

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



**Central Dauphin
School District**

*Dear Parents,
On behalf of our entire
educational family of the
Central Dauphin School District,
welcome to kindergarten!*

*The start of a child's education
is a wonderful and exciting
experience and the information
provided in this brochure will
help you and your child prepare
for their first school year. Should
any questions arise, please
do not hesitate to contact the
building principal. Your input
is valued and welcomed. The
principal will be happy to include
you in your child's education and
provide all the information you
require.*

*Have a great school year!
Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman J. Miller".

*Norman J. Miller, D.Ed
Assistant Superintendent*

Important Telephone Numbers

District Office	545-4703
Chambers Hill.....	561-1655
E.H. Phillips	657-3203
Lawnton	558-9430
Linglestown.....	657-3211
Middle Paxton.....	921-8951
Mountain View	657-8585
North Side.....	657-3201
Paxtang	561-1781
Paxtonia	657-3202
Rutherford	561-1990
South Side.....	657-3204
Tri-Community	939-9591
West Hanover	657-3210

Transportation

Regular Transportation

The Central Dauphin School District shall provide transportation for students in grades kindergarten through 12 as required by the Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Parents will receive transportation notification cards in July and August.

Delays

There will be times due to adverse weather conditions and traffic delays that school buses will not arrive at their stops at the designated times. Please wait a reasonable amount of time for the bus.

For dispatch issues contact:

Durham Dispatch at 717-545-4703, ext. 245 or 243

Boyo Dispatch at 717-564-3001 (buses that begin with "B")

Safety

It is beneficial for parents to discuss with their children the safest route to and from school or the bus stop. Upon dismissal, a parent/guardian or approved designee (form available) is required at the bus stop. Parents should have a plan of action to ensure the child's safety at dismissal

time. If the parent/guardian or approved designee is not present, **the child will be returned to school.**

Transportation Changes

1. One change in transportation, for reason(s) other than a residence change, shall be permitted in a school term providing the change is permanent, seating place is available, and the new stop lies within the same building attendance area.
2. A temporary change due to an emergency (ie: disaster, death, illness) shall be permitted when approved by the building principal.
3. Parents have until August 3rd to request any alternate pick up or drop off locations. After that date, requests will not be guaranteed before the third week of school. Assigned stops must be used until the approved change notification has been received from the school. See student calendar/handbook for more information.
4. The Child Care Provider Form should be submitted at registration or returned to your child's school prior to June 1.

Kindergarten Schedule

Regular Schedule

AM Kindergarten – 9-11:45 a.m.

PM Kindergarten – 1-3:45 p.m.

Cycle Days

The elementary school schedule is based on a five day cycle. Days are numbered 1-5 sequentially. When school is not in session on a particular day, that day is not counted in the sequence and the following day is assigned that number. For example, if Tuesday is a cycle day #2 and Wednesday is a nonschool day (ie: snow day, holiday), school would resume on Thursday and be a cycle day #3.

Delayed School Opening

On occasion when weather or some other emergency necessitates a delayed opening of school, the following procedures will be used:

1. Notice of a delayed school opening will be announced over local radio and television stations, posted on the district website at www.cdschools.org and relayed via the district-wide parent notification system. Please do not call the school office or the Transportation Department.
2. The announcement that "the opening of the Central Dauphin School District" will be delayed by two (2) hours, indicates that the school staff and all pupils (both transported and walkers) are to arrive at school two (2) hours later than the usual start time.

Afternoon dismissal will occur at the regular time. In the event of a two (2) hour delay, the following Modified Kindergarten Schedule will be in effect:

AM Kindergarten –

Arrive 10:45-11:00 a.m., Dismissed 12:45 p.m.

PM Kindergarten –

Arrive 1:45-2:00 p.m., Dismissed 3:45 p.m.

Early Dismissal from School

On occasion when weather or some other emergency necessitates an early dismissal from school, the following procedures will be used:

1. Notice of an early dismissal from school will be announced over local radio and television stations, posted on the district website at www.cdschools.org and relayed via the district-wide parent notification system.
2. "Bus riders" will be taken to their regular designated bus stops. The actual time of arrival may vary due to weather conditions.
3. If a parent/guardian is not at home at the time of an early dismissal, they are responsible to make provisions for the care of their children with friends or neighbors. Kindergarten students must have a parent/guardian or approved designee at the bus stop. If the parent/guardian or approved designee is not present, **the child will be returned to school.**
4. YMCA Kids Klub Programs do not operate in the event of an early dismissal.

Mission Statement

Central Dauphin, a uniquely diverse school district, ensures all students a challenging and dynamic curriculum that prepares them to succeed in a changing, global society by inspiring lifelong learning in a caring, collaborative community.

Philosophy

The kindergarten program in the Central Dauphin School District will provide opportunities for varied rates of learning, social and emotional development, and diverse learning styles of young children. Instruction in the kindergarten program will focus on introducing students to formal education, developing an awareness of the self in relation to others and the environment, and developing skills of communication, thinking and learning.

What Is Kindergarten All About?

Your child's first year in school is a new experience for parent and child alike. There are many things that a child will learn to do that will be the cornerstone of his/her education. What is kindergarten all about? Kindergarten is learning to:

1. Work and play together.
2. Respect the rights of others.
3. Be a good listener.
4. Express oneself verbally and through writing.
5. Follow directions.
6. Develop good work habits.
7. Complete assigned tasks.
8. Practice organizational skills.
9. Work as part of a group and share.
10. Use a variety of materials.
11. Encourage reading aloud, independently and together.
12. Develop an interest in books and numbers.
13. Improve fine and gross motor skills.
14. Develop new interests.
15. Use new vocabulary words.
16. Make school an enjoyable and fun experience.

Kindergarten Curriculum

Language Arts

In kindergarten, our curriculum is literature based with an emphasis on phonemic and print awareness. Students are exposed to language through a variety of themes using poetry, music, rhymes and literature. They also learn to print using a multi sensory program that develops fine motor skills.

Math

In kindergarten, our curriculum encourages active student participation and hands-on activities. Students are introduced to the Standards of Math Practice to make connections to other areas of the curriculum. The district utilizes the GoMath! program as its main resource.

Concepts include:

Number Sense

- Representation
- Counting
- Writing
- Comparing

Operations

- Addition
- Subtraction

Reporting Procedures

Communication between parent and teacher is an important part of the educational process. Report cards are issued to kindergarten students two times per year via Home Access Center.

Parent/teacher conferences will be scheduled by the school for all kindergarten students two (2) times a year. Additional conferences may be requested at a mutually convenient time by contacting the school

Special Services

The Central Dauphin School District works with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU) to transition already eligible special education students to district programs. Eligible students may receive emotional support, learning support, life skills support, multiple disabilities support, autistic support, blind and visually impaired support, deaf and hard of hearing support, speech and language support, or other health-impaired support. If you suspect your child has learning or emotional difficulties, contact the Guidance Counselor in your building. The building Response to Instruction and Intervention (RtII) team will review the child's benchmark and progress monitoring data to identify specific academic or behavioral needs and assign any necessary interventions. If appropriate, your child may be referred for a multi-disciplinary evaluation or identified for a specific learning disability through the RtII process.

Before & After School Begins

Immunizations

The Pennsylvania School Health Law requires all children entering Pennsylvania schools for the first time to have proof of the following immunizations:

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Acellular Pertussis* –

Four (4) doses.

Polio** – Four (4) doses.

Measles, Mumps and Rubella*** – Two (2) doses.

Hepatitis B – Three (3) doses.

Chicken Pox (Varicella) – Two (2) doses or evidence of immunity.

* Usually given as DTP, DTaP or if medically advisable, DT or Td.

** A fourth dose is not necessary if the third dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

*** Usually given as MMR.

School Vaccination Information for Parents:

<http://dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov>

<http://www.health.pa.gov>

Annual Screening

Every pupil is weighed, measured and screened for visual acuity once each year. All pupils in kindergarten are given a hearing test. Hearing tests will be repeated in grades 1, 2, 3, 7, and 11. Students who demonstrate vision or hearing problems are referred for further follow-up.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has announced revisions to the mandatory health screening procedures that will require Central Dauphin School District to include the calculation of body mass index (BMI) figures for all children. This is in addition to the existing School Health Department requirements for annual height and weight. Parents or guardians will receive the results of their child's screening so they may follow-up on any areas of concern.

School Attendance/Tardiness

Regular attendance at school is required. Due to a recent legal change, kindergarten students have the same attendance requirements as all other students. Once a parent elects to enroll his/her child into kindergarten, that child is now subjected to provisions of Section 1327 of the PA School Code. This means, if a student accumulates more than three unlawful absences in a school year, the parent/guardian will receive legal notification and the possibility of truancy fines. Frequent tardiness is a serious problem. Parents should strive to see children are on time every day. Any child arriving after the late bell must report to the office before going to homeroom.

Unlawful Absence

Excused absence may include the absence of a pupil for any one of the following reasons: illness, death in the family, or quarantine. A written note/excuse from the parent/guardian must be submitted within three (3) days of returning to school. If a note/excuse is not submitted upon return to school, such absence will be classified as unlawful.

Release of Students

No child will be dismissed from school without a written note from the parent/guardian. For cases of early dismissals, the parent/guardian must report to the school office to request release of the child.

Admission to the Elementary School Building

All persons must enter the main entrance of the building via a locked security system. Each visitor is required to provide identification and register in the office through the Visitor Management System. The visitor will receive a visitor's badge which must be worn during the visitor's entire stay. Children are admitted to the school building fifteen (15) minutes prior to the beginning of classes. Parents are asked to cooperate in having their children arrive during this fifteen (15) minute period. Pupils transported by school bus will be admitted to the building upon arrival. Kindergarten children who ride in private cars should be picked up promptly at dismissal time.

As an equal opportunity employer, the Central Dauphin School District offers instructional programs and employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status.