an important developmental step for your child and could be key to his/her success in elementary.





# Why Troy School District Preschool?



- Expert Teaching Teams
- Active partnership with Oakland University and its nationally recognized experts in Early education and literacy
- Literacy-rich curriculum based on established educational research
- Designed to provide a seamless entry for students entering Troy's world-class K-12 curriculum
- Brand new, state-of-the-art \$32 million facility
- Open enrollment with competitive tuition rates
- DHHS supplements can be applied toward tuition



# Program Options



- **Tuition Preschool** for children ages 3-5, half and full day options available: [LINK](#)
- **Early Childhood Programs(ECP):** Early Childhood Special Education Preschool
- **Great Start Readiness Preschool Program (GSRP)-** Free Preschool for 4 Year Olds [LINK](#)
- **Pre-K:** Free Preschool for children age 5 before December 1, 2023 [LINK](#)
- **Explorers:** Before & after school childcare available

## **Summer Preschool**

Is your child starting Kindergarten in the fall?  
Consider a summer preschool experience.  
Register for Summer Preschool [LINK](#)





# Want to Know More?

Come talk to us...

<https://tsdpreschool.troy.k12.mi.us/>

Erin Keyser, Director  
[ekyser@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:ekyser@troy.k12.mi.us)

205 W. Square Lake Rd  
Troy, MI 48098  
(248) 823-3000

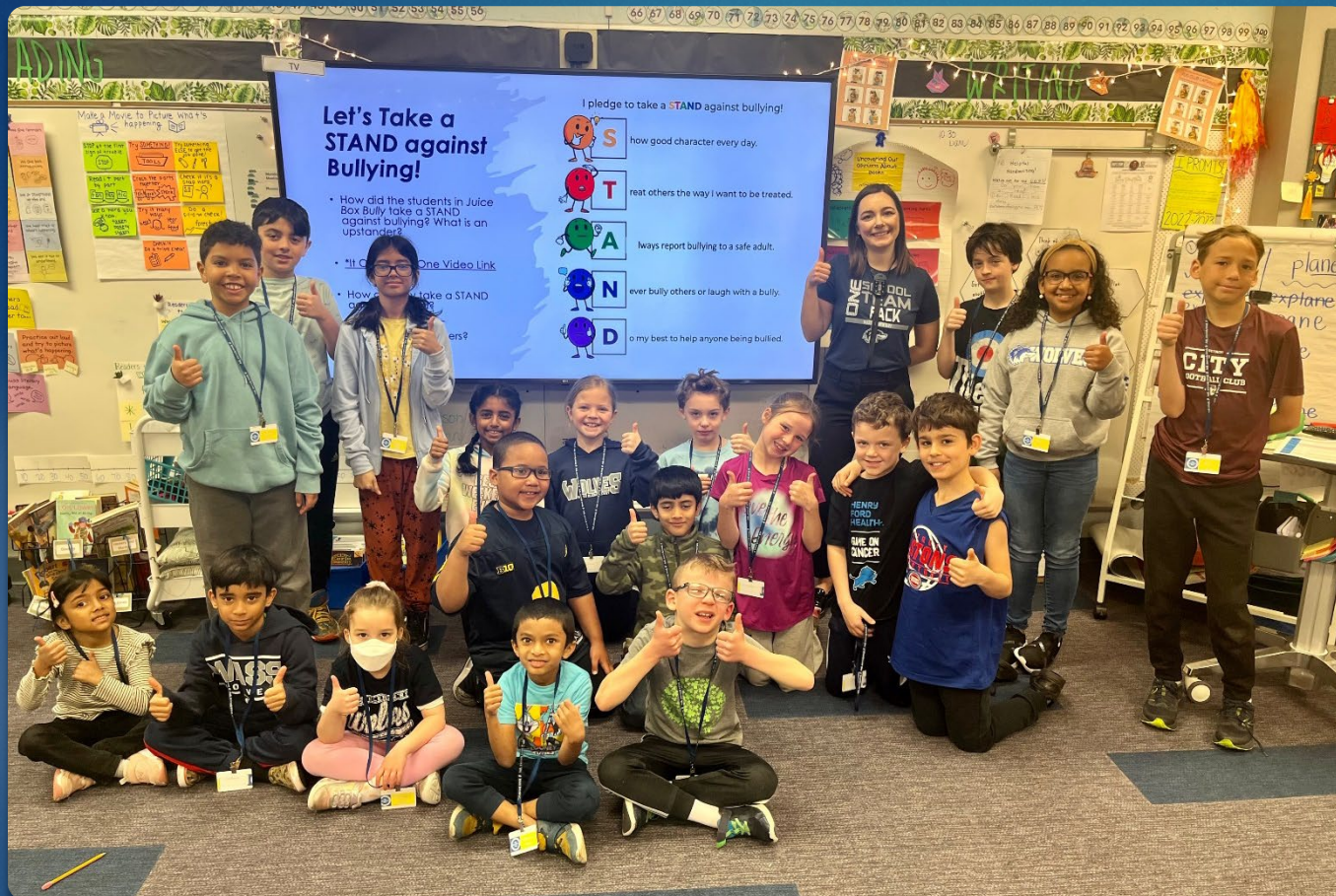
# Wass Elementary School

In the fall, your child will be attending a:

- ▶ National School of Character
- ▶ National Blue Ribbon School
- ▶ #4 Rated Public Elementary School in Michigan out of 1,934 schools.







# WOLF PACKS



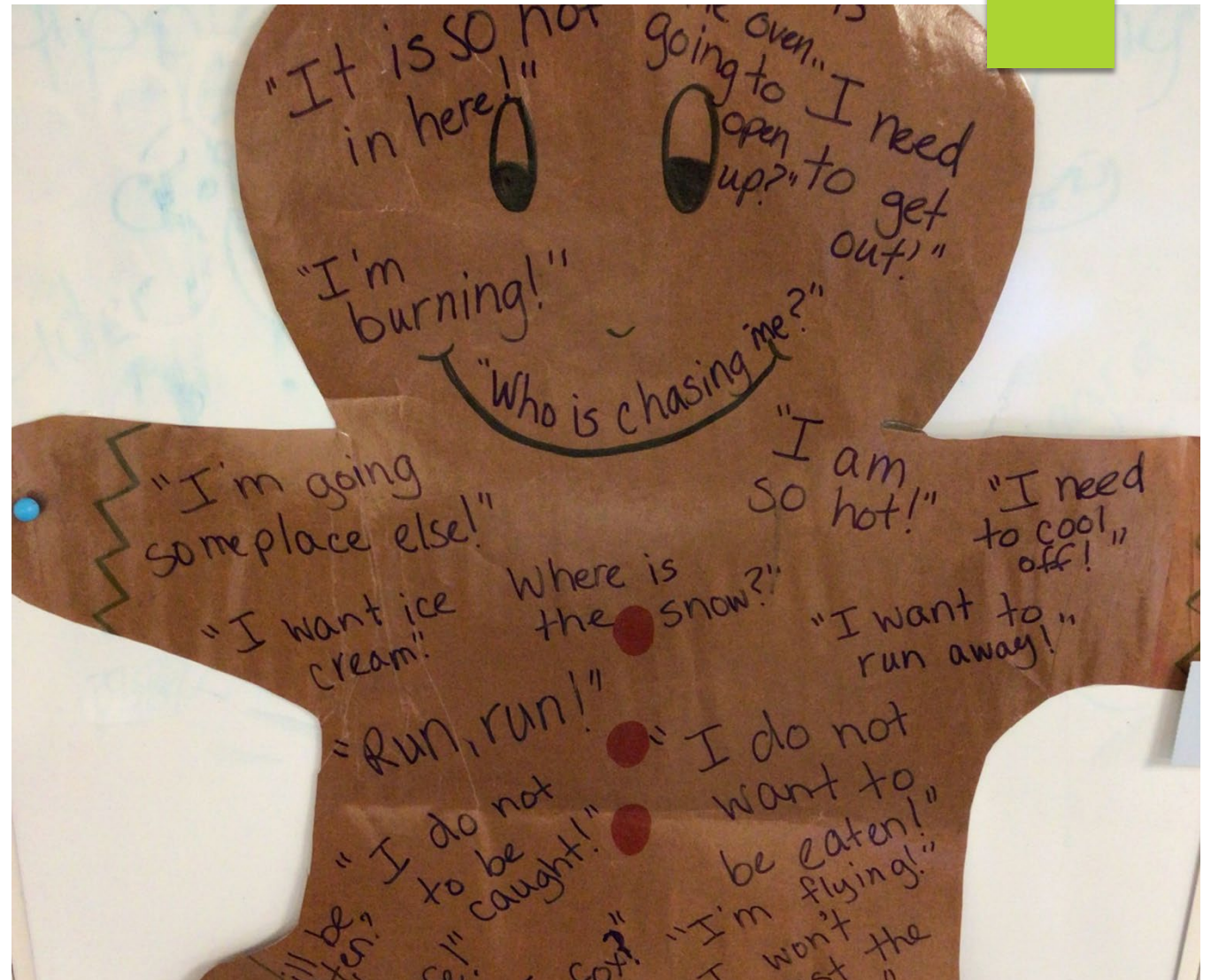


# Visible Thinking

## ROUTINES

- ▶ Step-Inside
- ▶ See-Think- Wonder
- ▶ I Used to Think / Now I Think
- ▶ Tug of War
- ▶ Claim, Evidence

**PHILOSOPHY** - Focus on UNDERSTANDING, not on memorization





# THE KINDERGARTEN TEAM



**MRS. MARIANNE BELLEVILLE**



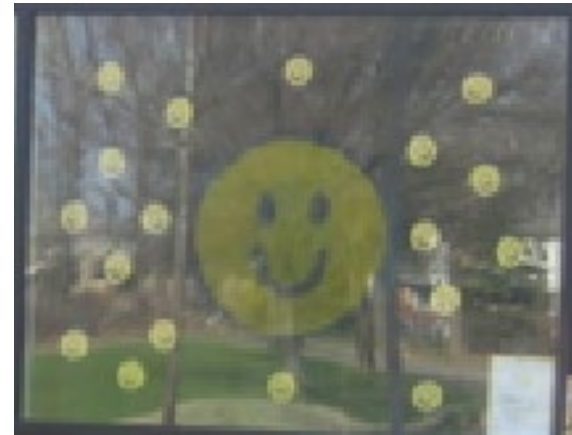
**MRS. AMY KENDALL**



**MRS. CAROLYN MAHER**

# Welcome to Kindergarten!

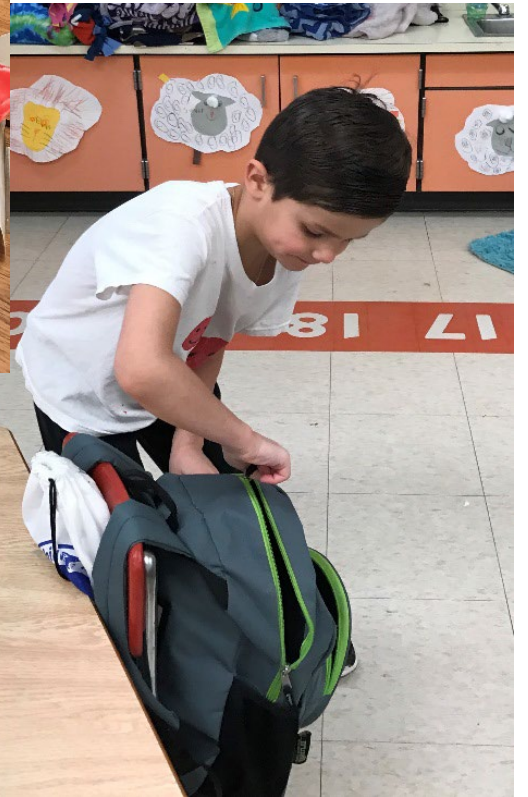
Students will line up with their kindergarten friends outside their classroom door.





# Morning Routines

- ▶ The bell rings when it is time to “Come on in!”
- ▶ Your children will learn to independently unpack and get ready to start the day.







Kindergarteners will hang their coats on the coat rack.

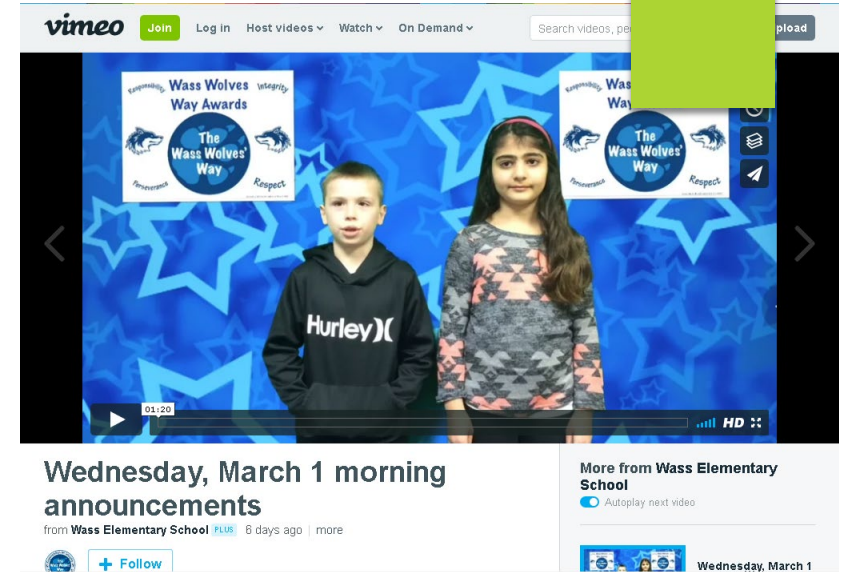


They will have their very own cubbies, too!



# Time To Start Our Day!

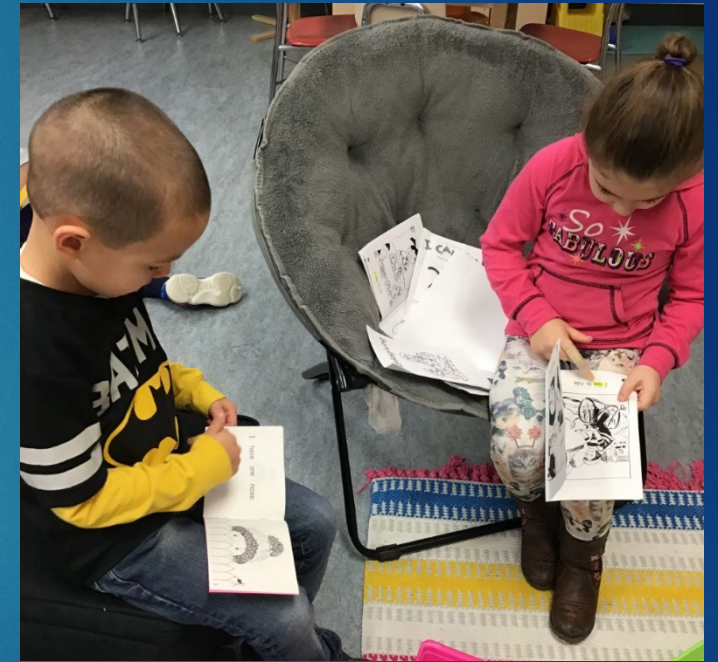
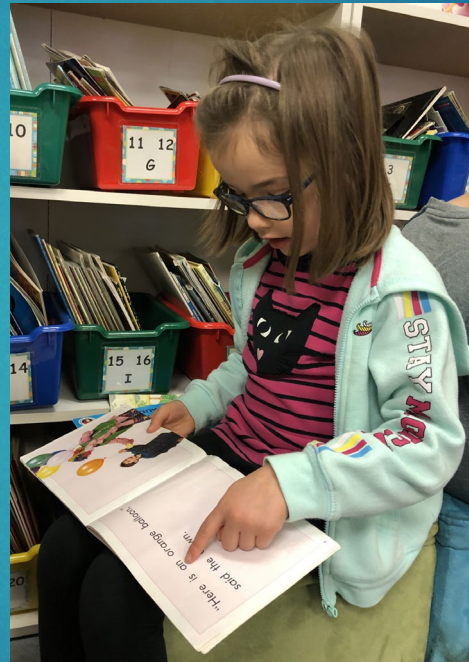
- ▶ We begin each day by listening to the Wass Morning Announcements. We say The Pledge of Allegiance.
- ▶ We practice many important math concepts during our morning calendar time.



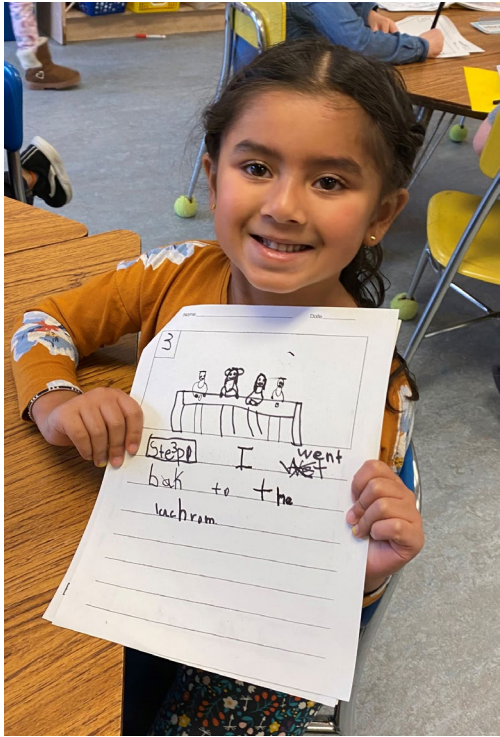


# Reading, Writing & Phonics!

- ▶ Reading, writing, and phonics are all a part of our morning lessons.
- ▶ During Reader's Workshop, we are immersed in literature and learn many reading strategies to help us grow our reading muscles.







- During Writer's Workshop, we begin by learning to tell true stories before moving to representing our stories through pictures, labels, and words.
- Our Phonics program helps us to deepen our understanding of letters, sounds, and how these make up the words we read and write each day.



# Learning Is Hard Work

- ▶ We enjoy two healthy snacks each day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, to help us re-energize.
- ▶ We take time out of our morning and afternoon for brain breaks!
- ▶ Outside recess helps us develop our gross motor skills and socialization.





# Time for Lunch!

- ▶ Kindergartners all join in the lunchroom and eat their lunch with all their friends.
- ▶ Children may choose to bring a lunch and a beverage from home, bring a lunch and buy a beverage, or purchase a school lunch which includes a beverage.
- ▶ Noon aides are there to help our little ones during lunch time.
- ▶ Our students also have outside time with the noon aides during the lunch period.





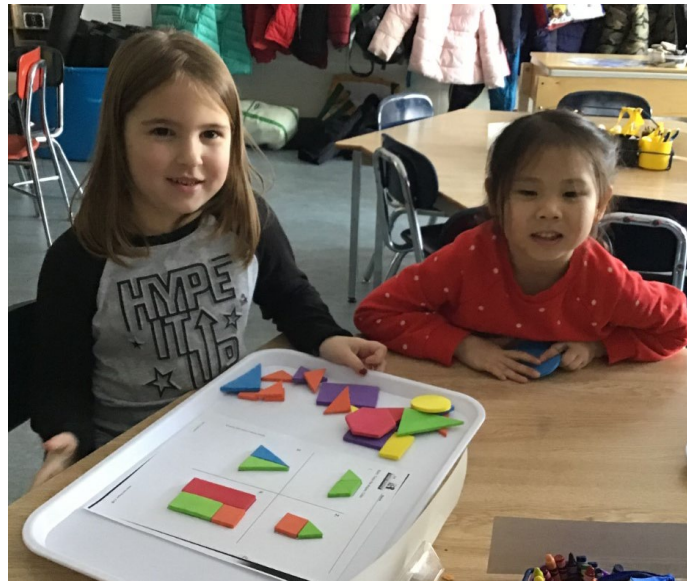
# Rest Up, Little Ones!

- ▶ After lunch, each day we meet together in our classrooms to enjoy story books.
- ▶ Quiet time provides the much-needed opportunity to rest up and recharge before our busy afternoon.





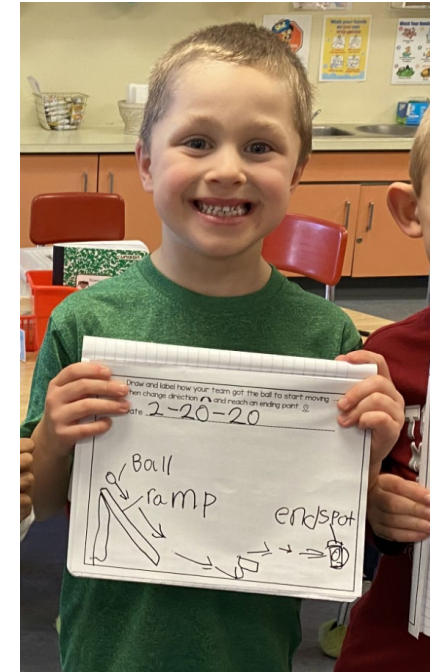
# Math Time!



- ▶ Kindergarteners do math activities each day.
- ▶ Manipulatives help us make sense of abstract concepts.
- ▶ Math talk promotes deeper learning and understanding and gets our children talking about their thinking.

# Explorations in Science & Social Studies

- ▶ Through our Social Studies curriculum, we explore people, places, and cultures from long ago and today.
- ▶ Hands-on science activities provide the opportunity for our Kindergarteners to explore science concepts that teach us about our world.





# Play Time is Learning Time

- ▶ Our district values the benefits and growth that take place when children are provided the opportunity to play!
- ▶ During this time children are learning to share, take turns, make friends, problem-solve, and explore new learning opportunities.





# Getting To Know Our Principal & Secretaries!

- ▶ Mr. Jansen visits our classroom often. He is a familiar face in kindergarten.
- ▶ Mrs. Walters and Mrs. Leonard are our school secretaries.





# Specials Classes

*Enrich Our Learning*

All kindergarteners enjoy gym, art, music and media each week – **45 minutes per day.**

Art



Mrs. Clos.

Phys. Ed.



Mr. Cavataio

Media



Mrs. Kostrzewa

Music

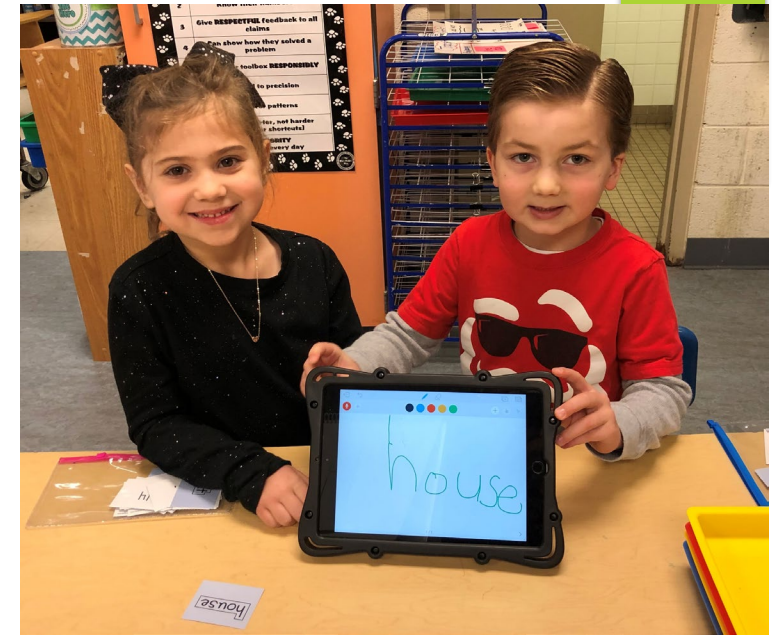


Mr. McNurlen



# Technology & Learning

Our students will explore many different types of technology in kindergarten. We use our Apple TV and student issued iPads to enhance our learning in all subject areas.





# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Buddies

We meet with our 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade buddies various times throughout the year. Our big buddies share their knowledge to further deepen our understanding of academic concepts. This is also an opportunity to deepen our relationships within our school community.





# We Are Ready for YOU!

We are excited to get to know our incoming kindergarten friends!

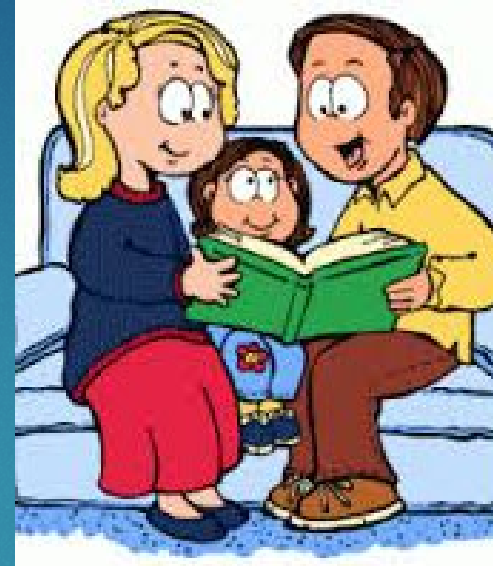
We are eager to begin this journey with them as we take your children from where they are and help them to reach their highest learning potential.





# What You Can Do To Help Your Child Get Ready For Kindergarten?

- ▶ Read to your child each and every day.
- ▶ Practice telling true stories with your child.
- ▶ Play board games and card games together.
- ▶ Go places together and talk about your experiences.
- ▶ Give your child experiences with a variety of “school tools” such as pencils, child scissors, glue sticks, markers.





# What You Can Do To Help Your Child Get Ready For Kindergarten?

- ▶ Help your child practice and develop independence with coats, mittens, shoes, backpack, zippers, and buttons.
- ▶ Label, label, label!
- ▶ Continue this growth toward independence with snack containers, Ziploc bags, water bottles.
- ▶ Bathrooms can be scary and tricky when you're not at home.
- ▶ Visit Wass school over the summer to play on the playground. Practice using the swings, climbing structures and monkey bars.

Kindergarten! ...



here I come!





# First Day Jitters



- ▶ You can help your child get ready for the first day of school by having frequent conversations about how this day will go.
- ▶ Reassure him or her that as they enter their classroom independently, they will be embarking on an exciting new adventure and meeting many new friends.
- ▶ Let them know you will be thinking of them and you will be there for them at the end of the day.
- ▶ Even if your child has been in care environment in the past, be prepared for a tired little one these first few weeks of school.



# Keeping You Informed

- We send out weekly newsletters using Adobe Spark each Friday.





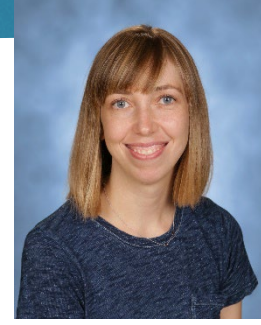
# Friendly Faces at Wass



**Mrs. Amy  
Kendall**  
Kindergarten  
Teacher



**Mrs. Phyllis  
Walters**  
Head Secretary



**Mrs. Tricia  
St. Clair**  
Teacher  
Consultant



**Mrs.  
Ashourina  
Yousif**  
ELD  
Teacher



**Mrs. Carolyn  
Maher**  
Kindergarten  
Teacher



**Mrs. Dawn  
Leonard**  
Secretary



**Mrs. Lucky  
Muppala**  
Wass CARE  
Company  
Director



**Mrs. Marianne  
Belleville**  
Kindergarten  
Teacher



**Mrs. Kristyn  
Cubitt**  
Reading  
Specialist



**Mrs. Corinn  
Puzzuoli**  
ELD  
Teacher





# CARE Company

- ▶ **See the flyer** on the Wass or CARE Company websites.
- ▶ A childcare program before and after school.
- ▶ C.A.R.E. is conveniently located at Wass Elementary in our Cafeteria.
- ▶ Registrations are taken on a first come-first serve basis. This starts on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ▶ Adult to student ration is 1 to 18.
- ▶ Offered by the TSD Continuing Education Department.
- ▶ 248-823-5100





# Senior Year



# Kindergarten

# Kindergarten Makes Everything Special











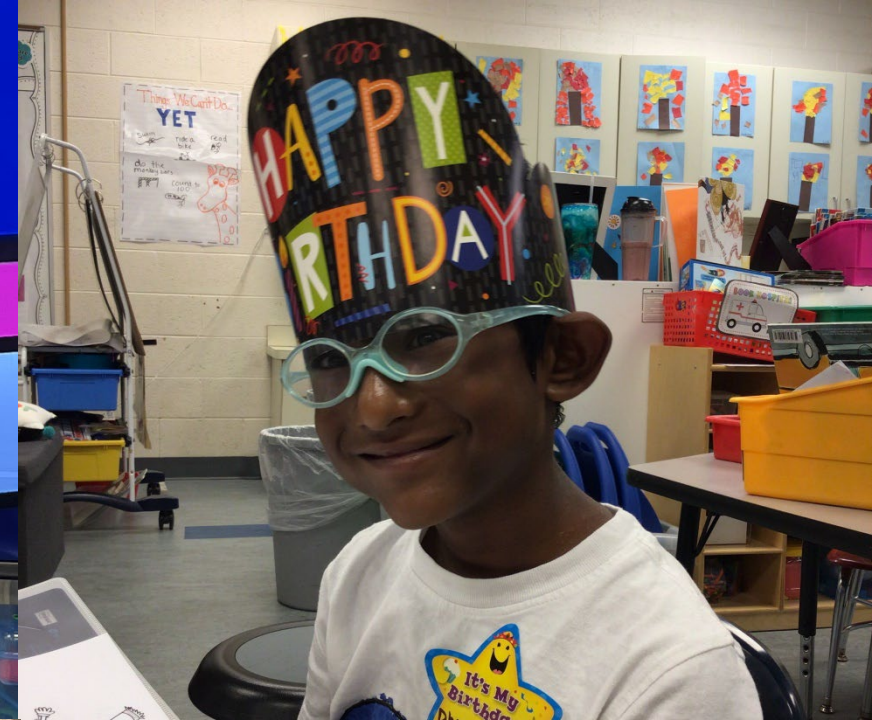
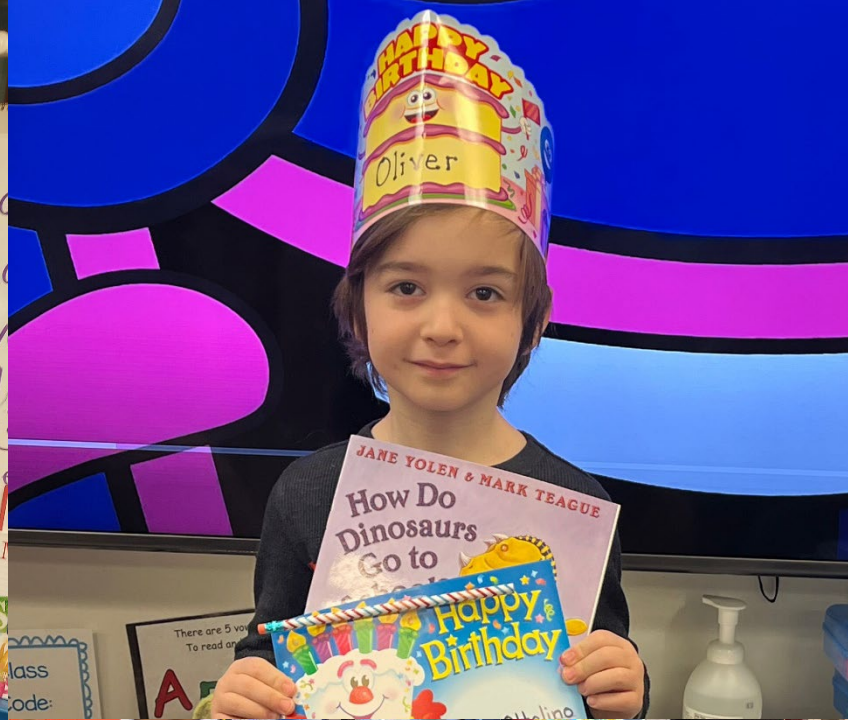
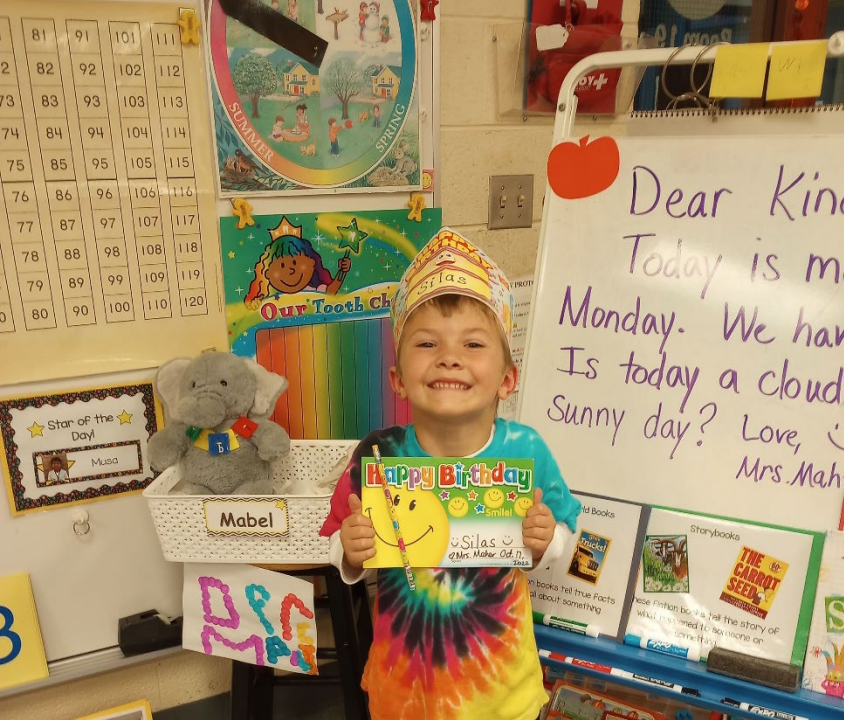












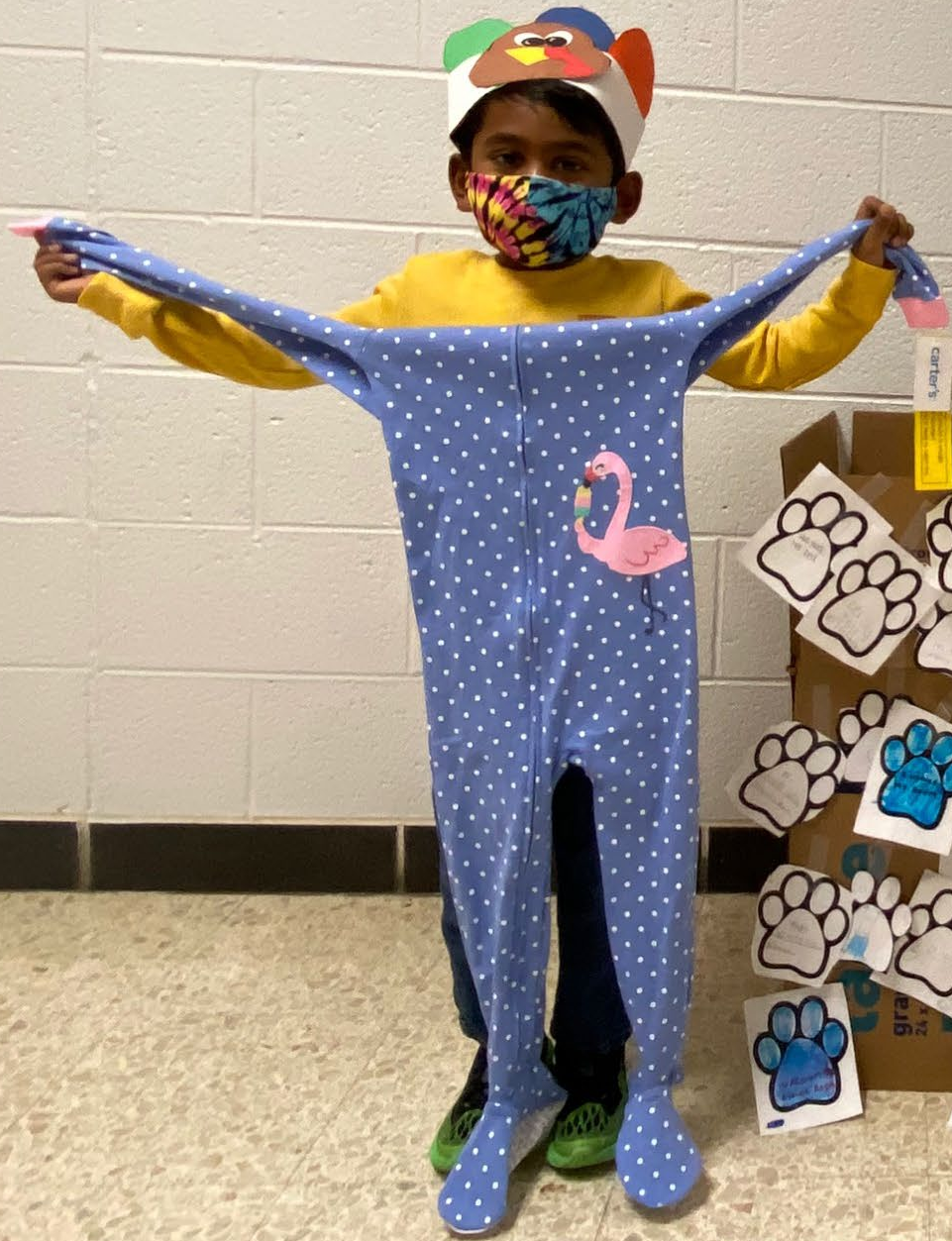
















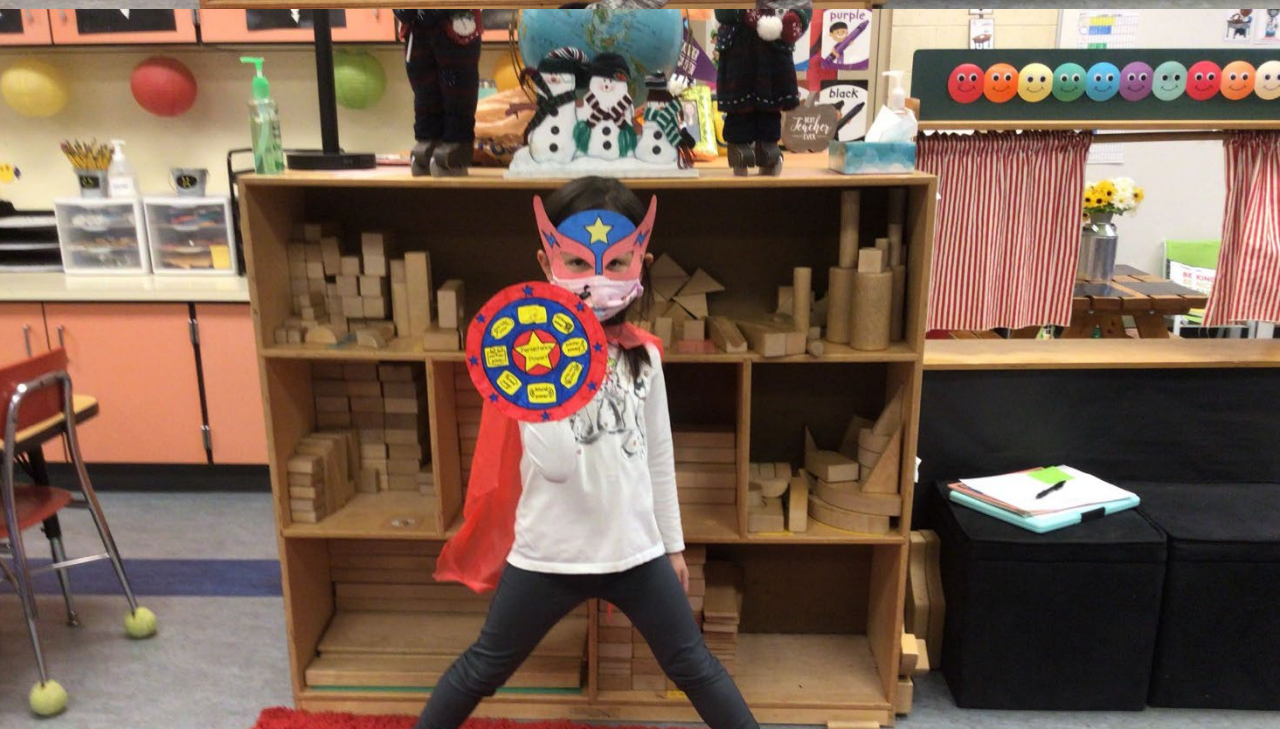
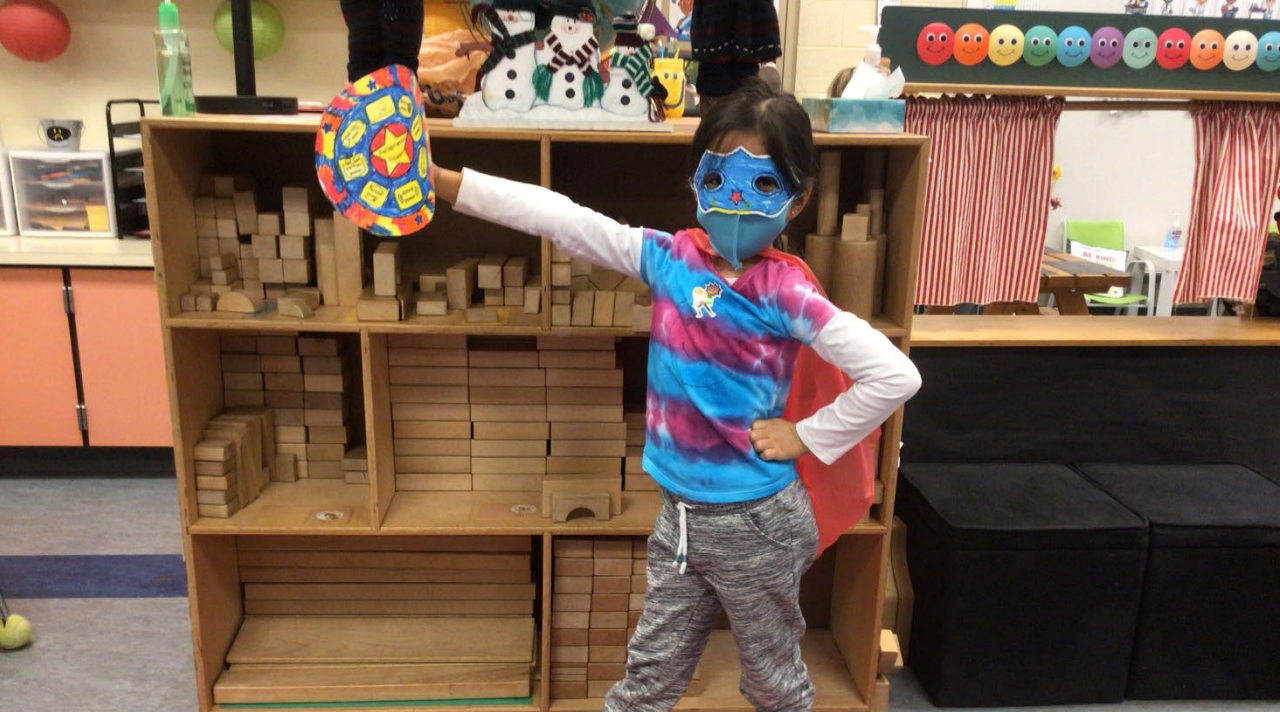
HOME  
sweet  
CLASSROOM

Today, I will...  
**BE KIND.**  
**BE NICE.**  
**BE FAIR.**  
**BE HAPPY.**

















Today is Friday!  
We will have music  
Have good happy  
St. Patty's Day

Love,  
Helen  
Smiles

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

I'm a little leprechaun,  
Dressed in green.  
No man you've ever seen.  
You ever catch me,  
I have told.  
A pot of gold!

MY TO DO LIST:  
1. Wake up  
2. Get dressed  
3. Eat breakfast  
4. Go to school  
5. Play  
6. Eat lunch  
7. Go home  
8. Take a bath  
9. Read a book  
10. Go to bed

2021  
Troy  
Sports Camps







# SUPPORTS OUR SCHOOL

## All Students

- Assemblies
- School Beautification
- Specials Teachers Grants
- Beginning of the Year Teacher Grants for Startup Materials
- Learning Night
- March Is Reading Month
- Character Education
- Bingo Night
- Field Trips
- Staff Appreciation

## Kindergarten

- Field Trip to Bower's Farm
- Field Trip to the Detroit Zoo
- Field Trip to the Troy Historical Museum
- Field Trip to the Stage Nature Center

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Charter Busses for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp at YMCA Camp Storer in Jackson, MI
- Safety Patrol & Service Squad
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition Program
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Gift / Larson MS T-Shirts
- Wonder Project Canvases

## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

- Field Trip to Sea Life Aquarium
- Valentine's Party Service-Learning Project
- Parents & Pastries Program



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

- Detroit Zoo Field Trip
- Historical Museum Field Trip
- Bats Assembly through Cranbrook Institute

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

- Robot Garage In-School Field Trip
- Deneweth's Garden Center Field Trip
- Scholastic News

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Charter Busses for Field Trip to our State Capitol in Lansing, MI
- Henry Ford Museum Field Trip







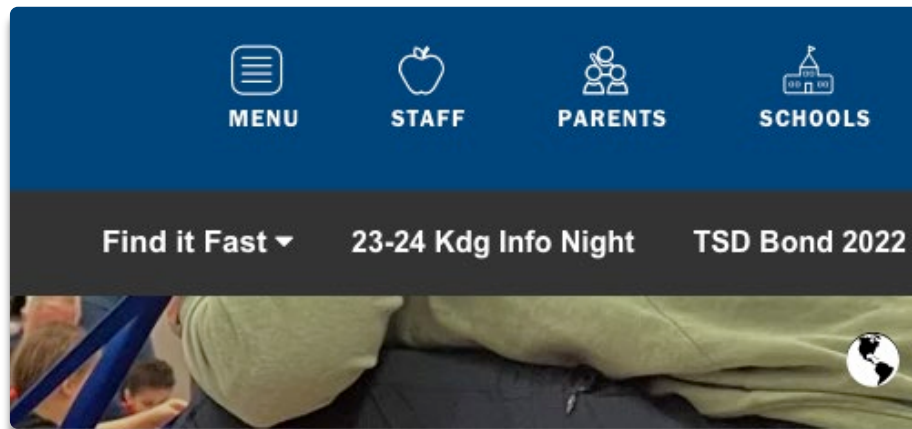


# Kindergarten Meet & Greet

- ▶ You and your child are invited to the **Wass Meet & Greet** tentatively on **Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- ▶ More developmentally appropriate timing for incoming kindergarteners.
- ▶ Your child will meet their Kindergarten teacher and Wass specials teachers.
- ▶ Have a tour of the building and meet familiar faces.
- ▶ **See the flyer** on the Wass website.



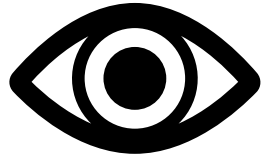
# ENROLLMENT INFORMATION



- ▶ Wass Website
- ▶ All Enrollment Documents
- ▶ All Kindergarten Information Night Materials
- ▶ Slide Show will be uploaded
- ▶ TSD Calendar
- ▶ Meet & Greet Flyer



# VISION & HEARING SCREENING



- ▶ Required for entry to Kindergarten.
- ▶ State Requirement that the Oakland County Health Department enforces.
- ▶ **See the flyer** on the Wass website.
- ▶ You can see your family physician to complete the screening.
- ▶ 4 additional locations are listed.



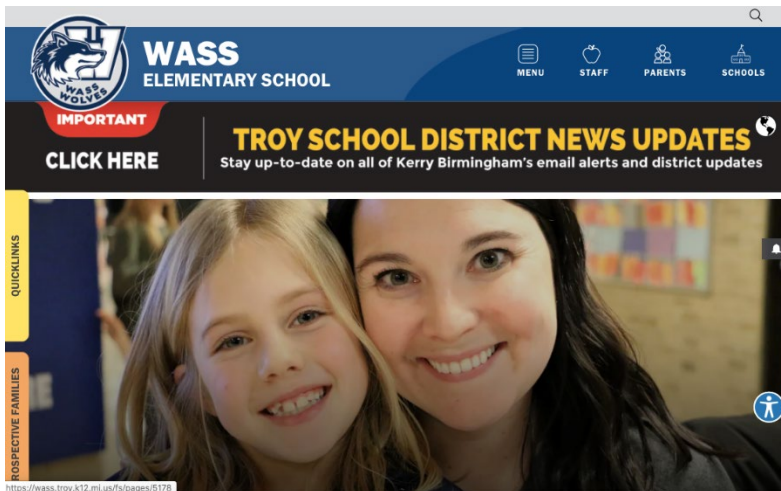
twitter



@WassWolves

@PrincipalJansen

Wass Website



## The Wolf's Howl



facebook



Wass PTO  
Facebook Page

# Learn More About Wass



*The strength of the Wolf is in the  
Pack and the strength of the  
Pack is in the Wolf.*





THE TEAM

THE TEAM

THE TEAM





# QUESTIONS

- ▶ You can email me at [mjansen@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:mjansen@troy.k12.mi.us) with any additional or individual questions you may have.





- ▶ Please take 5-10 minutes to complete this 15-question survey about your incoming kindergartener.

## 2023 Wass Kindergarten Parent Survey

