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Dear Parents and Guardians of Incoming Kinders,

We are excited to welcome your child to our kindergarten program at the Yakima School District! The success of your child is important to us, and one way to ensure a positive and successful experience for them is the early and ongoing involvement of our families in the educational process.

The following information is important for you to know so you can talk to your child and help them understand what their first few days of kindergarten will be like. This reduces anxiety and helps them to be assured that they will be well taken care of at school.

Kinder Family Conference | August 27 & 28 | 8:15-3:15 | At Your Child's School

There will be a family event at each elementary school the week of August 17-21, 2026 where you will be able to visit the classroom, meet the teacher, staff and admin and get to know other families. During this time, you will schedule a one-on-one meeting with the teacher for the Kinder Family Conference on Aug. 27 & 28.

The Kinder Family Conference is a special time of preparation for your child to see and become familiar with the school, meet the teachers and staff, and answer any questions you may have about kindergarten.

Kinder Academy | August 31 & September 1 | At Your Child's School

Kinder Academy is a special time of preparation for your child to see and become familiar with the school, meet the teachers and staff, and participate in a Common Assessment Screener to guide us in the best classroom placement for your child. Transportation will be provided. Kinder group 1 will attend school on August 31 and Kinder group 2 will attend school on Sept. 1 all day.

Kinder Group 1 Monday, Aug. 31 Early Release Monday 8:30-1:30 pm

Kinder Group 2 Tuesday, Sept. 1 9:00-3:30 PM

The first official day of kindergarten will be on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2026 (full day).

WIDA Assessment Screener Appointments | At Your Child's School

If you indicated that there is a language other than English spoken at home (per the home language survey) then you will also meet with the English Language Development teacher and staff to test your child on the World-class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) screener.

Appointment With the Teacher | August 27 & 28

At your appointment, you will meet with your child's teacher to receive information about school laptops and the WaKids Assessment Screener.

We hope this information is helpful to you in preparing your child for their kindergarten experience. If you have questions, please contact your child's school.

Sincerely, Your Kindergarten Team

**Strengthening Community Through Education
Fortaleciendo nuestra comunidad a través de la educación**

Yakima School District encourages workforce diversity and complies with all state and federal laws prohibiting unlawful discrimination.
El Distrito Escolar de Yakima fomenta la diversidad de la fuerza laboral y cumple con todas las leyes estatales y federales que prohíben la discriminación ilegal.