



WAUWATOSA
SCHOOL DISTRICT
•Your Educational Community•

Junior Kindergarten

*A foundation for
your child's future*

Wauwatosa School District's Junior Kindergarten program provides a foundation for life-long learning and centers on educating the social, emotional, physical, ethical and intellectual development of children. Experiences are designed to meet varied needs and to provide students with opportunities to work and play together, and to use their own curiosity. Junior Kindergarten is the beginning of preparing children to be confident, independent learners!

Our 2.5-hour program is for children who are four years of age. It runs Monday-Friday with the option to enroll for the morning or afternoon.

Additionally, we are proud to offer our Junior Kindergarten students and families flexible and convenient wrap-around programming. Whether your child attends the morning or afternoon school session, you have the option of wrap-around programming and child care provided on-site through our nationally recognized provider, *Right At School*.



Curriculum Junior Kindergarten classrooms and curriculum are designed to meet the needs of our youngest learners. Students are taught English Language Arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Instruction integrates movement, music, and art.

English Language Arts

Junior Kindergarteners focus on understanding spoken words and learning and using new vocabulary. They spend time learning how to listen and respond to others, as well as how to express their ideas and what they know clearly. Junior Kindergarteners write with a purpose!

They retell stories, and create their own stories, orally and visually.



Mathematics Lessons

Early numeracy concepts are a key focus in Junior Kindergarten. Students have math 25 minutes each day and Eureka Pre-K Mathematics is our core resource at the Junior Kindergarten level. Over the course of the year, students work on various aspects of counting: counting the number of objects in a set, understanding that the last number counted is the number in the set, and use counting to answer the question, "How many?" As a part of this work, Junior Kindergarten students learn to use matching and counting strategies to tell if one group is more, less, greater than, or fewer than another group. Lessons are also designed to support students in developing an understanding of addition and subtraction by using objects or their fingers. A visit to a Junior Kindergarten classroom would find students sorting shapes and objects. The mathematics program is designed to prepare our youngest learners to step into the Senior Kindergarten mathematics classroom.

Social Studies and Science

Social Studies and Science in Junior Kindergarten are oftentimes taught in integrated units. Students use their natural curiosity to discover and explore their world. Junior Kindergarteners learn about being good citizens and learn how to follow rules. Nonfiction books are part of book time and the centers that are a part of our classrooms. Students learn social studies and science concepts through hands-on activities designed to help them develop an awareness of themselves and their world.



Wauwatosa Junior Kindergarten – Partner With Us



Is my child ready?

Wisconsin law requires that a child be four years old on or before September 1st in order to begin Junior Kindergarten. Ask yourself if your child:

- Enjoys being with others
- Feels comfortable away from home
- Enjoys listening to stories
- Identifies some colors
- Understands some number ideas
- Plays in a variety of ways (draws/scribbles, kicks or catches a large ball, etc.)

Screening

To help our families prepare for Junior and Senior Kindergarten, we provide voluntary Child Development Screening Days for three-year-olds during the school year. Contact the Student Services Department for additional information, screening dates, and to register for a screening, by calling 414-773-1080.

Wrap-around Child Care

The Wauwatosa School District has partnered with the nationally recognized provider Right At School for our before and after-school care for students in grades K-5. For Junior Kindergarten, a half-day wrap-around program is available morning and afternoon. Those program times are:

- 8:20 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- 10:55 a.m.-3:20 p.m.
(2:20 p.m. on Wednesdays)

- ▶ **Registration for wrap-around care is done through Right At School by phone at 855-AT-SCHOOL or online at rightatschool.com.**

Partner With Us

As a District, we view parents and families as partners in the education of your child. We know engaged parents have a tremendous impact on the success of a child's learning, so we've created numerous opportunities to get involved. Each school has a parents' organization (PTO/PTA etc.) which sponsors a variety of activities. Parents can volunteer at school and support events that occur during the year. Conferences are held twice each year to help keep you informed about your child's development.



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Registration

Registering your child for their first experience with school is an exciting time for families and we want to help make the process as smooth as possible for you. Below are a few key things to help you prepare for Junior Kindergarten registration:

- ▶ **Identify which school your child will attend.**
Elementary school attendance is determined by our District boundary map and the neighborhood you live in. This map can be found at www.wauwatosaschools.org under the "Prospective Families & Staff" tab at the top. Then select "Enrollment." If you are unsure of your school attendance area, please contact Student Services at (414) 773-1080.
- ▶ **ALL Kindergarten (Junior and Senior) registration is held on select dates each January.**
During this time, you may register your child at all of the Wauwatosa School District elementary schools. If you miss these dates, you may still register at your neighborhood school throughout the school year.
- ▶ **Summer Registration is an option.**
To register your child for Junior Kindergarten during the summer months, please visit the Student Services Department inside the Fisher Administration Building located at 12121 W. North Ave.
- ▶ **Come Prepared.**
At registration, parents need to provide **ALL** of the following:
 1. **Child's original birth certificate**
 2. **Two forms of Proof of residency**
(below are accepted options)
 - a. Lease or mortgage document or property tax bill AND
 - b. WE Energy Bill
 3. **Immunization Records**

Additional registration information can be found at www.wauwatosaschools.org/juniorkindergarten.