

Kindergarten Information Night

Class of 2039
January 27, 2026



Agenda

-Jennifer



- ▶ Introductions
- ▶ Message from Superintendent Rundle
- ▶ All Things Kindergarten
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ From the Nurse's Office
- ▶ From the Counseling Office
- ▶ PTA
- ▶ Registration Information
- ▶ Spring into Kindergarten & the Start of School
- ▶ WAKids Conferences
- ▶ School Supplies
- ▶ Important Contacts
- ▶ Q & A

Introductions

-Jennifer



- ▶ Rebecca Reid, Kindergarten Teacher
- ▶ Nicole Tisdell, Kindergarten Teacher
- ▶ Laura Walter, Kindergarten Teacher
- ▶ Kerri Goldner, Administrative Assistant & Registrar
- ▶ Julie Mattson, MIYFS Counselor
- ▶ Jennifer Cleaves, Principal

A Little About Lakeridge

-Jennifer



*Each Lion, Every Day,
Happy & Proud*

Schoolwide PBIS Expectations

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be Responsible...

The LION Way!

Welcome from MISD

- Superintendent, Dr. Fred Rundle

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Kindergarten Goals

-Rebecca

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- *Foster an environment for success in Kindergarten and beyond.*
- *Develop a **community** of learners and thinkers who work together to solve problems, support each other, and love school.*



The Purpose of Kindergarten

- Laura

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- Academically
 - Establish academic foundational skills
 - Love school and learning
- Socially
 - Listen, follow directions, play, solve problems, honor differences, make friends, develop independence
- Emotionally
 - Develop skills to self-regulate and self-monitor



Kindergarten Today

- Nicole

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- Academic component
 - Common Core Standards
 - Solidify foundations rather than race to the next target
- Students enter at various ages and with a spectrum of skills, progressing on their own developmental continuum
- The fall trimester is focused on social skills and learning routines. No academic progress reports in the fall.



Getting Ready for the First Day - Rebecca

- How to prepare your child for independence in Kindergarten:
 - Toileting
 - Eating
 - Dressing
- How to best prepare your child for separation
- Building stamina for school
- Expectations for academic readiness
- Social
 - This summer, take your child to the school to see the playground
 - PTA Kindergarten playdates
 - Set up playdates over the summer



Getting Ready for Learning - Laura



- Develop oral language skills by talking and listening to your child and encouraging precise language and full sentences
- Play games: taking turns, sharing, following rules
- Read to your child
- Exposure to numbers, letters, and words
- Attend to pencil grip
- Share your school experiences
- Love them!

A Day in Kindergarten

-Nicole



[A Day in Kinder Video!](#)

Lunch & Snack

- Laura

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Snack -

- 10 minutes usually midmorning

Lunch Time -

- 20 minute lunch followed by 15 minutes of recess

Lunch Seating Assignments -

- Seated with their own class
- Kinders get some extra time

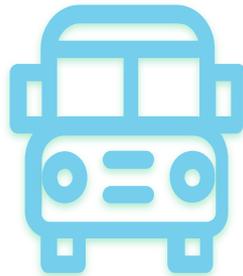
Lunchroom Options -

- No sharing food in the cafeteria
- Allergy-free table with a friend for students with Health Care Plans
- Hot lunch or just milk available for purchase

TRANSPORTATION

-Jennifer

- School bus transportation is available for on-island elementary students .5 walking miles or further from their home school
- In late July/early August, you will receive an email inviting you to sign up for bus transportation
- District policy is **all Kindergartners must be met at the stop by an authorized adult** (Wednesdays are Early Release!)
- Kindergartners have transportation tags they wear or attach to backpacks
- Kindergartners typically sit in the front of the bus



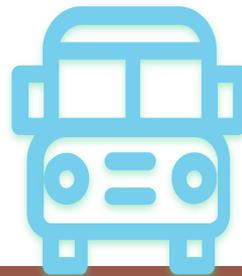
TRANSPORTATION

-Jennifer



Why ride the school bus?

- Decreases congestion
- Makes getting to school safer for everyone
- Reduces our environmental impact
- Increases state funding to our district
- Children practice valuable social skills
- Children make connections with peers and families make connections with each other



Before/After School Child Care

-Jennifer



Innovation Learning

- ▶ Housed @ Lakeridge
- ▶ Visit innovationlearning.com for more information

Boys & Girls Club

- ▶ School bus to/from school available
- ▶ 206.232.4548

Stroum Jewish Community Center (JCC)

- ▶ School bus to/from school available
- ▶ 206.232.7115

From the Nurse's Office

- Kerri

Your child's health and wellness is important to us!

REQUIRED!– All completed CIS (Certificate of Immunization Status) forms must be medically verified **on or before the first day of attendance**. Medically verified options include:

- Validated CIS form printed from IIS (WA Immunization Information System); or
- CIS printed from MyIR; or
- If completing CIS by hand, a healthcare provider's signature is needed at the bottom; or
- A completed Certificate of Exemption; or
- Initiation of a schedule toward full immunization

Washington Immunization Law - Parents Need to Know

Per WA State Law, if children are not in compliance or in conditional (temporary) immunization status by the first day of school, they will not be allowed to attend school until records are complete.

From the Nurse's Office

- Kerri

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Emergency Care Plans -

This is an essential step to protect your child. These plans notify teachers & support staff of your child's condition and outlines actions to be taken to support your child's health.

- If your child has been diagnosed with a life threatening condition, they must have an **Emergency Care Plan** on file with the school.
- School nurse will work with you to create a plan and review it with parents **prior to the student starting school.**
- If there's a life threatening allergy and/or asthma, it is required to keep **medications on hand in the Health Room prior to your child's first day of school, every year.**
- Anytime medication is to be **given at school**, you must...
 - ◆ Complete a Medication Authorization Form signed by a parent and child's physician.
 - ◆ Medications must be in original container from the pharmacy.
 - ◆ Form & medication are to be brought to the nurse's office by authorized adults.
 - ◆ **Note** - *we do not allow elem students to carry their own medications at school.*

From the Counselor's Office

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- Jennifer



CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

- YFS mental health counselor in each of the schools.
- Counselors work with students, families and school staff to support mental and behavioral health and readiness to learn.
- YFS Counselors help students and parents build a strong foundation for the future.

Meet your YFS Counselor - Julie Mattson!



(206) 230-6019

julie.mattson@mercerislandschools.org

YFS School Counselors
are brought to you by:



Donate!

How to support your
YFS School Counselors:

**Mercer Island
THRIFT
SHOP**

Donate items
& shop!

Getting Connected...

Lakeridge PTA

- Lauren

- Provide the PTA with your contact information
- Check the PTA website at www.lakeridgepta.org
- Become a member of Lakeridge PTA
- Sign-Up for the ROAR newsletter to keep up-to-date
- Summer Kindergarten Playdates



LAKERIDGE Elementary
PTA

A resource for Lakeridge families

Getting Connected...

Lakeridge PTA

- Lauren



- Lakeridge PTA is a non profit organization made up of Lakeridge parents and staff.
- Part of the greater council, state, and national PTA.
- Our goal is to support students, staff, and families of Lakeridge Elementary through:
 - ▶ Fundraising
 - ▶ Volunteerism
 - ▶ Programs/Enrichment
 - ▶ Events
 - ▶ Advocacy

Kindergarten Registration

- Kerri

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Register Early - *it helps us plan and staff our school with the most qualified teachers and paraeducators!*

Registration **starts this Thursday, January 29th...**

- ▶ Completely online
- ▶ Refer to tonight's packet and district websites for online registration instructions
- ▶ "Special Considerations for Student Placement" (parent input) form available the first two weeks of May
- ▶ Teacher Assignments: Late August

How To Register

- Kerri

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Step 1: Visit www.mercerislandschools.org

Step 2: Find “Enrollment” at top...

Step 3: Find...
Kindergarten Registration

Step 4: Find...

“New Families: To begin registering [click on the Online Enrollment process](#) starting January 29, 2026.”

The screenshot shows the Mercer Island School District website. At the top, there is a logo for Mercer Island School District with the tagline "Students Are The Priority". To the right of the logo are links for "STAFF HUB" and "STUDENT HUB". Below the logo is a navigation menu with tabs for "ABOUT US", "PROGRAMS & SERVICES", "ENROLLMENT", "CONNECT", and "SCHOOL B". The "ENROLLMENT" tab is selected, and a dropdown menu is open, showing options: "Enrollment Questions", "Why M-I?", "New Student Enrollment", "Kindergarten Registration", "Early Entrance Kindergarten", and "Enrollment FAQ". The "Kindergarten Registration" option is highlighted. Below the navigation menu, there is a breadcrumb trail: "HOME > ENROLLMENT > KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION". To the right of the breadcrumb trail, there is a section titled "KINDERGARTEN" with a sub-heading "All four elementary schools will host a Kindergarten Information Night on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 from 6-7pm for kindergarteners enrolling for the 2024-25 school year. The Information Night at each elementary school is a great opportunity for families of future kindergarteners to ask questions of the school Principal and find out why we believe MISD the best option for your family as you start on your education journey."



Registration Forms

- Kerri

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The following documents are required for registering online...

- ▶ Proof of Residency *(even if you currently have Lakeridge students)*
- ▶ Immunization Form and Health Forms
- ▶ Birth Certificate

Please visit the district website

“Enrollment” tab

OR “Kindergarten Registration 2026-2027”

for complete information

New Student Account

- Kerri

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NEW FAMILIES TO THE DISTRICT

Families can enroll online at www.mercerislandschools.org

(Click Enrollment → New Student Enrollment → Enrollment for the **2026-27 School Year**)



MERCER ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

New Student Enrollment

Welcome! This form is the first step to enroll your new student online. Complete the required fields to request an account you will use to log in to a secure New Student Enrollment system. Please provide legal guardian information for the student you would like to enroll below:

If you already have an account, please [sign in](#) with your username and password and select New Student Enrollment.

** required fields*

*Guardian First Name

*Guardian Last Name

Kindergarten Registration

- Kerri

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- ▶ Only **completed** online registrations will be processed - this includes immunization forms
- ▶ Submitted registration forms will be processed within **two weeks**
- ▶ You will receive a confirmation email when processed
- ▶ **Please register early!** Really helps us prepare for next year accordingly.

Spring into Kindergarten & the Start of the Year

– Jennifer



Spring Into Kindergarten Event (**May 6th, 2026**):

- All enrolled kindergarten students for the 26-27 school year will be invited to attend.
- Students will visit Lakeridge for about 30 minutes and rotate through three stations where staff will observe kindergarten readiness.
- Information gathered will help us create balanced classrooms. This process is observational, not an assessment.



First Day of School:

- All grades start school on **Wednesday, August 26, 2026.**

WaKIDS:

Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences

- Rebecca



What are WaKids Conferences?

- WaKids Conferences are parent-teacher-student conferences
- WaKids Conferences are conducted over 3 FULL DAYS within the first two weeks of school.

Purpose:

- State Requirement
- Students and families develop positive, comfortable relationships with teachers and school
- Teacher learns more about the students and families

Signing up:

- Parents will receive email notification in August to sign-up for a 30-min conference

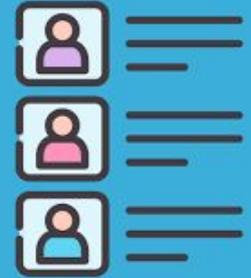
School Supplies

-Kerri



- ▶ Through the partnership between Lakeridge and our PTA, we order school supplies in bulk each year as a service to our students and parents.
- ▶ Supplies will be waiting for your child in the classroom on the first day of school!

Important Contacts



Registration: Kerri Goldner, Administrative Assistant & Registrar

kerri.goldner@mercerislandschools.org

Medical: Rachael Hitchcock

rachael.hitchcock@mercerislandschools.org

General: Jennifer Cleaves, Principal

jennifer.cleaves@mercerislandschools.org

Lakeridge PTA

<https://www.lakeridgepta.org/pta>

Questions

