

Welcome to Maple and Transitional Kindergarten!

We hope you are having a wonderful summer. We want to invite you to a **TK orientation on August 12th at 4:00 pm**. Meet in the Stem Lab for a new family welcome and information meeting then come to our room for more TK info. We want to inform you of a few things as you prepare to bring your baby to school. We have both been there!!

This year your child will have two teachers as we are sharing the TK position. We have an unusual schedule but for the most part, we will both be there Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Mrs Hotermann will be there on Tuesday and Mrs. Bloemhof on Thursday.

We ask that you purchase a plastic pencil box with a lid that closes. Please send the following items to school in the pencil box.

24 box of Crayola crayons

Eraser for pencil

Eraser for Dry erase marker

Fine tip Expo markers (5)

Child size scissors

Crayola watercolor pallet

Glue sticks

Your child will also need a **backpack**. They are little so we understand wanting to get a tiny backpack (they are so cute) but please make sure it is large enough to hold a folder. The students will bring home a folder every night with papers etc... Breakfast will be provided before school from 8-8:30 if you wish to have your child eat here. Lunch will be provided in the cafeteria but if you would like to send your child with meals from home in a lunchbox you are welcome to do so.

If you could also send a **change of clothes in a labeled zip lock bag** that would be helpful. Sometimes we have accidents and we want to be prepared!

We will have a rest time after lunch. Your child can bring a small blanket for this time. Please label it with your child's name either on the tag or on them.

Please also consider **velcro shoes or lock laces** (no tie elastic). In TK they are not quite ready to learn to tie their shoes. A few have learned by the end of the year but not many. The laces drag on the playground and on the bathroom floor and students tend to play with them during carpet time or worse put them in their mouths! Just something to consider as your baby is moving toward independence ;)

Speaking of independence, Please practice with your child proper bathroom hygiene. They need to be **able to wipe themselves independently**. Also, talk about closing the door when in the restroom and washing your hands after toilet use. These are things we don't always do at home but in our classroom will be very important.

We will have a list of supplies that we need for classroom use at the orientation. Please look for the apples on the tree and take one or two if you would like to help bring something to share with the class. Your participation will help greatly. We use lots of consumable materials and if we need any additional help we will let you know. We also have an Amazon wish list we will share with you at back-to-school night.

Please take time to fill out the child information survey. It helps us get to know the children faster and to have something to talk about with them. It will also give us insight into your perspective of your child...you know them best!

We will have some helpful, thought-provoking, and informative handouts that you can use to help your child through the TK year and help to prepare them for kindergarten at the TK orientation meeting. There are some strategies for learning to write letters and for phonological awareness. If you are not able to attend We will have them available at back to school night.

It is really helpful for communication if you download the Class Dojo app and join our classroom. This is how we will communicate classroom happenings as well as have sign-ups, etc. throughout the year. We will walk you through that at orientation and at back-to-school night.

We look forward to seeing you at the Tk orientation on August 12th at 4:00 pm and on the first day of school on August 15th!

Amy Bloemhof and Kristina Holtermann

Other Needed Classroom Supplies

- Dixie cups (5 oz)
- Play-doh (homemade or store-bought)
- Kinetic sand
- Kleenex anti-viral (square box)
- Expo markers (thin and thick)
- Paper towels (the school paper towels don't absorb)
- Ziploc sandwich bags (all sizes)
- Baby wipes
- Napkins
- colorful duct tape
- Pipe cleaners
- popsicle sticks
- Alphabet letter stickers
- stamp pads
- Black Sharpie