



## **Hello Kinder Parents!**

We're so looking forward to meeting our new kindergarten students and families!

Normally, we would have in-person Kindergarten Orientations in March and April. We will be having our first orientation on March 16 at 3:30PM and this one will be virtual. A link to the Webex Virtual Meeting will be posted on the Miller Elementary website calendar. <https://www.bend.k12.or.us/miller/news-events/calendar>

We have another orientation scheduled for April 5 at 5:30PM. Our hope is that this one will be in-person. Look for updates as we learn more.

Below you will find some helpful information. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns about next year. See you in the fall!

### **Office Staff:**

Jen Healy	Principal
Erich Brocker	Assistant Principal
Meredith Blackwell	Office Manager
Jen Newton	Secretary/Registrar
Anita Garland	School Nurse

### **Miller Focus on Sustainability**

- LEED Certified Building
- We normally use dishes and silverware so we don't throw away paper plates and plastic silverware each day
- Solar Panels on our roof provide some of our electricity and are a great learning tool for our students
- We compost all of our uneaten food
- We have a Green Teams that focus on Reducing, Reusing and Recycling
- We use Electronic Communications but can provide paper copies if requested
- We have Outdoor Classrooms on both of our playgrounds and this summer we will be upgrading the outdoor classroom on the Kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade side!

### Three Focus Areas

- **Academic Excellence** (reading writing, math, science, social studies)
- **Future Ready** (technology, creativity, collaboration, communication and critical thinking)
- **Thriving Citizen** (Social and Emotional learning, global thinking, empathy, appreciation)

### Reaching all Students

- Academic support in reading, writing and math
- Levels of Support: Health Protocols, 504 plans, Special Education, Speech Support
- Yearly character focuses: Kindness, Gratitude, Love, Earth, Integrity
- Assemblies: We sing, dance, and cheer for our fellow students. We have fun!
- We have 4 expectations of our students: Be safe, kind, responsible and green
- Each school day begins with a classroom Morning Meeting to build community so students can work and learn together
- Peer Buddies: Each 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade class has a Kinder – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade buddy class
- Technology: Kindergarten –Each of our students have an iPad that helps support learning, skill practice, and meaningful differentiation

### Parent Involvement – Once restrictions are lifted on volunteers & visitors in the school:

- Work with students or complete prep work for classroom teachers
- Chaperones field trips
- Planning and donating items for class or school celebrations
- Shelving books in the media center
- Share your expertise with students and teachers
- PTO - Informational Meetings, Art with students, Evening Events
- Volunteers must complete an online volunteer application including a COVID Vaccination or Exception. Once cleared, they are good for 2 years at any Bend - La Pine school
- We will share the link for the online application in our August letter to families.

### Typical Day in Kindergarten

7:20 - 7:40	Free Choice Time
7:40 - 8:00	Community Circle
8:00 - 8:15	Number Corner (math calendar and counting)
8:15 - 9:00	Writing Workshop
9:00 - 9:15	Snack
9:15 - 9:30	Recess
9:30 - 10:10	Literacy Centers

10:10 - 10:30	Specials: Music or PE
10:30 - 11:30	Lunch/Recess
11:30-12:15	Literacy Centers
12:15-12:45	Share Bear/Whole Group Reading
12:45-1:15	Math Instruction
1:15-1:30	Recess
1:30-1:45	Special Topics: science, social studies, free play
1:45-2:10	Clean Up and Dismissal

On Wednesdays we have early dismissal at 12:40

### **After School Care**

- This is all done through Bend Parks and Recreation
- They offer Kid's Inc. 2:10 – 6:00 pm
- They do not offer before school care

### **Reminders**

- We have a check-in and out safety system – you will need a photo ID (license or passport) every time to come into our school beyond the front office-
- Welcome Back and Kindergarten-specific letters to come in August
- The district offers a Winnie the Pooh Bus Safety Introduction in August.
- Meet the Teacher Event the Thursday before Labor Day
- Staggered Start for kindergarten students, start school on the Wednesday or Thursday after Labor Day
- All kindergarten students attend on Friday along with 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Please label everything with your child's name (lunch box, coats, hats, gloves, backpack)
- Our Bus system is great and so much better for the environment than single cars
- Bend-La Pine Schools website: [www.bend.k12.or.us](http://www.bend.k12.or.us)
- Miller Elementary website: [www.bend.k12.or.us/miller](http://www.bend.k12.or.us/miller)
- All staff emails follow this structure: first.last@bend.k12.or.us

**Please call the school office if you have any questions, 541-355-2500.**

Revised3/14/2022