

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome, and congratulations on becoming the newest members of the District 97 community! Below is information that we hope will not only answer some of the general questions you may have about school but also help make this exciting transition smoother and more seamless for you and your child.

Key Dates

All eight of our elementary schools will be holding a Kindergarten Open House on **Wednesday, May 6, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.** in each of their buildings.

The first day of school for the 2020-21 school year will be on **Wednesday, Aug. 26 (pending board approval), from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Hours of Attendance

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wednesday: 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (elementary students are dismissed early on Wednesdays so staff can take part in weekly meetings, planning and professional learning)

Students line up at 7:57 a.m. and enter the building at 8 a.m.

Before- and After-School Care Options

District 97 does not provide before- or after-school care. However, below is information about some of the local organizations that offer this type of programming.

- Concordia University: K-2 only; transportation provided (708-771-8300)
- First Baptist: Before and after school; transportation provided (708-383-1190)
- Hephzibah: Service provided at each school (708-649-7140)
- Park District of Oak Park: Clubhouse After-School Program; transportation provided (708-725-2110)
- West Cook YMCA: Before and after school; transportation provided (708-434-0231)

Many of the PTOs also provide after-school enrichment programming. Please contact your child's school for additional information.

Paying School Fees

The mandatory school fee for kindergarten is \$160, which covers the cost of instructional materials and supervision before school, after school and during lunch. If your child is interested in participating in the district's food service program, the daily fees are \$1.75 for breakfast, \$2.80 for lunch and \$0.45 for milk. Your child may qualify for free and reduced priced meals in conjunction with the National School Lunch Program. The application and requirements for this program will be made available on the district's website over the summer.

Health Information

Below are the due dates for the completion and submission of the state-required health examinations. The forms and waivers for these examinations can be found on the district website. There will also be additional information about health requirements shared during the Kindergarten Open House.

- School physicals and immunizations: October 15, 2020
- Eye exam by an optometrist or ophthalmologist: October 15, 2020
- Dental exam: May 15, 2021

If your child will need to take over-the-counter or prescription medication during the school day, please notify the school nurse.