



# Welcome to Kindergarten!

Hendrick Hudson School District  
2026-2027

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Buchanan-Verplanck School  
Pre-K - Grade 2  
Dr. Cynthia Kramer, *Principal*



# Beginning of the Year

- Kindergarten playdate will be held before the first day. You may bring school supplies on that day.
- First day is a half day - September 2, 2026 (no lunch)
- The first full day of school is September 3, 2026.
- We encourage you to send lunch the first few days, if possible.

# What to Expect on the First Day of School

- Name tag/Welcome letter are sent home before or given out at the Meet & Greet
- Children are greeted off the bus and guided where to the playground
- Outdoor recess
- “Getting to Know You” activities
- Classroom activities
- Snack
- Playground
- Story
- Pack-up for dismissal
- Kindergarten children are escorted to the buses by teachers and teaching assistants

# Take Home Folders

- Backpacks and folders must be checked daily for important information.
- Please put any notices/letters for the teacher/office in the folder so that it can be collected each morning.

# School Supplies

- PTA offers package (EduKit)
- Can choose to purchase on your own
- Some teachers may request a few additional items as the year progresses
- All students need headphones & change of clothes (not on supply list)

# Lunch

- Lunch is free for all elementary students. Menu is on HH website - hot and cold choices daily.
- Classroom Teaching Assistants or Lunch Monitors will monitor the students during lunch and recess.
- Please make sure your child knows if and what they will be buying for lunch each day. At the beginning of the year, many parents / family members will send a note in the folder just in case.

# Music, Art, Physical Education, & STEAM

**\*subject to change**

- 6 Day Schedule: You will receive a calendar before the first day.
- Students visit Art once in a 6 day cycle; P.E., STEAM, and Music occur twice.\*
  - Library books can be borrowed once per cycle. This schedule will be shared once school starts.
- Please remember sneakers on P.E. days and to bring Library books back on your child's book exchange day.

# A Typical Day in a Kindergarten Class

Morning Recess (8:30-9:00)

Morning Routines

Morning Meeting

ELA: Into Reading (Structured Literacy, Reading & Vocabulary, Writing, Small Group Instruction)

Lunch/Recess

Specials

Math

Science/Social Studies

Purposeful Play

Dismissal (Buses leave at 3:15)

# Second Step- Social-Emotional Learning

Second Step is a district wide program rooted in social-emotional learning (SEL) that helps transform schools into supportive, successful learning environments uniquely equipped to help children thrive.

# Safety

- Security personnel
- Local law enforcement
- Outside doors locked
- Single point of entry
- Staff swipes in
- Visitors buzzed in
- IDs scanned
- Lanyards

# Kindergarten Readiness

- Fostering Independence
  - Seeking help when needed
  - Using words to ask for help
  - Waiting my turn
- Self Care
  - Dressing
  - Bathroom
  - Nose Blowing
  - Hand Washing
  - Eating
- Physical
  - Fine & Gross Motor skills

# How can I prepare my child?

- **READ** to your child daily
- Encourage your child to do things independently.
- Practice identifying his/her name and the letters that make up his/her name.
- Give your child opportunities to write and draw with crayons and pencils.
- Give your child opportunities to cut with scissors and use glue.
- Let your child play with sidewalk chalk, play dough, pegs, puzzles, Silly Putty, games with small pieces, cards, etc.
- Play on the playground, swim, ride bikes, run, jump, hop, dance, etc.
- Have your child help you with jobs around the house.
- Set up a bedtime routine 2-3 weeks before school starts.
- Talk about letters and sounds.
- Talk about numbers- count things around the house.
- **Be familiar with your bus stop** .



# 10 Ways to Prepare Your Child for KINDERGARTEN



1. Read **books** everyday.
2. Develop **fine motor skills**: holding a pencil, coloring, cutting with scissors.
3. Print **first name** with *only* the first letter capitalized.
4. Learn to follow 2-step **instructions**: "Please go get your shoes and then put them on."
5. Use good **manners**: "Please" and "Thank You"
6. Talk about **social skills**: sharing, taking turns, positive words, talk about handling anger.
7. Help your child take **responsibility**: clean up messes, dress themselves, get their own snacks.
8. Practice **number recognition**: Count objects daily.
9. Practice **letter and sound recognition**. Practice saying the letters and their sounds every day.
10. Build **self-esteem**. Praise your child often because Kindergarten is hard!

# Kindergarten Student Information Form

Please complete the “Incoming Kindergarten” Google form. Make sure that you have answered all the questions.

# Homework

Nothing formal

Teachers may send home book bags, alphabet practice sheets, sight word flashcards, number flashcards, and/or other practice materials.

## Nightly Reading

# School Nurses

## Angela Bruno (B-V)

- **Attendance** : Please call the school nurse if your child will be late or absent.
- Please make sure that your school nurse has all Physical & Immunization Forms.
- Hearing & Vision Screenings were completed during kindergarten screening or will be done during the school year.

# PTA

## HHEPTA Co-Presidents

Jessica Burbeck & Myrtha Marrero

## HHEPTA K-2 VPs

Sabina Colleran (B-V)

Samantha Seleski (B-V)

For information on class parents or how to get involved, please contact the Hendrick Hudson Elementary PTA.

Please “like” the Hendrick Hudson Elementary PTA on Facebook for school updates!

# The Mother Connection

## On-site Before and After School Care

Laura Mattioli - Director of  
Programs and Personnel

**phone: 914-737-8976**

**email: [mcocinc@optonline.net](mailto:mcocinc@optonline.net)**

Here's to a Great Year  
Ahead of Us!



[www.henhudschools.org](http://www.henhudschools.org)