

Kindergarten Information Night

Barrington Elementary School - 2026



**Welcome, Golden Bear
Class of 2039!**



Welcome To Barrington



We Are Glad You Are Here

Principal



Nichole Cooper



Assistant Principal



Heather Markward

Welcome to Kindergarten at Barrington!

- Our goal for this evening is to help you and your child feel comfortable with the transition to kindergarten.
- **We** are here to help!
 - Today, tomorrow and the next 6 years!
 - Education is a partnership — we will work together to help your child develop throughout their elementary school career.
 - We want this to be a family experience.
 - Our goal is to develop relationships between families, teachers, administrators and students to create a strong, caring and inclusive school community.



Agenda

- Our Delivery Systems
 - UA Schools Elementary Program (Barrington, Greensview, Tremont, Windermere)
 - Progressive Programs (Wickliffe & Barrington)
- Our Kindergarten Program
 - What does a day look like?
- Registration Process
- Kindergarten Screening
- PTO
- Questions



Instructional Programs



Our Kindergarten Teachers:

Contemporary

Tony Cleveland

Holly Linzell

Katie Say

Progressive

Kari Warkentin

Kelli Wilcox



Barrington Progressive

- The Progressive Program was founded in 1972 in UA, by a group of educators, parents and OSU professors who were committed to a common educational philosophy reflected through the practices of progressive education
- Wickliffe is **a choice school** for families living in the Greensview, Windermere and Tremont attendance areas that offers the Progressive Program. Barrington is one school that offers both the Progressive Program and Contemporary for families living in the Barrington attendance areas.
- Our progressive teachers follow the state and national standards, while remaining committed to the [Ten Foundational Principles](#)



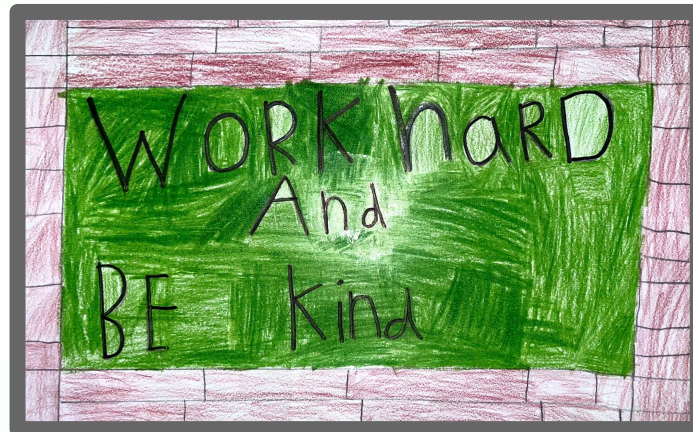
Barrington Contemporary

- Our Contemporary program is what you would experience in our other UA elementaries such as Tremont, Greensview, and Windermere, as well as other districts who do not have a progressive program.
- Our teachers follow the state and national standards, while remaining committed to following best practices in education to meet these standards
- You may see some similarities between our Progressive and Contemporary programs, ALL of our Barrington teachers incorporate best practices to ensure high-quality instruction.

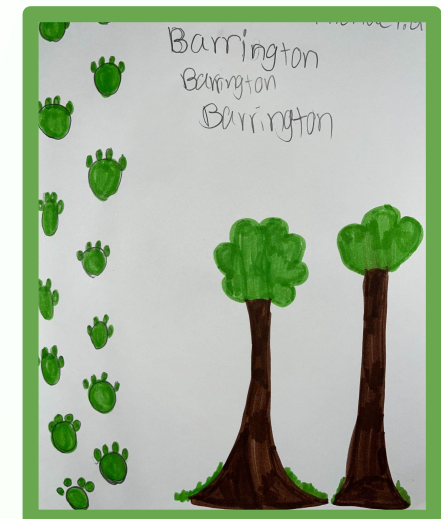


Bobcat Goal

We will continue to strengthen our Barrington community so that **ALL** of us feel a sense of safety, belonging, and connectedness!



Bobcat Beliefs



What does a kindergarten day look like?

- School hours: 8:15 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
- The school day is structured to support our younger learners as they adjust to a full-day learning program.
- It is built around the learning blocks for the core content areas — math, reading, writing, science/social studies — with time for play and “brain breaks” woven in throughout the day.
- Students have time to work with teachers individually or in small groups to support their learning and reinforce or extend where needed.
- Each week, students will also have a related arts block that rotates between art, music, and PE.
- Elementary Explorations is a special program that our kindergarten students engage in every 2 weeks to explore cross-curricular content while increasing student voice, improving well-being and creating engaged learners through whole child, project-based learning.



Kindergarten Literacy

- Literacy is an important component that is woven into every part of our day
- Based on the Science of Reading, we focus on foundational skills.
- We are working to ensure foundational skills are secure by the end of the K year
 - Phonological Awareness
 - Letter ID
 - Sound ID
 - Letter Formation
- The curricular resources we use are Amplify's CKLA, 95% Core Phonics and Heggerty (rhyme time)



Kindergarten Math

- Math is an important component that is woven into many parts of the day
- Based on best practices, we focus on early foundational math skills
- We are working to ensure foundational skills are secure by the end of the K year
 - Oral Counting
 - Writing Numerals
 - Number Sense
- We use Bridges in Mathematics and Number Corner as our curricular resources
 - Bridges is the core resource that is taught
 - Number Corner is the math warm up



Elementary Explorations

- Elementary Explorations is a districtwide program that provides all elementary students with opportunities to engage and explore cross-curricular content, creating engaged learners through whole child, project-based learning. Each grade level engages in Elementary Explorations once every two weeks for about 60 to 75 minutes, following the rotating schedule.
- For more information about Elementary Explorations, please visit our [website](#).



Registration Process



Is my child eligible for kindergarten?

Due to a new state law, children will now need to be **5 years of age as of the first day of school, August 12, 2026**, for the upcoming school year to be eligible for kindergarten. This is a change from previous years.

Please contact our Enrollment Center at enrollment@uaschools.org by email or 614-487-7676 Ext. 1105 for eligibility requirements, documentation, and any next steps related to enrollment.



How do I register my child for kindergarten?

- Kindergarten registration opens on Tuesday, February 17th, 2026, 9:00am.
 - Begin the registration process at www.uaschools.org/kindergarten.
 - Students **must be 5 years old by the first day of instruction.**
 - We encourage families to complete the registration process in the February 17th- March 15th window for staffing and planning purposes.
- After completing the online registration forms, you will be prompted to upload:
 - Birth certificate or passport
 - [Proof of residency](#)
 - Custody papers, if applicable
 - Immunization record



Other items to consider...

- **Choice of instructional program**
 - Barrington families have the choice
 - UA Schools Elementary Program at Barrington
 - Progressive Program at Barrington
- **Open enrollment**
 - *For families who want to be considered for a school outside their attendance area.*
 - Information for [Open Enrollment](#) is on our district website
 - Register for your homeschool during the registration window.
 - Applications for open enrollment open February 17, 2026, and are accepted until April 15, 2026.
 - Decisions made based upon enrollment numbers in specific grades.
 - Parents are responsible for transportation.



Other items to consider...

- **School hours**
 - 8:15 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
- **First day of school**
 - August 12th and 13th, are “Getting To Know You Days” (Your child’s first day will be emailed to you with teacher placement in early August).
 - Full school year calendar is available on our website at www.uaschools.org/calendars.
- **Special health concerns for your child?**
 - Please do not hesitate to contact our nurses.
 - Contact information is on our school website.
- **Kindergarten screening will take place in early August**
 - Your principal will reach out with more details about kindergarten screenings



SACC (School-Age Child Care)

- The [SACC](#) program is designed to be a link between school and home for elementary students in Upper Arlington School District.
- Hours of operation are from 2:50-6:00 p.m. on school days.
- Tuition rates are available on our website at <https://www.uaschools.org/departments/school-age-child-care>
- [FAQ's](#)

REGISTRATION FOR NEW FAMILIES BEGINS ON

TUESDAY, MARCH 31st THROUGH FRIDAY, APRIL 10th.



Kindergarten Screening Process



Kindergarten Screening

- Our kindergarten screenings will be held in August, prior to school starting.
 - Your child's principal will contact you with more information.
 - Screenings we will be conducted by a team of educators.
 - Kindergarten teacher placement will be sent to families after screening
- Our nurses may complete vision and hearing screenings.
- Our SLPs will complete a speech screening.
- The goal of kindergarten screening is to provide academic, physical, social and emotional information about each student to the school team to create balanced classes. This information will also be used as baseline data to help support our instruction.



MTSS Lead Teacher Information





Kindergarten Families,

Welcome! My name is Lauren Smith and I am the MTSS Lead Teacher here at Barrington Elementary School. I have been a teacher for 21 years and am really looking forward to meeting you and your incoming Kindergartener this Fall!

As the MTSS Lead Teacher, I work closely with teachers, families and support staff to make sure all students are receiving what they need in the classroom. I meet with teams of educators on a weekly basis to collaborate on ways to best support our students. During this time, we use a variety of data to ensure our students are growing academically, socially, and emotionally.

Parents are an important part of our MTSS Framework and I look forward to partnering with all of you. Feel free to reach out with any questions: lsmith@uaschools.org



Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

- MTSS is a systematic and collaborative team process that is responsive to meet the needs of all students through differentiated and individualized instruction with a focus on the whole child including academic, behavioral and social/emotional needs. MTSS uses a four-tiered approach to identifying students' academic, social and emotional needs.
- The Upper Arlington Schools' MTSS framework will help achieve our vision of challenging and supporting every student every step of the way.
- For more information about what MTSS looks like in practice, please visit our [website](#).



School Counselor Information





Dear Kindergarten Families,

I'm so excited to meet you and your future kindergartner! My name is Erin Bowden, and I am the full time school counselor at Barrington Elementary. I've had the joy of working with children as an educator and school counselor for the past 20 years, and I truly love helping students grow and thrive.

A little about my role: our school counseling program supports all students as they develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to become confident learners, responsible citizens, and lifelong problem-solvers. The program is comprehensive, developmental, and prevention-focused, and is designed to help every child reach their fullest potential both academically and socially.

I am here to support your child and your family. If there is anything I can do to help make your child's transition into kindergarten a smooth and positive one, please don't hesitate to reach out.

I look forward to meeting you soon!

Warmly,

Erin Bowden

School Counselor, Barrington Elementary

ebowden@uaschools.org





Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to Barrington! My name is **Katie Widing**, and I am excited to work with your children this year. I serve as one of the school counselors and split my time between Barrington Elementary and Tremont Elementary Schools.

This is my 24th year in education, including 21 years in Upper Arlington. I have taught both middle school and high school choir and most recently served as a music teacher here at Barrington Elementary, which has allowed me to build strong connections with students, families, and staff.

As a school counselor, I support all students in developing the skills they need for learning, growing, and working well with others. Through classroom lessons, small-group activities, and individual meetings, I help students build social, emotional, and academic skills so they can thrive both at school and beyond.

Starting kindergarten is a big and exciting milestone! If there is anything I can do to support you and your child please don't hesitate to reach out.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful year together.

Warmly,

Katie Widing - kwiding@uaschools.org



Nurse Information





Hello,

My name is Joshua Bower and I am Barrington's Registered Nurse, Licensed School Nurse.

The Barrington Health Office is a fully functional school clinic, staffed daily with a registered nurse and licensed school nurse to support your student. The nurse is available to evaluate symptoms of illness and injury, administer first aid treatment, and recommend additional interventions.

Good health is part of the foundation of an excellent education, and as a healthcare provider, I am happy to be here to support our students. I look forward to a great school year and if there is anything the clinic can do to support you please feel free to contact the school nurse.



Additional Information





UA+ ed

FOUNDATION

UAEDUCATIONFOUNDATION.COM



PTO information



Thank you for supporting

THE BARRINGTON PTO

Your generous support makes —
these events possible every year:



FUNDING 100% OF FIELD TRIPS &
STUDENT EXPERIENCE VISITORS

5TH GRADE
PROMOTION



FOUR ANNUAL
CLASSROOM PARTIES &
ONE PARADE

SCHOOL SUPPLY
SUPPORT TO
TO TEACHERS



FOUR ANNUAL
CLASSROOM PARTIES
& ONE PARADE



SPELLING BEE



FUNDING
WINTER
WONDERLAND



MEALS
ON
WHEELS

FUNDING
THE
BARJO
SCIENCE FAIR



FUNDING ALL TEACHER +
STAFF SUPPORT
AND TEACHER APPRECIATION
WEEK



CO-SPONSORED
COAT AND CANDY DRIVE
WITH BARRINGTON
STUDENT COUNCIL



WELCOMING ALL
NEW FAMILIES



PROVIDING
DAILY CAFETERIA
VOLUNTEERS

FUNDING THE
BARJO SCIENCE FAIR



AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT
NEW COURSE OFFERINGS EACH YEAR



BOBCAT SOCIAL

MAKING TRACKS
FOR BOBCATS



MAKING TRACKS
FOR BOBCATS



FIELD DAY &
CLOWN AROUND



EDC EATION
DAY BAKE SALE



ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE



MINI



FUNDRAISERS

Questions?

- [About Kindergarten Readiness](#)
- [District Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - **Lunch, SACC, Busing, etc**



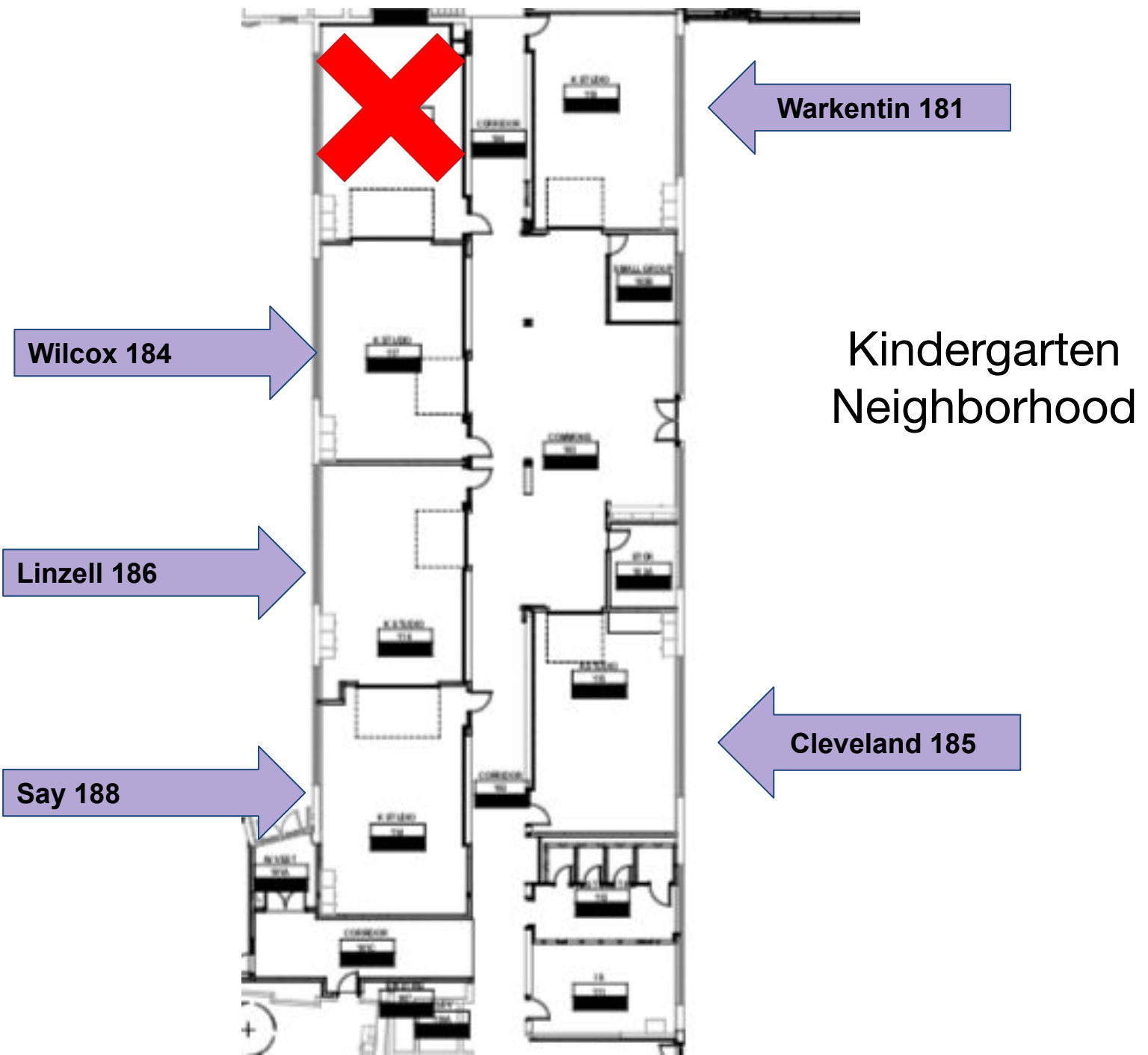
Self-Guided Tour



Classroom Visits

- Our Kindergarten Neighborhood is directly behind you.
- Some of our teachers are here tonight and are available to answer any questions.
- If you have additional questions after tonight, please use this QR code.







Thank you