EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN

Parent Information

Bellevue School District, Bellevue Washington



BSD Early Entrance to Kindergarten: *Contact & Information*

- *BSD EEK email:* **eek@bsd405.org**
- *BSD EEK Website:* https://www.bsd405.org/enroll/kindergarten/early-entrance-to-kindergarten





EEK PRESENTATION FOCUS:

- Overview: Bellevue School District application process for Early Entrance Kindergarten
- Research: Determining a child's readiness for Kindergarten
- Identification: BSD EEK Identification Process
  - *Screening Process*
  - *Further Assessments*
- Timeline: BSD EEK Timeline Overview

BSD Procedure 3110.1P: Guidance for Early Entrance to Kindergarten Applicants

Bellevue School District policy for Early Entrance to Kindergarten: Procedure 3110.1P

Age Requirements:

a. *Applicants must be 5 years of age as of midnight October 31 of the upcoming school year, in accordance with BSD policy and procedures.*

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SKILLS: *Research Findings*

"Research shows the link between social and emotional skills and school success is so strong, **it is a greater predictor of a child's academic performance**, in the (early years), than their familial background and their cognitive abilities."

Why is this link so strong?

Simply put, we know that ***learning is a social process***. Children cannot learn when they are:

- *Struggling to follow directions;*
- *Unable to get-along with their peers;*
- *Unable to control their emotions in a classroom setting.*



SOURCE:
https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/kindergarten_readiness_social_and_emotional_development

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

KEY SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS IDENTIFIED FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS

Key Social Developmental Skills for Kindergarten Students

- Demonstrates a collaborative approach with others (parents, teachers and peers)
- Following directions
- Identifying and regulating one's emotions and behavior
- Thinking of appropriate solutions to conflict
- Persisting on task
- Engaging in social conversation and cooperative play
- Correctly interpreting other's behavior and emotions
- Feeling good about oneself and others.



SOURCE:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/kindergarten_readiness_social_and_emotional_development

EEK APPLICATION, SCREENING & ASSESSMENT PROCESS

1. Application Process

- View mandatory EEK Parent Information video (available on EEK website)
- Application via Microsoft FORM (available on EEK website)
- $75.00 application fee to Bellevue School District

2. Screening Process

- Once the application process is complete, Social Skill Development Screening Inventory will be emailed to your child's pre-school teacher.
- To continue with EEK assessment process, the inventory evaluating student's social development must be in the "above-average" or "well-above average" range for their age
- If the inventory evaluating student's social development is in the "above-average" or "well-above average" range for their age, parents will receive communication regarding next steps for further assessment.

3. Further Assessment

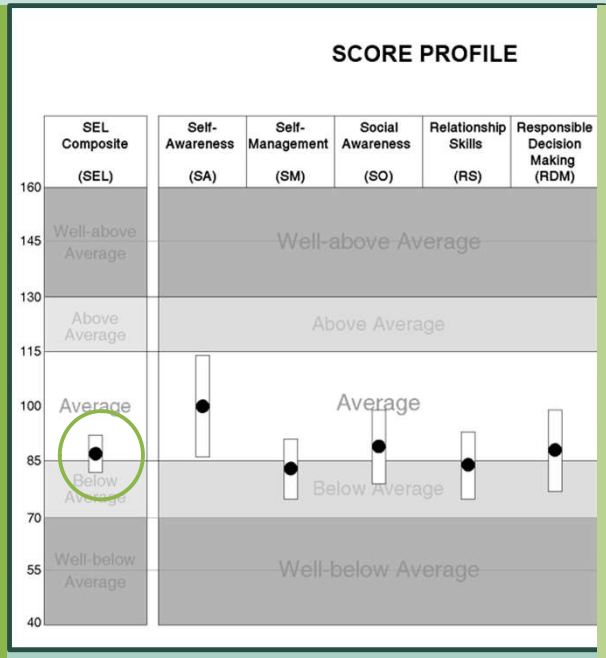
- Fee for further assessment is $300.00 per child.
- A birth certificate will need to be presented at the time of testing.
- Testing will take place in March-June
- Results will be emailed by the end of June

Bellevue School District's
CRITERIA: Kindergarten Readiness –
Social Skills Development Screening Inventory

Applicants must demonstrate kindergarten readiness at minimum, '*above average*' or '*well above average*' on the Skills Development Screening Inventory

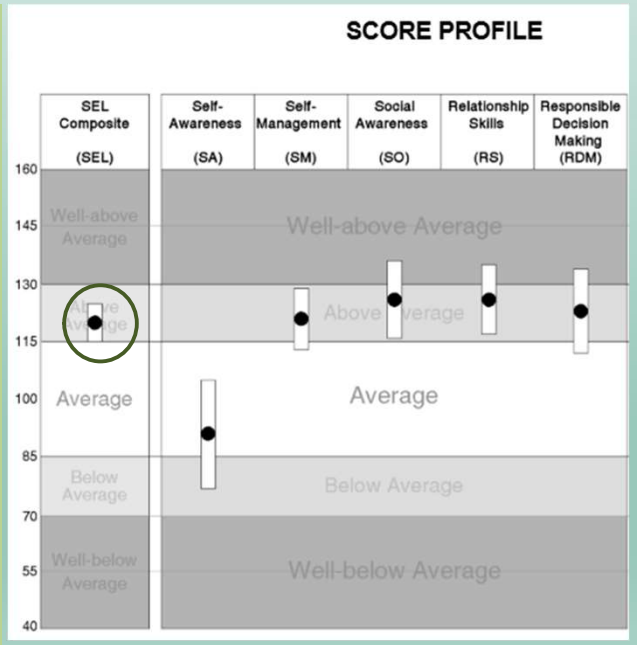
Average

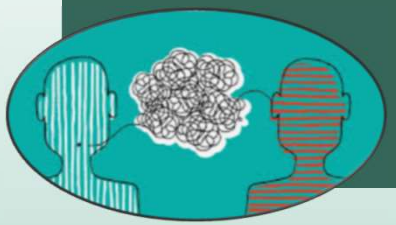
Does NOT demonstrate readiness for **Further Assessment**



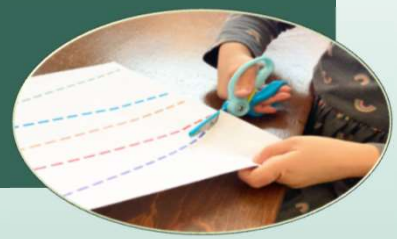
Above & Well-Above Average

Demonstrates readiness for **Further Assessment**





What Will Be Assessed if a Student Qualifies for Further Evaluation?



Communication Skills

- ***Expressive Communication***
  - Speaking, gesturing (waving, pointing), facial expressions
- ***Receptive Communication***
  - Responding to commands
  - Responding to questions

Motor Skills

- ***Fine Motor Skills***
  - Typing, writing, copying shapes, letter, numbers
- ***Perceptive Motor Skills***
  - Distinguish between differences (size, color)
  - Distinguish between familiar and unfamiliar
  - Distinguish between near and far

Two out of four assessments must be in the "well-above average" range.



What Will Be Assessed if a Student Qualifies for Further Evaluation?

Cognitive Skills

1. ***Attention & Memory***
   - Following verbal direction, hearing an unfamiliar word and attempting to repeat it
   - Remembering a list of three things to do

2. ***Reasoning & Academic Skills***
   - Requires an understanding of attributes, relationships, and sequence

3. ***Perception & Concepts***
   - The way a person perceives information
   - The ability to capture, process, and actively make sense of information

Two out of three assessment must be in the "well-above average" range.

EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN

The Beginning of the Process: March 1 – April 1

1. Application on EEK webpage

- EEK Application Microsoft FORM - linked on the BSD EEK Web Page

2. Follow-up email from EEK will provide information regarding:

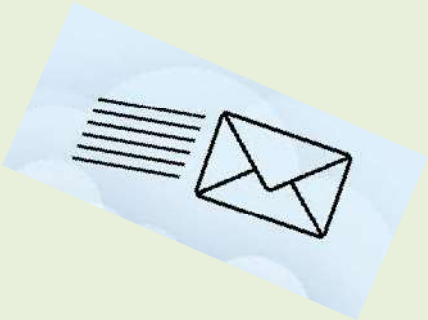
- **Link to Parent Survey**
- **Information on EEK application payment options:**
  - On-Line Point of Sale
  - Personal check: written to Bellevue School District
  - Money order for $75.00 written to Bellevue School District
  - Can be dropped off at BSD Main office: 12111 NE 1st Street, Bellevue, 98005
- **Social Skills Development Screening Inventory that will be sent to pre-school teacher** (will be sent after the above are completed)

EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN
Beginning of the Process:

Once the 3 items below are complete, the

Social Skills Development Screening Inventory

will be sent to your child's pre-school teacher

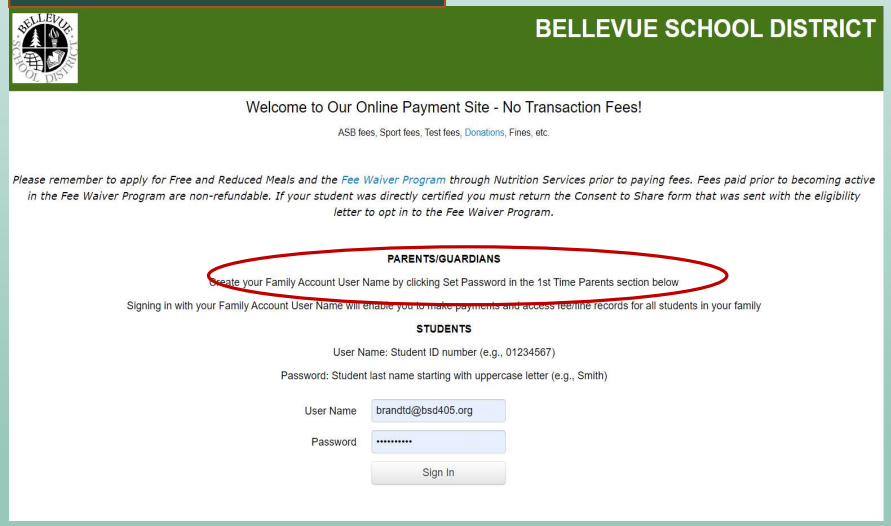


1. **EEK Application**
2. **EEK application payment**
3. **Parent Survey**

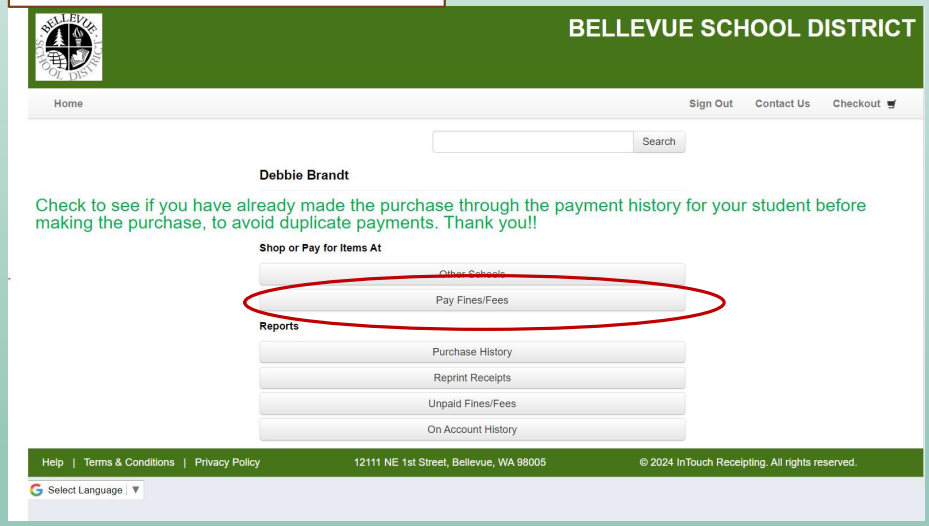
EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN – PAYMENT OPTION

Point of Sale (POS) Payment for Initial Application- PROCESS

Step 1: Create a Log In



Step 2: Make Payment

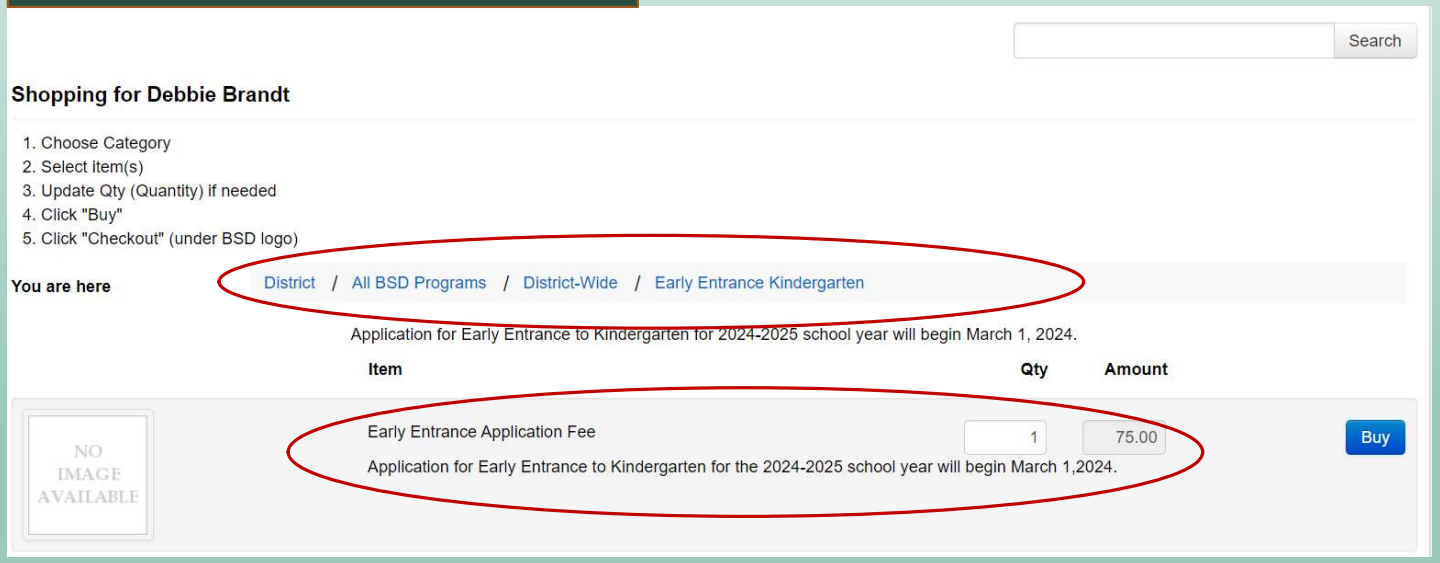




EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN – PAYMENT OPTION

Point of Sale (POS) Payment for Initial Application- PROCESS (cont.)

Finding the EEK Payment Section





Early Entrance to Kindergarten TimeLine

March 1	➢ Early Entrance Kindergarten (EEK) Application begins.
	➢ Social Skills Development Inventory sent to pre-school teacher
Late March to Mid-June	➢ EEK assessment dates and times will be scheduled for those that meet the Social Skills Development criteria.
By end of June	➢ Parent letters mailed with results of EEK assessments (EEK Communication Skills, Motor Skills, and Cognitive Skills criteria benchmarks).

Bellevue School District
ELEMENTARY Language Program Options

Bilingual Language Programs:

- Arabic Language Program - Ardmore Elementary
- Korean Language Program - Newport Heights Elementary

Two-Way Designated Dual Language Immersion Programs:

- Spanish Dual Language - Lake Hills Elementary, Sherwood Forest Elementary, Stevenson Elementary
- Japanese Dual Language Program - Bennett Elementary
- Mandarin Dual Language - Jing Mei Elementary (only available to BSD residents)

ISA Designated Spanish World Language Program

- Spanish Immersion (ISA) – Puesta Del Sol Elementary

Apply to Choice Schools and Programs – Bellevue School District (bsd405.org)



QUESTIONS?

EMAIL: *EEK@BSD405.ORG*

BSD EEK WEBSITE:
https://www.bsd405.org/enroll/kindergarten/early-entrance-to-kindergarten