

Kindergarten Orientation

February 25, 2021

Welcome to the Bethel Public Schools!



Elementary Schools

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Frank A. Berry School
Principal ~ Danielle Legnard
Mascot ~ Dandy

Anna H. Rockwell School
Principal ~ Trish Soucy
Mascot ~ Rocky



Kindergarten Registration - STEP 1

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Begin the online registration process by clicking on the link below. Use this link to register your child for the 2021-2022 school year.

<https://ecollect.accelaschool.com/BethelSD>

***Please note - if your child is a current COF student, please do not complete the online registration as your child is already in our database. A notice was sent home with your child about this process.*

Kindergarten Registration - STEP 2

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At this time, we anticipate that in-person registration appointments will take place in March. (No registration appointments will be made until all of the online registration is complete.)

This appointment will take approximately 15 minutes as long as all of the required paperwork is provided. If you do not have all of the paperwork at the time of the appointment, you will need to return at a later date/time with all of the documents to fully complete your registration process. Students do not need to attend this appointment with their parents. (More information to follow on this step of the process.)

Kindergarten Registration – STEP 3

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Bring the required documents listed below to your appointment with the District Registrar.

DOCUMENTS YOU NEED TO REGISTER

PLEASE NOTE: If you do not have all of the required paperwork at the time of your appointment, you will need to return at a later date/time with the rest of the documentation to complete this step of your registration process.

DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO REGISTER

- ❑ Original Birth Certificate with raised seal for viewing, as well as a copy of it
- ❑ Proof that the adult registering the child is the parent or legal guardian (name on birth certificate matches the parent's picture ID or court documents of legal custody if divorced or separated).
- ❑ Proof of Residency
- ❑ Health Physical Form with current physical and immunizations for K-12 filled out and signed by your physician.
- ❑ REQUIRED DOCUMENT CHECK OFF LIST

Kindergarten Registration Continued

- You will receive a “Welcome to Kindergarten” information packet with suggested reinforcement activities at your child’s screening.
- Your orientation will happen prior to the first day of school.
- Please submit your child’s blue medical form as soon as it is complete or at least one week prior to the opening of school.

Incoming Kindergarten Screening

- During your registration appointment your child will take an Incoming K Screening Assessment
- You will be informed of your child's performance on the assessment
- We use this for kindergarten class placements and summer school invitations.
- You can use this information to help your child at home



Teacher Placement Information

- Over the summer you will receive placement information:
 - Teacher
 - Information regarding the first week of school



Kindergarten Orientation

- Thursday, August 26, 2020
 - 3:00 to 4:00 PM

(Classroom visits, principal presentation, and bus ride)

- We are hoping to have an in person, formal orientation at each school. However, we might have to adjust to virtual, as we did this year based on our reopening plans due to COVID protocols.
- We will communicate our final plans over the summer!

Bus Information



- ❑ Bus information is posted on the district's website (www.bethel.k12.ct.us) usually the week prior to the start of school. Times are included in this.
- ❑ Obtain your child's bus #
- ❑ Bus tags need to be worn for 2 weeks
- ❑ Be at the bus stop to pick up your child
- ❑ Kindergartners typically sit in front
- ❑ Seat belts need to be worn at all times

Bus Information Continued

- ❑ K-5 students will ride together from all three schools
- ❑ All students have assigned seats
- ❑ An adult must accompany your child at the bus stop
- ❑ No students will be dropped off without a designated adult present
- ❑ We do not transport your child to playdates after school
- ❑ We will send out a Google Form if your child is not going to and from your house
- ❑ We encourage you to utilize the bus transportation system



Drop Off & Pick Up

- AM Drop Off

8:25

- PM Pick Up

3:20



Dismissal

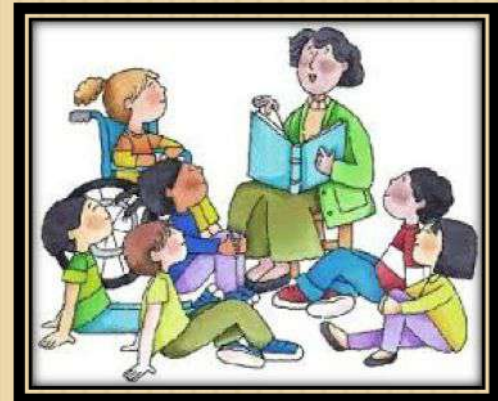


We now use an electronic Change to Dismissal Form at both Berry and Rockwell.

- ☐ If you need to change your child's regular dismissal you will fill out a Google Form.
- ☐ We will send out the google form before school starts
- ☐ Any adult who picks up a student must have identification with them

Before and After School Program

- Bethel Parks and Recreation runs our before and after school programs at Berry, Rockwell and Johnson
- You must register your child via their website www.bethel-ct.gov
- Contact Park and Rec directly with questions 203-794-8531 or email: parkandrec@bethel-ct.gov
- Adults on staff
- 3:20-5:30
- No bus transportation



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Monday, August 30, 2021



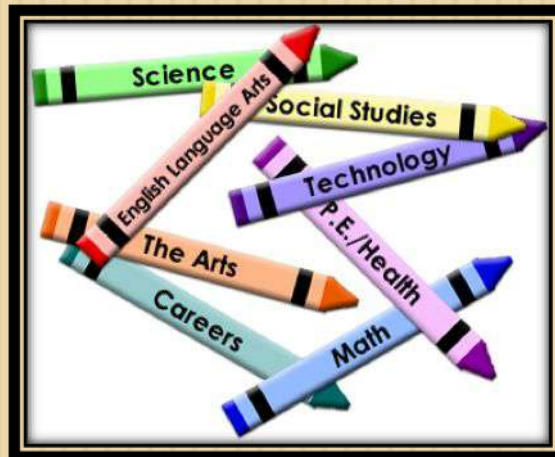
Attendance



- ❑ Attendance is critical to your child's success
- ❑ Please have your child in school, on time, and limit dismissing your child early from school
- ❑
- ❑ School starts promptly at 8:45 am
- ❑ Call the attendance line if your child is going to be absent or tardy

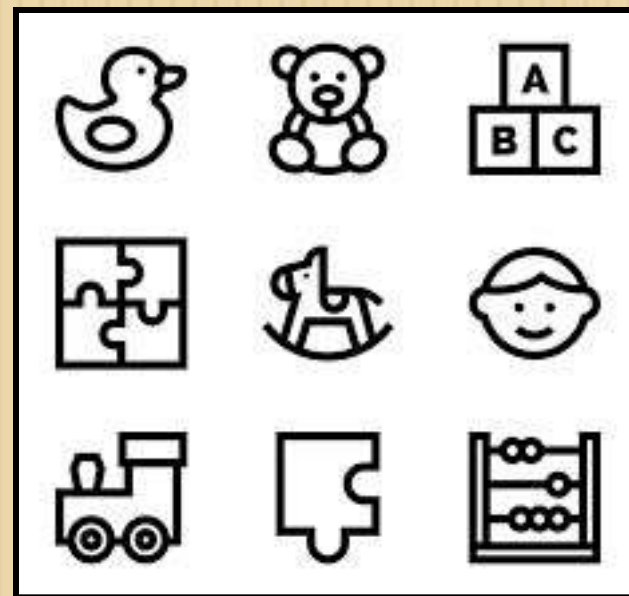
Curriculum

- Curriculum and programs are the same at both schools
- CT has adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
 - You can access the standards at <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>
- We collaborate regularly at both schools.



Sample Kindergarten Schedule

9:00-9:35	Literacy Stations
9:35-9:45	Reading Mini Lesson
9:45-10:00	Number Corner
10:00-10:10	Writing Mini Lesson
10:10-10:35	Writing
10:35-11:05	Science
11:05-11:10	Recess
11:15-11:45	Lunch
11:45-12:00	Read Aloud
12:00-12:20	Math Work Places
12:20-12:40	Math Lesson
12:40-1:05	Foundations
1:05-1:35	Recess
1:35-1:50	Snack and Pack
1:55-2:45	Special
2:50-3:15	Discovery Stations



LUNCH, CAFETERIA AND SNACK

- Send in a lunch your child can independently open
- Be sure it is something they will actually eat
- Keep the lunch and snack separated
- Lunch payment.....Set up account on My School Bucks



COVID Mitigation Updates

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- Mask wearing at all times excluding lunch, snack, and water breaks when inside.
- Masks do not need to be worn outside for mask breaks, recess, and gym.
- Maintaining social distancing
- Cohorting
- Frequent handwashing
- Possibility of limited movement and shared spaces (lunch and special)
- Minimizing gatherings (i.e. assemblies)

Morning Routine



Once at school, your child is expected to:

- **Unpack their backpack**
- **Take off their coat**
- **Turn in any lunch money or notes from home**
- **Keep track of “home folder”**
- **We do guide and support at first, then we gradually release the responsibility**

What can you do at home?

- **Practice zipping coats, tying shoes, packing up, taking care of folder**

Fostering Independence

What can you do at home...

- **Give your child age appropriate daily jobs**
- **Require your child to take care of their basic needs such as dressing, brushing teeth and washing up. Allow this even if they need help finishing up**
- **Require your child to take responsibility for their personal belongings**
- **Expect your child to follow through with directions and complete tasks**
- **Set up situations that challenge your child**
- **Join into your child's play schemes while letting them be the leader**
- **Take routine activities and use them for daily problem solving**

Math- What can you do at home?

- ❑ **Count, count and count some more**
- ❑ **Engage in a scavenger hunt to locate shapes and/or patterns**
- ❑ **Play card, dice and board games, “I spy” and math word problem games**
- ❑ **Use a calendar to help them plan activities and events**
- ❑ **Cook or bake using a recipe and measuring cups**
- ❑ **Sort laundry, groceries, toys**
- ❑ **Use small objects, food or toys as counting objects**
- ❑ **Play with Legos!**



Oral Language



The ability to use words and language to communicate ideas and thoughts to others

What can you do at home?

- ❑ **Spend time in conversation with your child to develop vocabulary and knowledge of the world**
- ❑ **Encourage your child to speak in complete sentences**
- ❑ **Label what you see and explain how things work**

Phonological Awareness



"IF A CHILD KNOWS 8
NURSERY RHYMES
BY HEART BY THE TIME THEY ARE 4
YEARS OLD, THEY ARE
USUALLY AMONG
THE BEST READERS AND
SPELLERS IN THEIR CLASS BY THE
TIME THEY ARE 8".

The ability to recognize, manipulate, and use sounds in words, including the ability to hear and discriminate the sounds in language

What can you do at home?

- ❑ **Play with language to help your child listen to rhymes and letter sounds**
- ❑ **Read nursery rhymes and other rhyming books**
- ❑ **See how many rhyming words you think of together**
- ❑ **Use words that start with the same letter and help your child to hear the letter sounds**

Print Concepts



Children's interest in print, knowledge of the names and features of various print units (e.g., alphabet letters, words), and the way in which different print units may be combined in written language.

What can you do at home?

- ❑ **Read aloud with your child every day**
- ❑ **Talk about the stories you read to make them more meaningful to your child**
- ❑ **Children will learn about books and print, for example we read the words, rather than the pictures, from left to right and from the front of a book to the back**



Writing



The ability to represent ideas or words in a printed or written format

What can you do at home?

- ☐ Encourage your child to draw and write by allowing access to pencils, crayons, markers, chalk and a variety of paper
- ☐ Activities to develop the muscle strength needed to be able to write successfully include: playing with play dough, tearing and crumpling paper, scooping and pouring
- ☐ Using Lego blocks, sticking stickers and using tongs
- ☐ Help your child send a letter or write an important list

Alphabet Knowledge

Ability to recognize the letters of the alphabet in isolation, word recognition and word use in context, and the ability to "read" words and text accurately and quickly

What can you do at home?

- ☐ Teach your child about letters and words
- ☐ Notice words and letters in the world around you
- ☐ Read cereal boxes and favorite snacks
- ☐ Post your child's name in his or her room
- ☐ Point out the letters in your child's name that are in signs and billboards around town



Developing Fine Motor and Handwriting Skills



Building fine motor skills helps lay the foundation for handwriting skills. Children need strong hands and dexterity to control writing and drawing tools, scissors, and to manipulate small classroom materials.

What can you do at home?

- ❑ **Go to the playground - run; swing; climb; hang; pull; slide; throw/catch**
- ❑ **Play on hands/knees (card games; bean bag toss; rolling balls into cups)**
- ❑ **Play while lying on the floor propped on elbows**
- ❑ **Play on a vertical plane to build shoulder and arm strength (draw on shower wall with bath soap; drawing on an easel or upright chalkboard; drawing on paper taped to wall or door)**
- ❑ **Play with Legos!!!**

Get Involved!

- PTO – Please join
 - RockwellPTO@gmail.com
 - BerryPTO@gmail.com
- Many opportunities to help at an event or behind the scenes for all of our wonderful PTO events throughout the year!





Welcome to the Class of 2034!
Thank you for attending.

Questions?

