



Welcome to KINDERGARTEN

Now Enrolling for the 2025-26 School Year



Scan for Translations



● Español
● Hmoob
● Soomaaliga
العربية



stillwaterschools.org





Expect More.

There's a reason our schools have a reputation for academic excellence, and are recognized for world-class music, performing arts and athletic achievement. It's because we are committed to giving students opportunities and supporting them with caring adults who help them be their best. At Stillwater Area Public Schools, you can *expect more* from us:

- More engaging, relevant learning opportunities that stimulate curiosity and meet the unique needs of every student.
- More experiences that expand the mind, heart and creative spirit.
- More real-world learning partnerships.
- More ways for kids to find their voice and learn how to use it for good.
- More support for those with learning differences.
- More opportunities for students to discover their unique gifts, and learn how to be successful throughout their lives.
- More. For everyone.

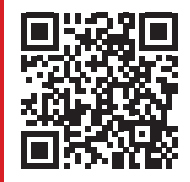


A Culture of Belonging

For students to reach their full potential, they need to feel connected and safe. We are committed to creating a district where everyone is welcome. Everyone belongs. All voices are heard, differences are embraced and every person is treated with dignity and respect.

Stillwater schools is more than a school district; it's a community where your family can feel confident, connected, and valued every step of the way.

Kindergarten: What to Expect



Scan to see a typical day

A Typical Day in Kindergarten

ARRIVE - Students may choose to eat free breakfast before school begins. As they head to their classroom they will be warmly welcomed by their teacher, say hi to their friends and prepare for the day.

MORNING MEETING - Students greet one another and take part in a fun activity to build community within the classroom.

LESSONS - Students engage in small-group or whole group lessons in language arts and math. They'll have lots of opportunities throughout the week to practice their new skills.

TIME TO PLAY! Students go outside for recess in the morning, before lunch, and in the afternoon to enjoy some fresh air and exercise as they play with friends.

SPECIALISTS - Depending on the day, students attend art, music, or physical education classes or make a trip to the media center.

LUNCH TIME - Students eat free lunch in the cafeteria with their classmates.

LESSONS - Students participate in hands-on science lessons or learn about the world around them in social studies.

SNACK TIME - Students have the opportunity to bring a snack to enjoy in the afternoon.

CLOSING ACTIVITY - At the end of the day, students gather on the rug for closing time and a recap of the day.

TIME TO GO HOME - Kids gather their belongings and are escorted to the bus, car pool or Adventure Club area.

Here are things your child will be working on as they enter kindergarten:

- Write their first name
- Identify and name colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, black, brown)
- Identify and name numbers 0-5
- Identify and name uppercase letters
- Identify and name lowercase letters
- Name sounds for letters they recognize
- Count to 31
- Regulate emotions and behaviors
- Separate from parents
- Follow directions
- Transition between activities
- Interact with peers
- Share and take turns
- Solve social problems

Important Things to Know

Health Office

Health offices at each school are staffed by health care professionals committed to keeping students well. We will work with you to address any special medical needs your child may have. For more information, visit stillwaterschools.org/nurse or call the district nurse at 651-351-8653.

Immunizations

For the safety of all children, Minnesota law requires every student enrolled in school to be immunized against certain diseases or file a legal medical or non-medical exemption. Before a child can begin kindergarten, they will need to submit these records to their school's health office. Learn more about required immunizations at stillwaterschools.org/health.

School Meals

All schools offer students a FREE nutritious breakfast and lunch every day. Students have a variety of options to choose from to help them develop healthy, lifetime eating habits.



Students may also purchase items from an à la carte menu.

Families can set up a School Café account to view daily menus, see nutrition and allergen information, or pay for ala carte items.

Learn more about our meals program at stillwaterschools.org/meals.

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available for families to help pay for many school-related activities (field trips, activities, instruments and more). Families are encouraged to fill out an Educational Benefits Form (available in July) to determine if they qualify. Your application could help not just your family, but kids across the district in many ways. Just one form ensures continued funding to support ALL kids in our schools. Learn more at stillwaterschools.org/benefits.

Special Education

Stillwater Area Public Schools provides a variety of specialized services for students who qualify, including interventions and support for academic, social, behavioral and physical obstacles to learning. If you suspect your child has a disability, please visit stillwaterschools.org/SPED or call the district's Student Support Services Office at 651-351-8605.

Multilingual Learner (ML) Services

We help ML students develop communication skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing, which enables them to be successful within the academic mainstream classroom. The program also assists students through their cultural adjustment. We help them develop an understanding of American culture, while encouraging them to share their cultural backgrounds and realize the importance of their role in a multicultural society. For more information visit stillwaterschools.org/ML or call 651-351-8606.



School Age Care

Adventure Club is an optional, fee-based, before and after school child care program for students kindergarten through grade 5. All-day care is also offered on non-school days and in the summer at select sites.

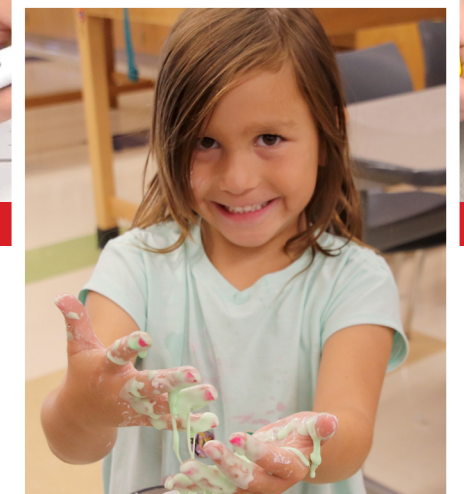
If you think you might need before or after school care, fill out the interest form at stillwaterschools.org/ACinterest.



For more information visit stillwaterschools.org/AC or call 651-351-8300.

Enrichment Opportunities

Keep the learning going after school! Community Education offers fun, engaging classes year round - even on weekends and school breaks. From art and robotics to sports and theatre, there's something for everyone. And the best part is many of the classes are held right at your school! See all they have to offer at stillwater.ce.eleyo.com.



Next Step: Kindergarten!

Parents and other caregivers can provide important activities and experiences for children as they transition from the preschool years to kindergarten. Here are some things you can do at home to help your child be successful in kindergarten.



Emotional Development:

- Respond to your child's emotional and physical needs in kind and nurturing ways.
- Establish predictable family/life routines, but be flexible when necessary.
- Help your child identify and talk about their own feelings and the feelings of others.
- Model the use of appropriate words and actions when dealing with conflict and/or anger.

Approaches to Learning:

- Plan activities and experiences that provide time for you and your child to learn together.
- Help your child explore and learn about your neighborhood and community.
- Encourage your child to try new things and solve problems.
- Monitor/limit the use of television, videos and computers.
- Talk to children every day about the things they see, hear and do.

Social Competence:

- Listen carefully to your child. Encourage them to listen to others.
- Have regular conversations with your child and keep conversations going back and forth.
- Help your child identify and appreciate similarities and differences among people in your family and community.
- Model positive and appropriate ways to interact with children and adults.
- Use peaceful ways to resolve conflict with others.
- Encourage your child to help others in your family, neighborhood and community.

Physical Development:

- Provide opportunities and time for outdoor large motor play.
- Provide opportunities for play with puzzles, blocks, beads, etc.
- Model and provide opportunities for writing and drawing at home.
- Serve healthy foods, eat regular meals and provide time for rest and relaxation.
- Make sure your child gets plenty of exercise and physical activity.
- Encourage your child to be independent when dressing, toileting, washing hands, eating, etc.
- Encourage your child to ask for help and be available to help when needed.



Spanish Immersion

"It has been an incredible experience to watch the language development in our kids and see their excitement for learning about other cultures. We are fortunate to have some of the best teachers and staff in this program who are committed to helping our kids to succeed."

- Alicia Arnal,
parent

Looking for a Unique Kindergarten Experience?

Our Amigos Unidos Spanish Immersion Program offers a fun and engaging way for kids to learn in both English and Spanish! This dual-language experience housed at Lake Elmo Elementary* gives students the chance to become bilingual from the start of their school journey. Beyond learning a new language, kids explore new cultures, build cognitive skills, and develop a global perspective.



And the learning doesn't stop there—our immersion program continues into middle school, allowing students to deepen their language skills and cultural understanding as they grow!

We're thrilled to welcome more families this year with an additional kindergarten section. Applications are open now through Jan. 15. Don't miss this chance to give your child a head start with the gift of language!

Apply now at stillwaterschools.org/immersion

* Transportation is ONLY provided to students living within the Lake Elmo Elementary attendance boundary. Hub stops are available for families outside the boundary to catch a shuttle to and from school.

Interested in Learning More?

We invite you to discover more about immersion and how it might benefit your child.

Information Night
December 11, 2024
6:30-7:30 p.m.
(tour following)
Lake Elmo Elementary

Space in Amigos Unidos is limited. Families must complete an online application along with their enrollment form by Jan. 15. A final selection is made through a tiered lottery. If families do not receive their choice, they will be welcomed in their neighborhood school.

Our Schools

Families in our community value choice and we provide a variety of learning environments to meet your child's individual needs.

Elementary Schools

Afton-Lakeland Elementary School

475 St. Croix Trail South
Lakeland, MN 55043
651-351-6500
stillwaterschools.org/aftonlakeland

Andersen Elementary School

309 North 4th Street
Bayport, MN 55003
651-351-6600
stillwaterschools.org/andersen

Brookview Elementary School

11099 Brookview Road
Woodbury, MN 55129
651-275-2500
stillwaterschools.org/brookview

Lake Elmo Elementary School

11030 Stillwater Blvd. North
Lake Elmo, MN 55042
651-351-6700
stillwaterschools.org/lakeelmo

Lily Lake Elementary School

2003 West Willard Street
Stillwater, MN 55082
651-351-6800
stillwaterschools.org/lilylake

Rutherford Elementary School

115 Rutherford Road
Stillwater, MN 55082
651-351-6400
stillwaterschools.org/rutherford

Stonebridge Elementary School

900 North Owens Street
Stillwater, MN 55082
651-351-8700
stillwaterschools.org/stonebridge



We're All Ponies

Stillwater Area Public Schools stretches from Marine on St. Croix to Afton. We serve more than 8,000 students in 18 different communities including Lake Elmo and Woodbury. The district is made up of seven elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school.

Our elementary schools serve students in preschool-grade 5. And while each school has its own personality, all use the same high-quality curriculum and innovative teaching methods to nurture your child's curiosity.

Students are eligible to attend school outside of their assigned attendance area provided space is available at the school of their choice and application processes are followed. Alternate applications, along with the district enrollment forms must be submitted by Jan. 15 in order to be considered.

No matter what school you attend you'll be glad you chose Stillwater Area Public Schools!

The best way to learn what makes our schools great is by experiencing our schools for yourself! Watch a video tour or schedule one in person with the school secretary.




**School
Tours**