

Kindergarten Information Night

Class of 2037
January 30, 2024



Welcome from MISD

- Superintendent, Dr. Fred Rundle

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Welcome Families

- Heidi

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Overview of the evening

- Mission and Goals
- Purpose, goals, and preparing for kindergarten
- What do kindergarteners learn?
- A Day in Kindergarten - video
- Transportation
- PTA & MISF
- Registration information
- K-Camp & The First Day of School
- WaKids – Family Engagement Conferences
- Questions

MISD Vision

- Heidi

MERCER ISLAND
SCHOOL DISTRICT
STUDENTS ARE THE PRIORITY

Students are the Priority

Values:

- ★ Supporting the whole child
- ★ Creating inclusive and equitable learning settings
- ★ Ensuring our school communities are safe and supportive
- ★ Providing rigorous and challenging learning

Vision:

- ★ Inspiring our students to be lifelong learners as they create their futures.

Mission:

- ★ The District will foster learning by engaging students in thinking critically, solving problems creatively, and working collaboratively.

A Little About Lakeridge... - Heidi



The Lakeridge Way...

Work Hard. Be Kind.

Schoolwide PBIS Expectations

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

A Little ^{More} About Lakeridge...

-Heidi

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- Mascot: Leo the Lion
- Enrollment: ±400
- Grades K-5
- Current Kindergarten Teachers
 - ▶ Rebecca Reid
 - ▶ Nicole Tisdell
- Heidi Christensen, Principal
- Julie Mattson, MIYFS Counselor



WELCOME!

Kindergarten Goals

-Rebecca



- *Foster an environment for success in Kindergarten and beyond.*
- *Develop a **community** of learners and thinkers who work together to solve problems, support each other, and love school.*

The Purpose of Kindergarten

- Rebecca

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- Academically
 - Establish academic foundational skills
 - Love school and learning
- Socially
 - Listen, follow directions, play, solve problems, honor differences, make friends, develop independence
- Emotionally
 - Develop skills to self-regulate and self-monitor

Kindergarten Today

- Nicole



- Academic component
 - Common Core Standards
 - Solidify foundations rather than race to the next target
- Students enter at various ages and with a spectrum of skills, progressing on their own developmental continuum
- The fall trimester is focused on social skills and learning routines. No academic progress reports in the fall.

Getting Ready for the First Day - Nicole



- How to prepare your child for independence in Kindergarten:
 - Toileting
 - Eating
 - Dressing
- How to best prepare your child for separation
- Building stamina for school
- Expectations for academic readiness
- Social
 - This summer, take your child to the school to see the playground
 - PTA Kindergarten playdates
 - Set up playdates over the summer

Getting Ready for Learning - Rebecca



- Develop oral language skills by talking and listening to your child and encouraging precise language and full sentences
- Play games: taking turns, sharing, following rules
- Read to your child
- Exposure to numbers, letters, and words
- Attend to pencil grip
- Share your school experiences
- Love them!

A Day in Kindergarten

-Rebecca



“K-Camp”, Teacher Assignments, & The First Day of School

– Heidi

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What is “K-Camp”:

- Last year, all the elementary schools across the Island tried out the concept of K-Camp to help us build better balanced, dynamic kindergarten classes.
- The idea is simply that we bring Kindergarten students together for the first 2-3 days of school BEFORE assigning them to separate classes/teachers.
- After these 2-3 “camp” days, we finalize teacher/class assignments.

Kindergarten First Days of School:

- Grades 1-12 start school on Wednesday, August 28, 2024.

*****The first day of school for Kinder students in 2024-25 school year will be either**

Wednesday, August 28 OR Tuesday, September 3.

We will make this announcement closer to the start of this school.***

WaKIDS: Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences - Nicole



What are WaKids Conferences?

- WaKids Conferences are parent-teacher-student conferences
- WaKids Conferences are conducted over 3 FULL DAYS within the first two weeks of school.

Purpose:

- State Requirement
- Students and families develop positive, comfortable relationships with teachers and school
- Teacher learns more about the students and families

Signing up:

- Parents will receive email notification to sign-up for a 30-min conference

******Actual dates for WaKids Conferences for the 2024-2025 school year will depend on K-Camp decisions (see previous slide). You will be notified of these dates as early as possible.******

Transportation

- Patrick Rock



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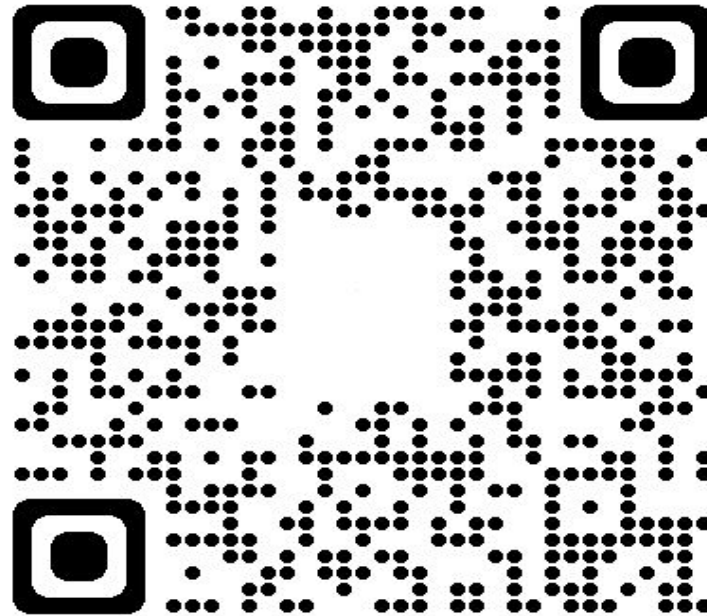
- School bus transportation is available for all on-island students living .5 walking miles of their home school and who do not live in designated walk zones
- In July, you will receive an email inviting you to sign up for bus transportation
- District policy is that all Kindergartners must be met at the stop by an authorized adult
- Students are not allowed to take a bus other than their own bus without a parent note → give to Kerri in office → bus pass

Transportation

- Patrick Rock



- For more information, visit our district [transportation website](#)



Transportation

- Nicole



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- ▶ Kindergartners have a transportation tag attached to backpacks
- ▶ Kindergartners sit in the front of the bus
- ▶ We highly encourage bus riding from day one:
 - ▶ The transition from home to school is easier
 - ▶ Make it a habit from the start

Reminder!

Wednesdays are early release 2:05pm

School Supplies

- Rebecca

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Backpacks -

- ▶ Student-sized to carry books, folders, lunch/snack, coat
- ▶ NOT small preschool-sized
- ▶ NOT large, wheeled sized

School Supplies -

- ▶ Through the partnership between Lakeridge and our PTA, we order school supplies in bulk each year as a service to our students and parents.
- ▶ Supplies will be waiting for your child in the classroom on the first day of school!

Field Trips -

- ▶ Pre-purchasing for field trip costs is provided by the PTA, please watch for communication from PTA for Supplies & Field Trips fees at the beginning of the school year.

Lunch & Snack

- Rebecca

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Snack -

- 10 minutes usually midmorning
- Please send a reasonable amount of *healthy* snack

Lunch Time -

- 20 minute lunches followed by 15 minutes of recess.

Lunch Seating Assignments -

- Seated with their own class
- Kindergarteners come in a few minutes early with their teachers to help them get lunches and find their seats. They are also dismissed just before or after the rest of the students to “beat the rush” out the cafeteria doors.

Lunchroom Options -

- No sharing food in the cafeteria
- Allergy-free table with a friend for students with Health Care Plans
- Hot lunch or just milk available for purchase

Before/After School Daycare -Heidi

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Innovation Learning -

- ▶ Housed @ Lakeridge
- ▶ Visit innovationlearning.com for more information

Boys & Girls Club -

- ▶ School bus to/from school available
- ▶ 206.232.4548

Stroum Jewish Community Center (JCC) -

- ▶ School bus to/from school available
- ▶ 206.232.7115

From the...

Nurse's Office

- Rachael

Your child's health and wellness is important to us!

REQUIRED!– All completed CIS (Certificate of Immunization Status) forms must be medically verified **on or before the first day of attendance**. Medically verified options include:

- Validated CIS form printed from IIS (WA Immunization Information System); or
- CIS printed from MyIR; or
- If completing CIS by hand, a healthcare provider's signature is needed at the bottom; or
- A completed Certificate of Exemption; or
- Initiation of a schedule toward full immunization

Washington Immunization Law – Parents Need to Know

Per WA State Law, if children are not in compliance or in conditional (temporary) immunization status by the first day of school, they will not be allowed to attend school until records are complete.

From the...

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Nurse's Office

- Rachael

Emergency Care Plans -

This is an essential step to protect your child. These plans notify teachers & support staff of your child's condition and outlines the care and actions to be taken to support your child's health.

- If your child has been diagnosed with a life threatening condition, they must have an **Emergency Care Plan** on file with the school.
- School nurse will work with you to create a plan and review it with parents **prior to the student starting school.**
- If there's a life threatening allergy and/or asthma, it is required to keep **medications on hand in the Health Room prior to your child's first day of school, every year.**
- Anytime medication is to be **given at school**, you must...
 - ◆ Complete a Medication Authorization Form signed by a parent and child's physician.
 - ◆ Medications must be in original container from the pharmacy.
 - ◆ Both the form & medication are to be brought to the nurse's office by authorized adults.
 - ◆ **Note** - *we do not allow elementary students to carry their own medications while at school.*

From the...

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Counselor's Office - Heidi



CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

- YFS mental health counselor in each of the schools.
- Counselors work with students, families and school staff to support mental and behavioral health and readiness to learn.
- YFS Counselors help students and parents build a strong foundation for the future.

Meet your YFS Counselor - Julie Mattson!



(206) 230-6019

julie.mattson@mercerislandschools.org

YFS School Counselors
are brought to you by:



Donate!

How to support your
YFS School Counselors:

**Mercer Island
THRIFT
SHOP**

Donate items
& shop!

Getting Connected...

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Lakeridge PTA

- Lauren

- Provide the PTA with your contact information
- Check the PTA website at www.lakeridgepta.org
- Become a member of Lakeridge PTA
- Sign-Up for the ROAR newsletter to keep up-to-date
- Summer Kindergarten Playdates



LAKERIDGE Elementary
PTA

A resource for Lakeridge families

Getting Connected...

Lakeridge PTA

- Lauren



- Lakeridge PTA is a non profit organization made up of Lakeridge parents and staff.
- Part of the greater council, state, and national PTA.
- Our goal is to support students, staff, and families of Lakeridge Elementary through:
 - ▶ Fundraising
 - ▶ Volunteerism
 - ▶ Programs/Enrichment
 - ▶ Events
 - ▶ Advocacy



MERCER ISLAND SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

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- Heidi



Who We Are

- The Foundation supports Mercer Island public schools
- Started in 1985 by community members
- Has raised over **\$26 million** since that time to provide our schools with programs that:
 - Inspire Learning
 - Enrich Teaching
 - Promote Innovation
 - Spark Academic Excellence

Bridging the Gap

State and public funds alone cannot adequately support the education our students deserve. Dollars raised help bridge the gap between what the state provides and what is needed to ensure every student can reach their highest potential.





MERCER ISLAND SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

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- Heidi



MERCER ISLAND
SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

How We Help

As the strategic fundraising partner for the Mercer Island School District, the Mercer Island Schools Foundation works to find the most impactful ways to empower teachers, fuel engaged learning, and support students.

Thanks to our generous community, the Foundation provides:

- World-Class Curricula
- Classroom Enrichment
- Special Education Support
- Differentiated Learning Programs
- STEM Programs
- Fine Arts
- Professional Development
- Social, Emotional & Academic Support
- Safe & Supportive Learning Environments
- National Board Certification for Teachers

Your dollars support every student, every day, in every school.





MERCER ISLAND SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

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- Heidi



MERCER ISLAND
SCHOOLS FOUNDATION



How You Can Help

There are two Foundation campaigns every year:

- Fall All in for Kids Campaign (Sept-Dec)
 - Phone-A-Thon
- Spring for Schools Campaign (Jan – June)
 - Breakfast of Champions
 - Elementary Pancake Breakfasts

The tremendous success of the organization lies in the simple fact that the Mercer Island Schools Foundation was born in a community that places value on quality education.

The suggested ASK for each campaign is **\$500/student**. *Every donation in any amount makes a difference!*



Kindergarten Registration

- Kerri

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Register Early - *it helps us plan and staff our school with the most qualified teachers and para educators!*

Registration **starts this Thursday, February 1st...**

- ▶ Completely online
- ▶ Refer to tonight's packet and district websites for online registration instructions
- ▶ "Special Considerations for Student Placement" (parent input) form available the first two weeks of May
- ▶ Teacher Assignments: Late August

How To Register

- Kerri

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Step 1: Visit www.mercerislandschools.org

Step 2: Find "Enrollment" at top...

Step 3: Find...
Kindergarten Registration

Step 4: Find...

"New Families: To begin registering [click on the Online Enrollment process](#) starting February 1, 2024."

The screenshot shows the Mercer Island School District website. At the top, there is a logo for Mercer Island School District with the tagline "Students Are The Priority". To the right of the logo are links for "STAFF HUB" and "STUDENT HUB". Below the logo is a navigation bar with tabs for "ABOUT US", "PROGRAMS & SERVICES", "ENROLLMENT", "CONNECT", and "SCHOOL B...". The "ENROLLMENT" tab is selected, and a dropdown menu is open, showing options: "Enrollment Questions", "Why M-I?", "New Student Enrollment", "Kindergarten Registration", "Early Entrance Kindergarten", and "Enrollment FAQ". The "Kindergarten Registration" option is highlighted. Below the navigation bar, there is a breadcrumb trail: "HOME > ENROLLMENT > KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION". To the right of the breadcrumb trail, there is a section titled "KINDERGARTEN" with a sub-heading "All four elementary schools will host a Kindergarten Information Night on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 from 6-7pm for kindergarteners enrolling for the 2024-25 school year. The Information Night at each elementary school is a great opportunity for families of future kindergarteners to ask questions of the school Principal and find out why we believe MISD the best option for your family as you start on your education journey." A yellow arrow points from the "Kindergarten Registration" option in the dropdown menu to the "KINDERGARTEN" section.

Registration Forms

- Kerri

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The following documents are required for registering online...

- ▶ Proof of Residency *(even if you currently have Lakeridge students)*
- ▶ Immunization and Health Forms
- ▶ Birth Certificate

Please visit the district website

“Enrollment” tab

or “Kindergarten Registration 2024-2025”

for complete information

New Student Account

- Kerri

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NEW FAMILIES TO THE DISTRICT

Families can enroll online at www.mercerislandschools.org (Click Enrollment → New Student Enrollment → Enrollment for the 2024-2025 School Year)



MERCER ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

New Student Enrollment

Welcome! This form is the first step to enroll your new student online. Complete the required fields to request an account you will use to log in to a secure New Student Enrollment system. Please provide legal guardian information for the student you would like to enroll below:

If you already have an account, please [sign in](#) with your username and password and select New Student Enrollment.

** required fields*

*Guardian First Name

*Guardian Last Name

Kindergarten Registration

- Kerri

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- ▶ Only **complete** on-line registrations will be processed-this includes immunization forms
- ▶ Submitted registration forms will be processed within **two weeks**
- ▶ You will receive a confirmation email when processed
- ▶ Please register early! Really helps us prepare for next year accordingly.

Questions

