

Kindergarten Information

Kennedy Elementary School

Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten is a time for children to expand their love of learning, their general knowledge, their ability to get along with others, and their interest in the world around them.

Your child's Kindergarten Year will be filled with new challenging activities and hands-on learning experiences that foster a joy in learning and a positive attitude towards school.

Kindergarten is an important time of transition for young children and is the foundation year upon which future academic success is built.

District 81 is committed to helping your child grow and learn in a stimulating and nurturing environment that promotes self-discovery and celebrates accomplishments.

Welcome/Introductions

- * Administration
- * Main Office
- * Nurse
- * Cafeteria

Facts About Kindergarten

- * Kennedy School: PreK - 3rd Grade
- * Enrollment: 760
- * Extended Day Kindergarten
- * 6 sections
- * Average Class Size: 28

Kindergarten Hours

- * 7:55am - 2:00pm
- * Early Dismissal every Wednesday (1:20pm)
- * Half Days: Dismissal @ 10:55am

Office Hours

- * 7:00am-4:00pm
- * (847) 671-0250 main line
(847) 671-0256 fax
- * Eva Popowska, Sue O'Connell, Beatriz Talavera
- * Attendance
- * Change in Schedule

Typical Day in Kindergarten

- * Reading Interventions
- * Morning meeting (Literacy based)
- * Specials (Art, Music, PE)
- * Reading Room
- * Writer's Workshop
- * Lunch/Recess
- * Math Centers and Math Lesson
- * Workshops
- * Small Group Guided Reading and Centers

Social Emotional Learning

Kennedy School nurtures a loving and safe environment for our Kennedy Kubbies.

We teach our students to be respectful, responsible, and ready to learn.

A large part of our Kindergarten program is teaching students how to act appropriately in school, and how to interact respectfully with teachers and their peers.

Differentiated Instruction

District 81 recognizes that Kindergarten students come to us with a wide range of readiness and backgrounds.

Differentiated instruction offers a flexible learning environment to meet the needs of diverse learners. Differentiation occurs naturally and through careful planning & implementation of learning standards.

Differentiated instruction can take the form of guided reading groups, writing activities, learning centers, technology, math and literacy games and can be accomplished in individual and/or small groups instruction in any of the content areas.

Who Works With My Child?

- * Classroom Teacher
- * Reading Specialists
- * Art, PE, Music Teachers
- * Paraprofessionals (classroom support and recess/lunch supervision)

Parental Involvement

- * Classroom Volunteers
- * Field Trip Chaperones
- * Daytime/Evening Family Events
- * Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC)
- * Parent Groups (ABC)

Arrival/Dismissal

- * Supervision begins at 7:40am
- * Bell rings at 7:55am
- * Line up on playground unless weather is below 30 degrees (with windchill)
- * Breakfast provided before school
- * Drop off circle

Arrival/Dismissal (continued)

- * Bus Transportation: Adult must be at stop to pick child up.
 - If nobody is at the stop: Bus driver/school will call
 - Child will be brought back to main office to be picked up

- * Dismissal (walkers): Door 3
Picked Up by parent/guardian, or anyone listed on emergency contacts

Nurse / Health Requirements

- * Natalie Yorty, RN
- * Health Requirements for Kindergarten Students
 - Physical & Immunizations
 - Eye Exam
 - Dental Exam (completed by May 15th, 2015)
- * Medical Exclusion Day: October 15, 2014
- * When to keep your child home from school
- * Receiving any medication at school

Cafeteria

- * Cindy DeRose, cafeteria manager
- * Hot Lunch Daily or Lunch from Home
- * 20 minute to eat
- * Biometrics
- * Staff to assist/provide supervision
- * All menus planned based on USDA guidelines and offer nutritional information.
- * Applications for free/reduced lunch will be available within the first 30 days of the school year.

Communication Tools

- * District website: www.sd81.org
- * School website: www.sd81.org/kennedy
- * Classroom websites
- * Skylert (phone & email)
- * Newsletters Quarterly

How/When Do I Enroll for Next Year?

* Registration Process

- Register Online www.sd81.org (window opens April 13th)
- Electronic Signature Form
- Registration Fee (\$70 kindergarten)
- Prove Residency in Person: July 27, 28, 29
3 items (1 from each category)
- Birth Certificate (if new to district)
- Home Language Survey (if new to district)

Enrolling for Kindergarten

- *Set up screening appointment (only if new to district)
 - Screening Dates: May 28th and 29th
 - Kindergarten Teachers
 - 30 minutes
 - Schedule tonight before you view the classrooms
- * Bring in your child's medical information

Mark Your Calendars...

- * Letter with class placement

 - Sent to your home the week of August 3rd, 2015

- * Meet & Greet

 - August 11th: 12pm-3pm

- * 1st Day of Kindergarten

 - August 12th, 2015

Questions?