



Welcome to Kindergarten Registration!

We are so excited to have you and your incoming kindergarten student here today! The start of a school career can be both an exciting and anxious time. Here at North Elementary, we understand that, and we promise to work to keep that excitement fresh while doing all that we can to alleviate the natural anxieties. Below you'll find some helpful information for starting kindergarten.

Full Day Kindergarten:

We are excited to be able to provide full day kindergarten to all of our incoming students. As the list of learning expectations continues to grow for the children in our state, it is a gift to have the resource of additional time to meet and at times exceed them. It also allows us to provide the opportunities that we believe keep our students well rounded (music, physical education, etc.) and to support their growing social awareness and skills. Many parents express the concern that their child is not ready for the physical requirements of being in school for a full day, and I would like to take this time to assure you that our team of teachers understand that the first days and weeks can be a challenge in this sense and plan their days and lessons in such a way that allows for the children's stamina to develop over time.

Registration Day Assessments:

As you know from your experience today, we assess each incoming kindergarten student. The information that we gather helps us make solid instructional decisions from the first day of kindergarten. If a child comes to us working on letter recognition and sounds, we want to meet them at that exact place, and if another child comes to us working on sounding out CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words like CAT, we want to move them on to that place of learning as well. We believe that it is educationally inappropriate to ask students at different levels to wait on their peers to catch up or to work on material for which they are not ready.

Early Entrance and Transfer Tuition:

- If your child's 5th birthday falls between August 1 and September 1, you may complete the early entrance application and have him or her participate in the registration process. I will contact you to discuss your child's readiness for kindergarten in early June and will at that time determine if he or she will be starting kindergarten in August 2016. If your child's birthday is after September 1, we ask that you wait to register him or her until next year.

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- If you and your family live outside the district, you may complete the transfer tuition application and have your child participate in the registration process. I will contact you to schedule the required meeting in early June and will at that time decide if your child will be recommended to the board for admission into our district for August 2016.

Getting Ready for the First Day of School:

Today is just the first step toward your child's first day in school, and we predict that you have many questions about communication and expectations leading up to day #1. Below are some important dates for you to keep in mind:

- *June 17:* My deadline for reaching out to any parent who has requested non-resident transfer or early entrance. If you have not heard from me by this date, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by email (the office will be closed by that date).
- *June 15th - July 27th:* The front office is closed. During this time, the best way to reach me is through email. I will do my best to reply as promptly as possible but there will be a period of time that I will be unavailable due to family vacation.
- *August 1:* This is the traditional date (the first Monday after our offices reopen) when emails are sent with classroom placement and back to school information. This date also marks the beginning of several days of important information being sent via email.
- *August 8 and 9:* These are the teacher back to school work days and the dates during which back to school events for students are held. Look for additional information for specific dates and times in the communication on August 1.
- *August 10:* First day of school!!!

We've worked to share as much information as we can on this registration day, but if you have other questions or would like additional clarification on anything, please don't hesitate to call our office at 745-2610. Look for teacher placement and back to school details to come to you by email or snail mail the first week of August.

We can't wait to see you in August!!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Karen Perkins

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Hello and welcome to North Elementary School!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and my role in this building your child will be attending for the next three years. My name is Kristen Downey, and I am the counselor here at North. I wear many 'hats' around the building and have an array of experiences preparing me to wear those 'hats'.

To introduce myself, I will share a bit of my background and previous work experience. As an undergraduate student, I studied Psychology and worked in a variety of positions to put my studies to practice (working as a Resident Assistant for freshmen students, for example). Upon graduating, I worked as a Child & Adolescent Case Manager for a mental health agency helping children (and their families) learn and develop skills to handle themselves and their emotions. Then, I enrolled as a full-time graduate student and earned my Master's Degree in School Counseling and Clinical Mental Health Counseling. With Master's Degree completed, I worked as a Child & Adolescent Therapist for a mental health agency doing individual, group, and family counseling. And now, I am working as a counselor here at North Elementary and absolutely LOVE the students and staff in this building!!

As a counselor in this building, I serve in a variety of ways. I provide support and counseling to students individually, in small groups, and in classroom lessons. I also work to implement school-wide initiatives to promote character education and the lifeskills of respect, responsibility, and safety. All programs I put in place are an effort to enhance the academic, social, and emotional development of all students at North.

Now that you know a little bit about me, let's work together to make this the best school year for your child yet! Please don't hesitate to call or email with any questions or concerns about what you just read or concerns about your child.

Looking forward to working with you,

Kristen Downey

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Kindergarten Registration FAQ's 2016/2017

When is Kindergarten registration?

Tuesday March 22nd, 2016

What are the requirements for admission to Kindergarten?

A child must be five years old by August 1, 2016.

Are there any exceptions for a child who is not five by Aug 1?

Yes, a child who is five by August 31, 2016, can register and complete the testing. A child with birthdates of September 1, 2016 or after will not be considered for early entrance.

What do I need to bring with me to registration?

- Childs Birth Certificate
- Childs Immunization Records
- Any custody or guardianship paperwork if applicable

What if I live outside of the district and would like my child to attend?

Transfer tuition students are welcome to register on March 22nd, however we will not know classroom availability until beginning of August.

Is there a cost for transfer tuition students?

NO, there is no cost for transfer tuition students.

What is the process for transfer tuition students?

You will need to contact the district office for details at 317-745-2212. You can also access information on the website www.danville.k12.in.us under the district news tab.

What kind of assessment will my child take?

Each child will be assessed using a kindergarten readiness assessment. This assessment will be administered by a certified professional. The assessment will last about 15-20 min. Parents will not sit with their child during the assessment.

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How can I help my child prepare for the readiness assessment?

The readiness assessment does not assess your child's ability to read, do math, knowledge of the alphabet, or his/her address. It is a readiness assessment that examines a child's readiness for kindergarten. The best way to prepare your child is to share with them that he/she will be talking with a teacher about school and the teacher will ask some questions. Lessening the anxiety some children experience is the best way to prepare them for the assessment.

How can I help my child be ready for a successful transition to kindergarten?

We have added a couple of links below with websites to assist you in your child's transition.

1. <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/what-to-expect-grade/what-kindergarten-teachers-wish-parents-knew>
2. <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/social-emotional-skills/why-social-skills-are-key-to-learning>

When will I be notified of my child's kindergarten placement for the 2016-2017 school year?

You will receive a letter from your child's principal in the beginning of August that will include your child's placement for 2016-2017 school year.

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Kindergarten

The following list is a collection of abilities that incoming kindergarteners should be capable of doing.

- Listen to stories without interrupting
- Pay attention to adult-directed tasks for a short period of time
- Understand actions have both causes and effects
- Show understanding of general times of day
- Cut with scissors
- Trace basic shapes
- Begin to share with others
- Start to follow rules
- Be able to recognize authority
- Manage bathroom needs
- Button shirts, pants, coats, and zip up zippers
- Begin to control oneself
- Look at pictures and then tell stories
- Identify some letters of the alphabet
- Sort similar objects by color, size, and shape
- Recognize the eight basic colors; red, blue, green, black, purple, orange, yellow, and brown.
- Recognize the four basic shapes; square, circle, triangle, and rectangle
- Print first name
- Be able to say their full name when asked

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Welcome to the beginning of a new adventure!!! On August 10th, your child will complete one of the most important milestones in his/her life... the first day of Kindergarten!

We understand that you and your child may meet this day with excitement or apprehension (or a little of both!) There is nothing more important than the success of your child. We'll work together to help your child do his or her best in Kindergarten. After all, "everything we ever really needed to know, we learned in Kindergarten!"

We hope the following *ABC's* of Kindergarten will be helpful.



Absence - To report an absence, please call 317-745-2610 ext. 1007 or email Northoffice@danville.k12.in.us. Please be sure to include your child's name, grade, teacher, and date of absence, the reason for the absence, your name, and relationship to the child.

Birthdays - These may be celebrated with a simple party. **Please make arrangements with your child's teacher a week in advance.** Please do not send suckers, balloons, cake or gum.

Child care - There are a few options for child care.

PACE - www.danville.k12.in.us

Cradles to Crayons - 745-1456

Sonshine School - 745-2566



Daily Schedule-

Full Day: 7:45 am - 2:10 pm

NOTE: Children will not be admitted into the building prior to 7:30 am for morning arrival. Children must be in classrooms by 7:45 am.

Email - We communicate frequently through email. Please make sure the office has your email address.

Field Trips - We will be taking two field trips during the school year. Prior to each field trip a permission slip will be sent home. It **MUST** be signed and returned to school before your child will be allowed to participate in the trip.

Grab and Go Breakfast - A "grab and go" sack breakfast may be purchased for \$1.50. After getting their breakfast, students will have a short period of time to eat in their classroom.

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Homework– Students will have homework in kindergarten. Each classroom will be slightly different. Your child’s teacher will go over her homework plan on August 10th.

Independence - Is a goal for students because it builds self-esteem and self-confidence. Kindergarteners are very capable of doing many things on their own. We encourage them to do as much as they can in the classroom. Please encourage independence at home.

Junk Food– Please do not send junk food in your child’s lunch or for snack. Cookies and candy are considered junk food.

Karen Perkins – Mrs. Karen Perkins is the principal at North Elementary. Please feel free to contact her anytime at kperkins@danville.k12.in.us

Lunch - Lunch times are approximately 25 minutes. Before you pack your child’s lunch, consider the following health and practicality issues!

How much will my child really eat?

Can my child independently open all things packed?

Will anything I packed melt or ooze?



Your child may also purchase a school lunch for \$ 2.45. You may pay by cash, check, or via e-funds. Check out our school website for more information on e-funds.

We welcome visitors for lunch, if anyone other than the legal guardians are coming for lunch, we ask that legal guardians call the office and give permission for others to join the student for lunch. Per the FDA carbonated beverages are not allowed in the cafeteria. If at all possible please try not to bring in fast food, this is out of courtesy to other students and the lunch staff.

Math - Our kindergarten math curriculum provides students with hands-on mathematical experiences that help them develop a positive attitude toward math.

Newsletter – The Smoke Signal, our monthly school newsletter, will be sent home via email the last Friday of each month. Your child’s teacher will also send home a newsletter.

Outside Recess – We try to take the children out as much as possible. Please make sure your child always dresses in weather appropriate clothing.

PTO – A great way to get involved in your child’s school! To find out how you can help, contact a PTO board member at pto.danville@yahoo.com.

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Questions? - Please feel free to email your child's teacher with any questions or concerns you have. Teacher email addresses are always the teacher's first initial & last name@danville.k12.in.us. (ex. lwynn@danville.k12.in.us)

Report Cards – Report cards will be sent home every 9 weeks.

Snack – Snacks will be served daily. Parents will be asked to supply snacks. Your child's teacher will discuss this with you on August 10th.

Transportation Changes -

If a student has a change in transportation, a note may be sent to school with the student indicating exactly what the change is. **Parents may also email the office at northoffice@danville.k12.in.us or you can call the office with destination changes prior to 1:30 p.m. ****Please do not email transportation changes to your child's teacher.****

Universal Screeners – Are a type of assessment used to determine a student's level of proficiency in essential academic areas. We will use different universal screeners to monitor your child's progress in kindergarten.

Visitors – Are always welcome. Please register at the office.



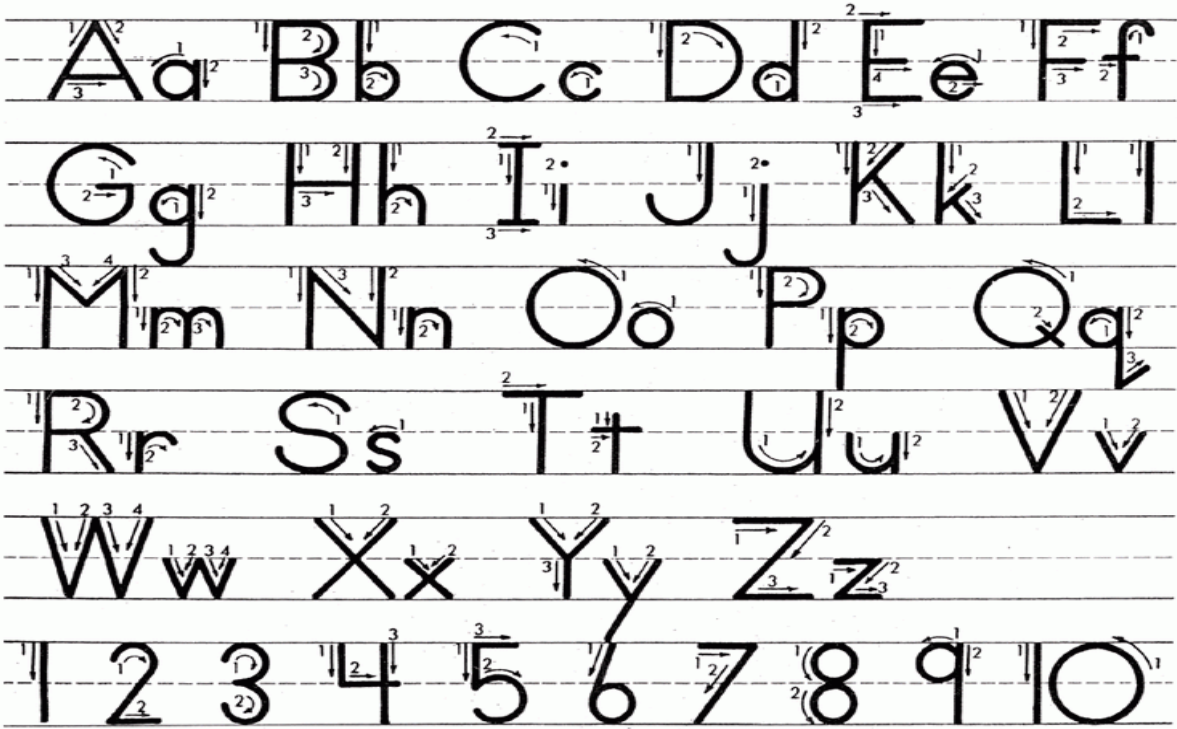
Writing – Is something that we will practice a lot as we learn the letters and their sounds.

X-tra Time... spent with your child is beneficial. Please read to your child every night.

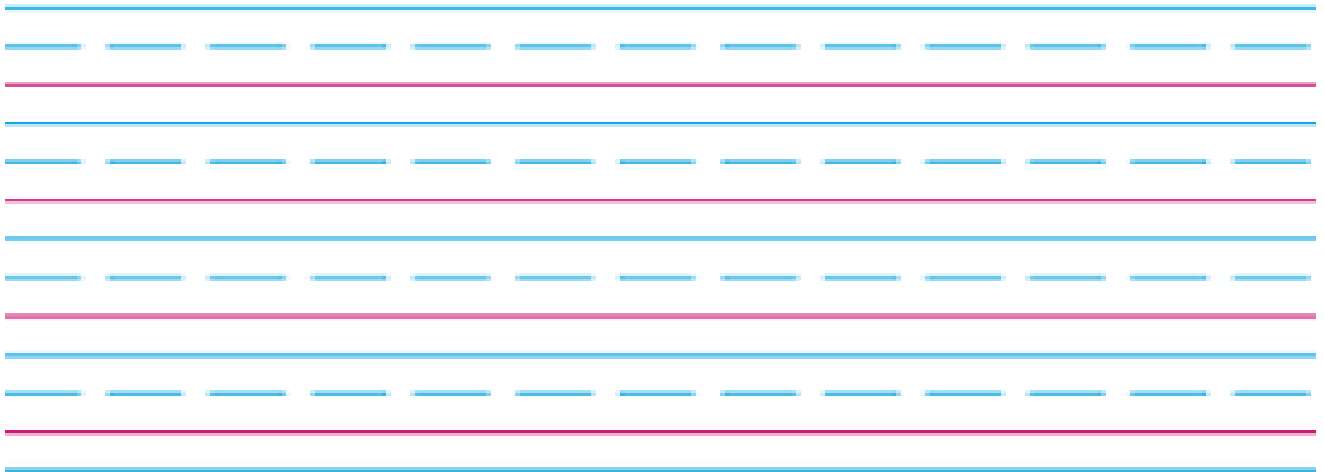
Your Ideas – and suggestions are always welcome!

Zzzzzz – Make sure that your child gets plenty of rest. Sleep helps them do their best!

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ZiggityZoom.com



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