

SAVE THE DATE



2026-27 Kindergarten Roundup

These fun-filled Saber events allow families and children to tour an elementary school, meet teachers, engage with specialists, take a bus ride, grab a snack in the lunch line and much more!

April 14, 2026
5:30 - 7:00pm

Red Oak & Sun Path
Elementary Schools

April 21, 2026
5:30 - 7:00pm

Eagle Creek, Sweeney and
Jackson Elementary Schools

Each of Shakopee's five (5) elementary schools will host a 'Kindergarten Roundup' in April. No RSVP is necessary and all family members, including siblings, are welcome to attend. For the best experience, please plan to arrive on or shortly after 5:30pm.

KINDERGARTEN

Key Milestones



REGISTRATION & SCREENINGS

Anytime

Required

Families may enroll for the upcoming school year anytime on or after October 1st of each year online 24/7 or at the Welcome Center Monday - Friday. FREE early childhood screenings are offered year-round at Pearson Early Learning Center and are required for Kindergarten.



INFORMATION SESSION

Early December

Optional - Families, Kid-Friendly

Families can learn more about routines and activities, obtain important dates, engage with staff and feel at ease about the upcoming Kindergarten transition. Held at one location.



KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP

Mid-April

Families & Students Encouraged

These fun-filled Saber events allow families and children to tour an elementary school, meet teachers, engage with specialists, take a bus ride, grab a snack in the lunch line and much more! Held at each elementary school.



FREE TWO-DAY KINDER KAMP

Mid-August

Optional - Students Only

This free, unique experience is a great way for incoming Kindergarten students to get excited about the upcoming school year while also building relationships and comfort within the school community.



CONNECT & ASSESS

Early September

Strongly Encouraged

Connect & Assess can last 15-30 minutes depending on your student's needs and desire to tour the school, connect with staff, etc.



Current School Year

Winter

Spring

Summer

Next School Year

The Shakopee Saber Experience

- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM), music, art and physical education specialists
- Project Lead the Way
- Expanded science and hands-on math curriculum
- Comprehensive Literacy Framework
- Dedicated health services team
- Safe & secure environment
- iPads & interactive technology
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Emphasis on routines, student agency and social emotional development
- Differentiated and individualized student development



"Thank you for always being so kind and smiling all the time. We are so lucky to have (elementary) teachers like you in Shakopee."

- Shakopee Elementary Student

"Our child loves coming to class everyday because she is supported, valued and encouraged!"

- Shakopee Elementary Family

Our Schools

Located in one of the fastest growing suburbs in the Twin Cities, Shakopee Public Schools is proud to serve the Cities of Shakopee, Savage and Prior Lake as well as Jackson, Louisville and Sand Creek Townships. The district directly supports nearly 8,000 students, has 1,000+ dedicated staff members, 11+ buildings, 1.7+ million square feet of space and over 350+ acres of land, making it a truly unique community with endless opportunity.

- Eagle Creek Elementary • Stephanie Baker, Principal
- Jackson Elementary • Kevin Bjerken, Principal
- Red Oak Elementary • Krysten Ellis, Principal
- Sun Path Elementary • Patrick Leonard, Principal
- Sweeney Elementary • Derek Bell, Principal



Important Details

ENROLL TODAY

Child(ren) who will be age 5 by September 1 can enroll for Kindergarten. Transportation is available to those that live more than 0.5 miles from their school.

BEFORE/AFTER CARE

Shakopee Public Schools is also proud to partner with Shakopee Community Education for the 2026-27 school year in providing high quality care to students in Grades K-5, five days a week. Before and after school care is offered onsite at each of the district's five elementary schools. School release day care and full day care is also offered.

NOT SURE WHAT SCHOOL YOUR CHILD IS ASSIGNED TO?

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to enter your address and locate your child's home school.



FIND YOUR SCHOOL



DISCOVER & CONNECT TO SHAKOPEE'S ELEMENTARY LEARNING JOURNEY

GET TO KNOW SHAKOPEE'S ELEMENTARY LEARNING EXPERIENCE

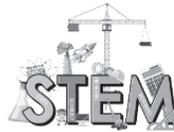
HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCES

New student-centered math, Science of Reading and hands-on learning experiences that provide greater **math and literacy** opportunities for all students.



STEM ADDED TO SPECIALIST SCHEDULE

Consistent student learning time in Physical Education, Music, Art and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) via a four-day specialist rotation.



GIFTED & ENRICHMENT SERVICES

Programming that is structured to **challenge and engage** academically advanced students with enriched content, a quicker pace and deeper dives into subjects. It also offers **flexible opportunities for all students** to extend their learning beyond daily lessons as needed. Students will have a **variety of opportunities** to engage in challenging activities without sacrificing general instruction time.



DEDICATED 'WHAT I NEED' TIME

Each day, 30 minutes are dedicated to "What I Need - **WIN**" time. This time allows teachers to provide data-supported learning opportunities **tailored to meet individual student learning needs**. Protecting and prioritizing this time leads to stronger academic outcomes for all students.



HIGH-QUALITY RESOURCES

Literacy resources are intentionally aligned to the **Science of Reading** and grounded in research that support key literacy skills and reflect a structured, systematic approach to instruction. Resources are also thoughtfully designed to connect with students' **real-life experiences**, making learning both effective and relevant.



FOURTH ANNUAL KINDER KAMP

In August 2025, Shakopee hosted its third annual Kinder Kamp, welcoming a record-breaking 315+ incoming kindergarten students.

The two-day event provided a valuable opportunity for students and families to ease any first-day jitters and get comfortable with the school environment. It also allowed staff to get to know students before the school year officially began, helping to ensure a smooth transition into kindergarten for everyone.

SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 4 & 5, 2026



HANDS-ON STEM LEARNING

What do you get when you combine Magna-Tiles, LEGOs, and teamwork? Big ideas! To kick off the school year, Shakopee elementary students jumped into hands-on STEM fun. Pictured above is a fun engaging activity at Sweeney Elementary that allowed students to create, share and connect with their classmates while developing problem-solving and collaboration skills.

FREE EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENINGS (AGES 3-5)



What: Trained professionals carefully evaluate a child's language, motor and problem solving skills as well as social/emotional development and health history. Vision and hearing are also checked by a licensed school nurse. Required to enter Preschool and Kindergarten.

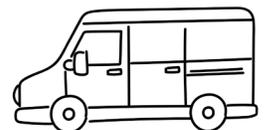
Where and When: Free screenings are held at Pearson Early Learning Center (917 Dakota St. S, Shakopee) and available throughout the year on weekdays.

How: Call 952.496.5861 or scan the QR code below. You can also visit bit.ly/SSPScreening to schedule an appointment.



Don't Miss

Shakopee's mobile early childhood screening opportunities with the Scott County Readmobile. Be on the lookout in your neighborhood!

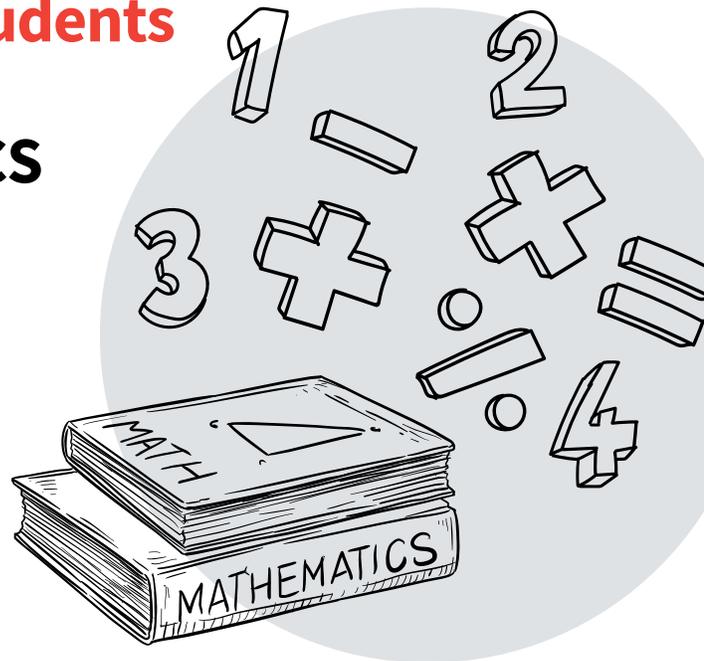


Meeting the Needs of All Students

A SHIFT IN LEARNING & TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

Shakopee Public Schools elementary mathematics program builds the foundation for future math success through the nationally recognized Illustrative Math curriculum. With a focus on conceptual understanding and number sense, students are brought into the world of math through hands-on activities and discussion-based explorations that provide a much needed connection between math and our students' lives.

These student-centered classrooms prepare students for success in higher-level math by supporting math fluency and building the fundamentals of math while also making them problem-solvers and critical thinkers. Some of the foundational beliefs and practices Shakopee student will experience through K-5 programming are listed below and are communicated periodically by teachers.



STUDENT-CENTERED

Focuses on the needs and interests of students, allowing them to take an active role in their learning process.

MULTIPLE ENTRY POINTS

Various ways for students to approach and engage with the material, accommodating different learning styles and readiness levels.

COLLABORATIVE

Encourages teamwork and communication among students to enhance learning through shared ideas and perspectives.

CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING

Prioritizes deep comprehension of concepts over rote memorization, fostering critical thinking and application of knowledge.

STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR STUDENT'S LEARNING



Seesaw

Teacher communication, learning resources, class updates, school events and more



Infinite Campus

Attendance, grades, free and reduced meal forms, emergency contacts, school lunch account, annual updates and more

HEAR WHAT SHAKOPEE STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/SPSElemMathInfo to hear real feedback on the K-5 Illustrative Math curriculum overview from Shakopee students.



GET TO KNOW SHAKOPEE'S COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY FRAMEWORK

Just as a strong foundation is crucial for any structure, robust literacy skills are essential for our students' success. Shakopee Public Schools is on an exciting journey to **deepen our commitment to literacy**.

Following the insights gained from our Comprehensive Literacy Framework, we are now exploring the Science of Reading with a new, dynamic literacy curriculum. The elementary team invites families to join the Shakopee Literacy Adventures and deepen your connection to our high-quality resources and methodology!



High Quality Resources

The literacy resources provided to Shakopee students and teachers are thoughtfully designed to connect with students' experiences, are grounded in research and address key literacy skills. **Below, families can find two resources that are aligned across all K-5 elementary schools in Shakopee.**



Scientifically Research Based

Instruction is clear and provided in a step-by-step approach to focus on helping student **hear** and **use sounds** in words, **sound out** words, **read smoothly**, learn **new words** and **understand** what they read.



Expert Literacy Teachers

Shakopee teachers use evidence-based practices, commit to ongoing professional learning and understand literacy development to **support each and every student**.



Dedicated Time & Student Support

Thirty minutes is carved into every day, in every classroom, to ensure there is a **consistent focus on essential foundational literacy skills**.



Robust Assessments

Shakopee assessments include universal **screening**, diagnostic **assessments**, progress **monitoring** and tracking students' **growth**.

UFLI Foundations

This **K-2 program** is a systematic and explicit phonics program designed to help young children develop phonemic awareness, letter-sound relationships, decoding and fluency. It includes ongoing assessments and supports to meet individual needs.



This **3-5 program** builds on the concepts in UFLI, using explicit, systematic and cumulative phonics instruction focused on word attack strategies, multi-syllable work and morphological structures.

Be an active part of your child's literacy journey! Families can stay informed through their school's monthly e-newsletter, take-home resources and by following upcoming events shared on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and X. Look for the 'Shako Kids Read' icon for focused tips and materials!





STUDENT HEALTH & VACCINES

Health Services Guide | Grades K-5

Important Note: Vaccines are required to enter Kindergarten.
Below is a list of important actions you can take to keep your child and our community healthy.

Vaccines Required for Kindergarten

Children entering Kindergarten are required to have the following immunizations:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis (DTaP)
- Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- Varicella (VAR)
- Hepatitis B (HepB)

A complete list of immunizations can be found here.



Additional Resources & Reminders

Is your child up to date on their immunizations? Please send a copy of their records to the Health Office.

Fax: 952.496.5093

or

Email the School Nurse or visit Shakopee.k12.mn.us to access the school nurse directory



Download the Docket app on your smartphone or digital device to keep track of your child's immunizations and access your records. Scan the QR Code below to access.



How Vaccines Help Your Child



bit.ly/CDCChildVaccinations

Diseases that Vaccines Help Protect Against:



bit.ly/CDCDiseaseProtection



Where to Get Your Child Vaccinated



Family Health Care Provider

Most clinics offer immunization-only appointments.

Scott County Public Health

Call **952.496.8555** or scan the QR code to make an appointment.



No Shots, No School

allows children to have an immunization-only appointment at no charge to parents or guardians. Visit bit.ly/NoShotsNoSchool or scan the QR code to make an appointment.



Exemptions

If you would like to opt out of your child's immunizations, please complete page 2 of the immunization form by scanning the QR Code below. The objection must be notarized and turned into to your child's school nurse.



Questions?

Connect with the school nurse on any medical or support needs. Health services resources can be found here: bit.ly/SPSHealthForms or by scanning the QR Code below.





Shakopee Technology Services works to support the district's educational goals by providing high levels of reliability, service and support for students and families. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/SPSTechResources for helpful resources on learning technology.

FAMILY TECHNOLOGY TIP SHEET

Campus Parent/Student Portal



- Check Food Service balance & add funds
- View Report Cards
- View Academic Plan (SHS)
- Find Transportation info
- Complete Annual Update forms
- Review school messages
- Complete Educational Meal Benefits form
- Update emergency contacts
- Submit attendance
- **Access the school store to purchase field trips, yearbooks, parking passes and more!**



bit.ly/SPSCampusParent

Questions about a **Parent Portal** account? Contact the Shakopee Tech Team: parenthelp@shakopee.k12.mn.us

Request Technology Support

Help Desk: 952.697.8701 (voicemail only)
E-mail: parenthelp@shakopee.k12.mn.us
Please provide a detailed description along with the following information

- Name
- Email Address
- Phone Number
- Student's Name
- Student ID
- School

**Our voicemail is currently supporting options to leave messages in English, Spanish and Somali.*

Grades E-5



Seesaw for Families

- View assignments
- Review student work
- Review school messages
- Have two-way communication with teachers



bit.ly/SPSSeesawforFamilies

Download the Seesaw app or go to app.seesaw.me on a computer. Tap "I'm a Family Member." Follow the prompts.

Grades 6-12



Canvas for Families

- View grades
- Get feedback from teachers
- View calendar & to-do list
- View assignments, discussions and quizzes (and their submission status)



bit.ly/SPSCanvasforFamilies

Questions about a student observer account? Contact Shakopee Tech Support.

Grades E-12



My School Menus

- View breakfast and lunch menus
- Print weekly or monthly listings
- Access ingredients, allergens and nutritional information
- Translations and picture support available



bit.ly/SPSSchoolMenus

Eleyo

Register and pay for:

- Community Education classes
- Early Childhood Family Education classes
- Stepping Stones Preschool
- Facility use and rental



bit.ly/ShakoRegisterEleyo

GoFan

Purchase athletics and activities tickets and download passes for most schools events. Tickets are **only sold online**. All students will need to have a pass (Free) downloaded. All K-8 students **MUST** have an adult with them at district events. Visit ShakopeeSabers.com for more info.



bit.ly/SPSSaberTickets

Virtual Student Library Card



Access to:

- Online tutoring & homework help
- Research tools
- eBooks
- Audiobooks
- Electronic magazines
- Language learning tools



bit.ly/SPSVirtualLibCard

IT'S HERE! **STOPFINDER** FAMILY APP: **REAL-TIME** BUS INFORMATION AT YOUR FINGER TIPS

Shakopee Public Schools is excited to offer families Stopfinder, a **FREE** and optional app designed to make school bus transportation smoother and more predictable.

Thanks to Shakopee's partnership with Palmer Bus Service, families, starting in the 2025-26 school year, can now access safe and accurate, up-to-the-minute PreK-12 bus route information right on a smart phone or tablet.

STOPFINDER ALLOWS APPROVED GUARDIANS TO EASILY:

- ✔ See bus pick-up /drop-off times and locations.
- ✔ Track your child's bus location during their active route.
- ✔ Get alerts when the bus is near.
- ✔ Share access with caregivers, your child and/or family members.

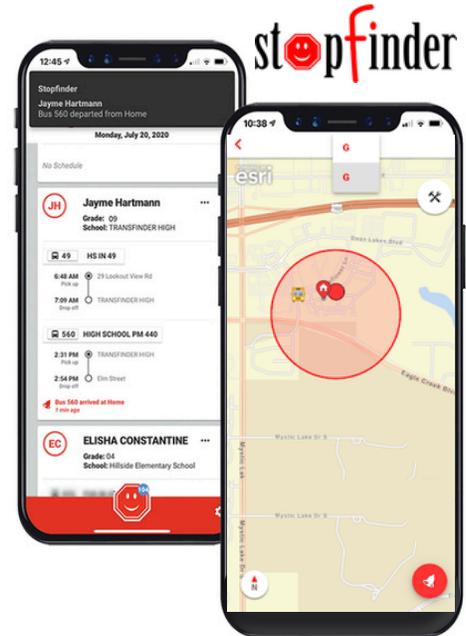
(PreK-12 bus times/locations are also available in Infinite Campus)

USING STOPFINDER EFFECTIVELY

Keep in mind that the Stopfinder app is strictly for bus route information. For important updates like weather adjustments, emergency notifications or safety alerts, please continue to rely on official Shakopee Public Schools communication channels (i.e. email, phone and text). Stopfinder does not allow direct messaging or tracking of non-family members.

SAFETY & PEACE OF MIND

Stopfinder uses the same reliable system for planning bus routes and integrates directly with Infinite Campus. Shakopee has worked closely with its District's Crisis & Safety Coordinator and Technology Team to ensure the same safety measures and data protection elements are in place with Stopfinder.



Did You Know:

Every type of vehicle used by Palmer Bus Service for Shakopee Public Schools students – including vans and all buses – can be tracked in Stopfinder by approved guardians.

ACCESS THE APP

- 1. Install:** Get the FREE Stopfinder app.
- 2. Email:** Find your personal invitation email (sent to the **primary** parent/guardian listed in Infinite Campus).
- 3. Activate:** Click the link in the email (one per household).
- 4. Explore:** See schedules, create alerts (like when the bus is near!) and share with others.



You'll receive the email when bus routes are ready for the school year or soon after a new route is assigned. Don't wait too long – the link expires in 30 days!

STOPFINDER SUPPORT TEAM

Questions related to route information: Palmer Bus Services
952.445.1166 / transportation@shakopee.k12.mn.us

App Troubleshooting: Visit the Stopfinder FAQ at stopfinder.com/faq/

Never received initial email for set-up or invitation has expired? Submit a help inquiry to bit.ly/SPSStopfinderHelp



Scan the appropriate QR code or browse the app store on your device to download the Stopfinder.

