

# **DUNELAND**

**SCHOOL CORPORATION**



**INSPIRE | ENGAGE | EMPOWER**



# **DUNELAND**

---

## **KINDERGARTEN**

---

### **WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN FROM THE BUILDING PRINCIPALS**

Dear Kindergarten Families:

Welcome to Duneland Schools! We know Kindergarten is an exciting time in your lives as your child begins their school career. It may be a day long awaited, but it may also be a day full of apprehension. Our goal always is to make it a positive experience for both you and your child. In the coming months, as we prepare for these first days, we encourage you to continue to build up excitement for school and talk favorably about this big transition. For now focus on learning, making new friends, and being ready for school. Then in August, once class assignments and teacher decisions are finalized you can layer in excitement and discussions about specific teachers and classes. All of this can build up to a positive first experience at our Open Houses before school and then the first day of class.

Prior to that, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school. We thank you for choosing Duneland Schools and look forward to partnering with you on this educational journey.

Sincerely,

Duneland Elementary Principals

## SCHOOL ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

<a href="#">Duneland School Corporation</a>	601 W. Morgan Avenue, Chesterton, IN 46304 Phone: 219-983-3600
<a href="#">Bailly Elementary School</a>	800 S. 5th Street, Chesterton, IN 46304 Phone: 219-983-3670
<a href="#">Brummitt Elementary School</a>	2500 Indian Boundary Road, Chesterton, IN 46304 Phone: 219-983-3660
<a href="#">Jackson Elementary School</a>	811 N. 400 East, Valparaiso, IN 46383 Phone: 219-983-3680
<a href="#">Liberty Elementary School</a>	50-1 W. 900 North, Chesterton, IN 46304 Phone: 219-983-3650
<a href="#">Yost Elementary School</a>	100 W. Beam Street, Porter, IN 46304 Phone: 219-983-3640

## KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: [IDOE: Kindergarten](#)

- Kindergarten Readiness: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- Kindergarten Literacy Readiness: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- Kindergarten Mathematics Readiness: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

## KINDERGARTEN

### ***IN ADDITION TO ACADEMICS, YOUR CHILD WILL ALSO LEARN ...***

- ★ To get along with others - to be cheerful, polite, fair, and well-mannered.
- ★ To share with others - things like toys, games, and experiences.
- ★ To explore - new things and new ideas.
- ★ To express themselves - with words, paint, crayons, clay, music, etc.
- ★ To problem solve - to ask questions and anticipate what they will do next.
- ★ To listen - to stories and directions.
- ★ To look at books - and learn how to use them.

- ★ To use new vocabulary - through a variety of technological resources and school, classroom, social experiences.
- ★ To think of others - as they are and accept differences.
- ★ To care for themselves and their belongings - tending to bathroom needs, washing and drying hands, picking up toys.
- ★ To write - by dictating words, using inventive spelling, and sight word vocabulary.
- ★ To count - by relating numbers of specific groups to objects.
- ★ To play outdoors - developing muscles, learning to take turns and to follow rules.
- ★ To eat with others - using good manners and learning to relax.
- ★ To become responsible - through classroom jobs.
- ★ To be safe - by taking part in safety lessons, fire drills, supervised playground activities, etc.
- ★ To protect themselves - know where to go and who will protect them.

### **DON'T BE SURPRISED IF...**

- ★ Your child brings home a crayon picture that looks like scribbling and wants to hang it in their room. Your child's pictures are important and add to their feeling of personal worth. Encourage your child to tell a story about the picture.
- ★ Your child says, "Tommy hit me", or "Sally pinched me." Pinching, hitting and name calling are types of behavior that are apt to go along with group living among five year olds. The teacher prevents this as much as possible and tries to make a profitable lesson to social living out of incidents that occur.
- ★ Your child comes home with paint, glue or dirt on their clothes. We try to prevent as much of this as possible, but accidents still happen.
- ★ In the beginning your child seems to choose the same activities for work or play in kindergarten several days in a row. Your child feels more secure in the kind of work or play they are familiar with.
- ★ Your child says, "We didn't do anything but play today in kindergarten." Play in kindergarten has a purpose behind it. What is play to an adult might be meaningful work to a child. We are attempting to assist the child in developing many new concepts which may be developed through a variety of procedures.
- ★ Your child doesn't suddenly start reading, writing, and using arithmetic skills. Some readiness in these areas will be developed as the year progresses, but many considerations must be made in knowing when and how to proceed with the individual children who are involved. Too much pressure without the necessary readiness can be very damaging. Parent patience and understanding are quite helpful.

### **HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD?**

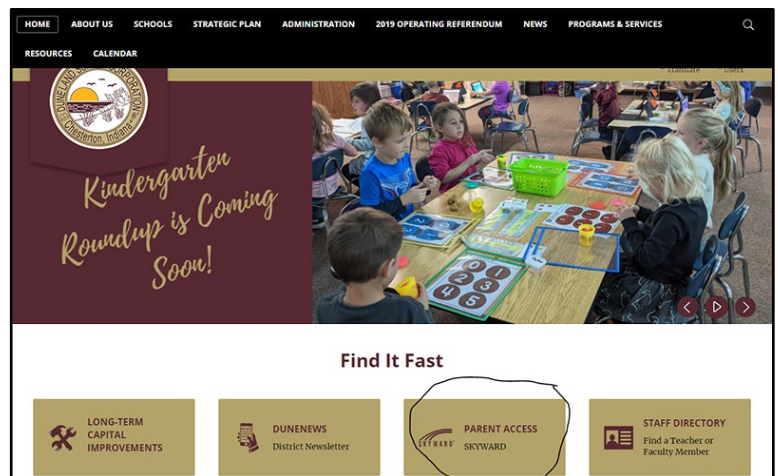
- ★ Be enthusiastic about what your child brings home or tells you about!
- ★ Encourage your child to bring creations home for you to see.

- ★ Praise your child generously for tasks well done.
- ★ Allow your child to initiate activities and play independently.
- ★ Encourage your child to do their best and to be cooperative.
- ★ Make sure they know you love them even when they make mistakes.
- ★ Talk with the kindergarten teacher throughout the year to check on your child's progress and successes.
- ★ Volunteer in your child's classroom or school.
- ★ Join your school's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) --It's FREE!
- ★ One of the most important things you can do to aid in your child's academic achievement is to **READ TO YOUR CHILD**. You are encouraged to do so on a daily basis!

## STAY CONNECTED

When you enroll your child it is important to give the school an accurate phone number and email where you can be reached. When there are weather delays, school closing or important school information, we use Skylert as our automated system to contact all parents in the corporation. No more getting up early and listening to the radio. It is the parent's responsibility to make changes or update a phone number or email as needed through the Skyward Parent Access.

Progress will be issued in the form of report cards four times during the school year. Your child will also be given a math and reading assessment periodically during the school year. The testing will occur in the beginning of the year, middle of the year, and end of the year. These results will be shared with you.



**Families are encouraged to participate in the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).** It is free, and it's a great way to be involved in your child's education. Participating in PTO meetings and activities will allow you to meet other families and become involved in your child's school.

## **ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK**

[An Elementary Handbook](#) with more detailed information is available online and is updated every year. The handbook goes into further detail about the elementary school day, procedures, policy references, attendance, homework, etc.

## **KINDERGARTEN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)**

To stay up to date with FAQ visit Duneland School Corporation: Kindergarten

[2023; Kindergarten FAQ](#)