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## **Prekindergarten Program Guidelines and Expectations**

The purpose of our prekindergarten program is to provide students with a safe, structured, and developmentally appropriate learning environment that prepares them for success in kindergarten. Because prekindergarten is a school-based instructional program, students and families are expected to meet the following guidelines.

### **Student Readiness Expectations**

Students should be able to:

- Separate from their parent or guardian and participate in the school day with reasonable support.
- Follow simple, age-appropriate directions.
- Participate safely in classroom activities, meals, recess, rest time, and transitions.
- Communicate basic needs to an adult through words, gestures, pictures, or another established communication method.
- Interact appropriately with adults and other children with age-appropriate guidance.
- Make progress toward managing personal belongings, eating, dressing, and other basic self-care routines.

### **Restroom Independence**

Students entering the general education prekindergarten program are expected to be independently toilet trained. This means the student should be able to:

- Recognize and communicate the need to use the restroom.
- Use school restroom facilities without direct adult assistance.
- Manage clothing before and after using the restroom.
- Wipe independently.
- Flush the toilet and wash and dry their hands.
- Remain in regular underwear throughout the school day.

Occasional accidents are developmentally understandable. Parents must provide a complete change of clothing, including underwear, socks, and seasonally appropriate outer clothing, to be kept at school.

School employees will provide verbal reminders and age-appropriate encouragement. General education classroom staff are not responsible for routine diapering, toilet training, wiping, or

changing a student's soiled clothing. If a student has an accident and cannot independently clean and change, the parent or an authorized emergency contact may be called to assist the student.

If accidents occur frequently, the school will meet with the parent to discuss the concern and develop a plan to support the student's successful participation in the program.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Consistent attendance is essential because prekindergarten instruction builds skills through daily routines and repeated practice. Parents are expected to:

- Ensure the student attends school regularly and arrives on time.
- Notify the school when the student will be absent.
- Provide documentation when requested.
- Pick up the student promptly at dismissal or when contacted because of illness, an accident, or another urgent need.

### **Behavior and Safety**

Prekindergarten students are learning how to manage emotions and participate in a school setting. The school will provide instruction, redirection, positive reinforcement, and developmentally appropriate behavioral support.

Students must make progress toward:

- Keeping hands, feet, and objects to themselves.
- Following classroom and playground safety expectations.
- Responding to adult direction.
- Participating without repeatedly preventing others from learning.
- Remaining with the class and supervised group.

Persistent behaviors that create a safety concern or significantly disrupt the learning environment will require a parent conference and an individualized support plan consistent with district policy and applicable law.

### **Parent-School Partnership**

A positive, respectful working relationship between parents and school personnel is essential to a child's success. Parents are expected to:

- Maintain accurate telephone numbers, addresses, and emergency-contact information.
- Respond promptly to calls, messages, and requests for conferences.
- Communicate concerns respectfully and directly with the appropriate staff member.
- Support classroom expectations and reinforce skills and routines at home.

- Share relevant medical, developmental, behavioral, or family information that may affect the child at school.
- Work collaboratively with teachers and administrators when concerns arise.
- Follow campus procedures for arrival, dismissal, attendance, medication, visitors, and student safety.

The school will communicate openly with families, treat concerns respectfully, protect student confidentiality, and work with parents to support each child's growth. When communication or cooperation becomes difficult, an administrator may schedule a conference to clarify expectations and create a written plan for moving forward.

### **Health and Personal Care**

Parents must:

- Send the student to school clean, appropriately dressed, and prepared for the day.
- Keep the student home when the student has symptoms requiring exclusion under district health guidelines.
- Provide required health and immunization records.
- Inform the school of allergies, medical conditions, medications, or other health concerns.
- Remain available or designate an authorized adult who can respond when the school calls.

### **Individual Needs and Legal Protections**

These guidelines are general readiness and program expectations. They will not be used to discriminate against or deny legally required services to a child with a suspected or identified disability.