

OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS

ISD  279

**WELCOME  
KINDERGARTNERS!**

Explore  
kindergarten  
at Osseo Area  
Schools

## **FIND YOUR PATH IN OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS**

- Welcoming community
- Supportive teachers and staff
- Effective teaching methods
- Variety of program choices
- Diverse and inclusive culture

### **ENROLLMENT INFORMATION**



Scan to learn more or visit  
[district279.org/enroll](https://district279.org/enroll)



# WELCOME TO OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS

I am thrilled to extend a warm and enthusiastic greeting to you and your child. I understand the excitement and anticipation that comes with this pivotal moment in your child's life and want to assure you that Osseo Area Schools is the right school choice. Our district is not just a place of education, it's a thriving, diverse community where young scholars are encouraged to become learners, explorers and achievers.

Osseo Area Schools believes that every child is unique and filled with potential, which is why our mission is to inspire and prepare each and every scholar to achieve their dreams; contribute to community; and engage in a lifetime of learning.

Our dedicated educational team is truly exceptional, as they possess a deep passion for nurturing young minds and encouraging a love for learning. They go above and beyond to create a supportive and engaging environment for all our scholars.

I understand that this journey is not just about the children; it's also a partnership with parents. Osseo Area Schools is a place where families come together, share experiences and build lasting connections.

I invite you and your family to join us at Osseo Area Schools, where the possibilities are endless, your child's potential is celebrated and their future is our most important mission. Our staff is eager to meet you and your future kindergartner and looks forward to beginning this remarkable journey together.

Warm regards,



Dr. Kim Hiel  
Superintendent  
Osseo Area Schools







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# MAGNET SCHOOL OPTIONS

Our magnet schools offer a tailored curriculum that focuses on specific areas of interest, such as science, technology, and the arts. We provide a rich learning experience that will ignite your child's passion for learning from a young age. Free transportation is available to and from all magnet schools if you live within the school districts of Anoka-Hennepin, Brooklyn Center, Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose, Elk River-Otsego-Rogers-Zimmerman, Fridley, Osseo and Rockford.

## BIRCH GROVE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

At Birch Grove School for the Arts, core curriculum is integrated with music, dance, drama and visual arts for daily classroom instruction. Arts-rich electives and arts troupes provide additional opportunities for scholars to "learn through our passion for the arts."

## WEAVER LAKE: A SCIENCE, MATH & TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL

At Weaver Lake, learning takes place as scholars investigate the world around them. Scholars discover answers and solve challenges through reading, research and investigation.

## ZANEWOOD COMMUNITY: A STEAM SCHOOL

At Zanewood Community: A Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math School, scholars are taught to be problem solvers, creators and collaborators. Learning activities are designed to appeal to children's interests, be inclusive of all scholars' cultures, and provide academic challenge (and fun!) for children at all grade levels.

## APPLY BY DEC. 31

Submit your application by Dec. 31, 2024 through the Northwest Suburban Integration School District's website at [nws.k12.mn.us/magnet-lottery.html](https://nws.k12.mn.us/magnet-lottery.html) to be considered in the first lottery.

After each lottery, applications not yet selected will be included in future lotteries or placed on a waitlist. Please note that kindergartners are not automatically enrolled in magnet schools based on an older sibling's enrollment. For help with the magnet school application, contact Northwest Suburban Integration School District at 763-450-1303.

# ONLINE EDUCATION

## 279ONLINE

Our free full-time online school, 279Online, provides scholars access to high-quality education from the comfort of home. Kindergartners experience personalized learning, with the ability to progress at their own pace, receive one-on-one teacher attention and explore subjects aligned with their unique interests and learning style. Learn more at [279online.com](https://279online.com).



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## PROGRAMS TO MEET YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS

Our dedicated team of experienced teachers and specialists is committed to providing individualized support and personalized learning for children with diverse needs. Our goal is to create a welcoming and empowering educational journey for all children, where their differences are celebrated and families feel supported.

### SPECIAL EDUCATION OPTIONS

Special education includes a wide array of programs and services designed to meet the unique needs of scholars with disabilities. In our supportive and caring special education programs, we promote social and emotional development, language and communication skills, and academic progress, ensuring that every child reaches their full potential.

### AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION

American Indian Education classes utilize experiential learning and are centered on strengthening the identity of the Indigenous child. The program empowers American Indian scholars and their families and enhances their potential through culture-based educational programming.

### TALENT DEVELOPMENT, ACADEMIC CHALLENGE AND GIFTED SUPPORT (TAG)

Your child will be challenged and engaged through the differentiated learning experiences offered through TAG programming. Students need and deserve challenging learning opportunities that help them discover their unique interests and strengths. Our programming is designed to meet the needs of all students, including those who have demonstrated high performance or show the potential for high performance relative to others of their age, experience or environment.

### KIDSTOP: BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Before and after school care is available through the Community Education program, Kidstop. Kidstop delivers an enriching, choice-based education in a safe and welcoming environment where children are inspired, personal growth is nurtured and families are supported. This program serves children in kindergarten through grade five (students entering kindergarten in fall 2025 are eligible for summer care).

- A choice-based, high-quality and enriching school-age care experience
- Students can arrive as early as 6:30 a.m. and stay as late as 6 p.m., up to five days per week
- Open on most non-school days
- A healthy breakfast and afternoon snack are included

**Register online:** Visit [district279.org/kidstop](https://district279.org/kidstop) and choose "Register/Manage Your Account"

- Summer 2025 registration opens on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 6 a.m.
- 2025-26 school year registration opens Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 6 a.m.
- Contracts are accepted in the order they are received. For more information call, 763-585-7281 or email [cecares@district279.org](mailto:cecares@district279.org)





# HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION

## EXCEPTIONAL TEACHERS

At Osseo Area Schools, we take great pride in our commitment to hiring high-quality teachers who dedicate themselves to providing the best education for every scholar. Our teachers not only have strong academic qualifications, but they also have a deep passion for teaching and a genuine desire to make a positive impact on scholars' lives. Our teachers continually develop their skills through ongoing professional development, and they benefit from a supportive and collaborative environment that encourages innovation and excellence.

## KINDERGARTEN OVERVIEW

Our all-day kindergarten curriculum is designed to provide a strong foundation for your child's academic development. We place emphasis on building essential skills that serve as stepping stones for their future learning. In addition to academic growth, we encourage social-emotional development to help scholars become well-rounded individuals.

Our hands-on learning experiences make education exciting, interactive, and memorable, ensuring that your child's kindergarten experience provides ample opportunity to actively engage with the material, their peers and their environment.

### A typical day might include (there will be some variation among schools):

1. Morning meeting/welcome
2. Lessons in science, social studies, health and art
3. Snack
4. Math
5. Music or physical education (alternating days)
6. Lunch/recess
7. Quiet time
8. Writing
9. Reading/language arts
10. Self-directed choice time

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE

Osseo Area Schools understand that every child is unique which is why we offers a variety of meaningful school and program options are offered to meet your young scholar's needs:

- Arts enrichment programs
- STEM and STEAM programs
- Full-day online school
- Special education options
- American Indian Education
- Talent Development, Academic Challenge and Gifted Support (TAG) Program
- Before-and-after school child care programs

## LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

- Find all of our schools at [district279.org](https://district279.org)
- If you are unsure which school your child is assigned to, visit [district279.org/findmyschool](https://district279.org/findmyschool) and enter your home address
- If your child is currently enrolled in our tuition-free half day pre-k program and you wish to attend kindergarten at the same school, reenrollment may not be necessary. Contact our Enrollment Center, [enrollmentcenter@district279.org](mailto:enrollmentcenter@district279.org), for more information

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## ENROLLMENT CENTER

EnrollmentCenter@district279.org  
763-585-7350 | [district279.org/enroll](https://district279.org/enroll)

**English:** 763-391-7000, **Español:** 1-855-891-8364,  
**Lus Hmoob:** 1-877-205-3002, **русский:** 1-855-891-5321,  
**Soomaali:** 1-855-891-5322, or **Tiếng Việt:** 1-855-891-8365

## IMPORTANT ENROLLMENT DATES

**DEC. 31, 2024**

**First magnet school lottery deadline**

Please submit your application through the Northwest Suburban Integration School District's website at, [nws.k12.mn.us/magnet-lottery.html](https://nws.k12.mn.us/magnet-lottery.html)

- Birch Grove School for the Arts
- Weaver Lake: A Science, Math & Technology School
- Zanewood Community: A STEAM School (Note: A lottery application is required only for students who live outside the Zanewood attendance area.)

**JAN. 15, 2025**

**Open enrollment lottery deadline**

(In-district transfers and non-resident students)

Applications received after Jan. 15, 2025 will be considered in the order received based on space availability.

**MARCH 7, 2025**

**Second magnet school lottery deadline**

If you applied before the first magnet school lottery deadline and were not accepted, you will automatically be entered into the second magnet school lottery. You do not need to reapply.

**MARCH - MAY 2025**

**Attend kindergarten orientation**

See full calendar at [district279.org/info-center/calendars](https://district279.org/info-center/calendars)

**AUG. 2025**

**Transportation eligible students: Check ParentVUE and/or watch for an email with bus information**

Transportation details will be emailed and added to ParentVUE under Student Info. to enrolled families in late Aug. Transportation is provided to elementary students who live 0.8 mile or more from school. Parents/caregivers of students who are open enrolled (including in-district transfers) are responsible for their student's transportation.

## ENROLLMENT CENTER

7051 Brooklyn Boulevard  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

## ENROLLMENT CHECKLIST

### Find your child's school

To determine the school assigned to your home address, visit [district279.org/findmyschool](https://district279.org/findmyschool).

### Schedule your child's Early Childhood Screening appointment

Screening is free and includes a check of vision, hearing, and developmental progress and a review of immunizations. The ideal time for screening is between ages three and four. Schedule your appointment at [district279.org/screeningapt](https://district279.org/screeningapt).

### Update your child's immunizations\*

Minnesota requires that all kindergartners show they have received immunizations or an exemption\* for the following: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTP); measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); polio; varicella (chicken pox); and hepatitis B. For information about immunizations or the free immunization clinic, please call 763-585-7350.

\*Legal exemptions are allowed—both for medical reasons and conscientiously held beliefs.



## SIX DIFFERENT WAYS TO SUBMIT ENROLLMENT MATERIAL

1. **Online:** [district279.org/enroll](https://district279.org/enroll) (after Jan. 2025)
2. **Email:** [enrollmentcenter@district279.org](mailto:enrollmentcenter@district279.org)
3. **Fax:** 763-585-7368
4. **Mail:** Enrollment Center  
7051 Brooklyn Boulevard,  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429
5. **In-person:** 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
6. **Dropbox in lobby** during non-business hours