Welcome to Kindergarten

2020-2021 School Year
Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year

Visit [https://bsd405.org/enrollment/](https://bsd405.org/enrollment/) to learn

- Which documents are accepted to establish residency
- For links to the enrollment packet and immunization form
- For a link to the secure enrollment portal
- You will need to provide a copy of your student’s birth certificate and passport
- If your student has an IEP, IHP or 504 plan, please upload a copy

Please note, enrollment is no longer conducted at schools, instead, all documents needed to enroll are uploaded to our secure portal.

Documents are also available in Spanish and Simplified Chinese.
Should I enroll now or wait?

- Enrolling now helps BSD ensure we have right amount of staff for all our students.

My child attended K at a private school. Can they go right to first grade?

- If the preschool your child attended is on the list of Washington State Board of Education approved private schools list you must provide the private school with a copy of the BSD Certification of qualified kindergarten attendance and your child must meet the state requirements.

My child completed kindergarten in another country. Can they enroll in 1st grade?

- If a student has completed kindergarten in another country, even if that makes them young for our kindergarten, they may enroll to 1st grade and have a 30 day evaluation to determine if this is the best fit for the student.

Can my child enroll even if they don't meet the age cutoff? My child's birthday is after August 31, can my child start kindergarten?

- Washington State Law requires a student be 5 by August 31 of the year they start kindergarten. Early entrance to kindergarten assessments may be available. Please review procedure 3110.1P
I already gave my address verification to the ELP last year or I have an older student enrolled, do I need to provide this again?

- Yes. Students enrolling in grades k-12 for the first time must establish residency even if they have siblings already in the District or if they were previously in a BSD preschool. Residency must also be established if the family moves. The reason for this is we need to ensure students actually live in our District. This helps keep your student’s class size as small as possible.

My student is already in preschool, can they automatically continue at the same school?

- No, unless you have been approved by the District to attend a different school, your student must attend your attendance area school.

Can we select any school we want to go to? Or can I go to a school that is not my attendance area school?

- Only those who have received permission from the District, may attend schools other than the school associated to your address.

If we don’t live in the District, how can we go to school in Bellevue?

- Many of our schools are above capacity and are not accepting nonresident students. Please contact studentplacement@bsd405.org for information.
I can't find my immunization status and/or can I enroll if my student does not have all of their immunizations?

• Yes, they will have time to submit final immunization records. Starting in September 2020, Washington State law requires that all students provide a medically verified immunization form.

I can't find my child's birth certificate.

• All students enrolling in kindergarten or 1st grade must show proof of age as they must be 5 for kindergarten or 6 for 1st grade by August 31 of the year they start. If you do not have a birth certificate, a passport may be used. This is required. Enrollment can continue but the proof of age must be provided before students start school.

I do not have internet access or I need help completing the enrollment forms, what do I do?

• We are working on a solution for this. For now, call Student Placement at 425-456-4200.

I don’t have all the documents for proof of residency. What should I do?

• If enrolling prior to June 30, please save all documents and submit all together.

• If enrolling on July 1 or later, please complete a Residency Verification Form and send to SPRResidency@bsd405.org with one item from the Residency Check List. This will provide you two months to collect the required documents and allow you to enroll.
Free Full-Day Kindergarten

- We offer free full-day kindergarten program in every elementary school. Kindergartners attend school on the same schedule as those in grades 1-5. Day includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 hours, 25 minutes</td>
<td>(4 hours, 5 minutes on Wednesday)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Science, social studies and additional experiences in art, music or PE are added to the core curriculum of reading, writing and mathematics.

- Transportation is provided to students on an established bus route.

- Half-Day Kindergarten Program is available upon request. Please work with your school to arrange for half-day kindergarten. Mid-day transportation is not available. On average, five or fewer students elect this option district-wide. Students need to attend their attendance area school. The school day will be from the start of the day until lunch.

- For more information, please visit: https://bsd405.org/schools/kindergarten/
School Options

All School Options:
• Full Day K, fully funded
• BSD Enrollment Packet
• Early Release Wednesdays

Neighborhood Schools:
• 16 Neighborhood schools
• Find Your School: https://bsd405.org/schools/find-your-school/
• Early and Late Start Schools

Open Enrollment:
• The time each year when families may request to attend a school other than their neighborhood school. If selected through Open Enrollment, your student will attend the new school beginning the first day of school in the next school year.
• Online applications will be available during this time period.
• Please visit the District’s Open Enrollment page for more information.
School Options

**Choice Schools:**

- Jing Mei – DUAL Mandarin and English
- Puesta del Sol – Spanish Immersion

*Entry into these programs is through application and lottery the winter before your student begins kindergarten. Please visit our Apply to Choice Schools and Programs page for more information.*

*If you would like to add your student to a Choice School waitlist, please visit our Apply to Choice Schools and Programs page for more information. Students who wish to enter after kindergarten will be admitted as there is room and will be assessed to ensure their language skills are at grade level. Please see our Frequently Asked Questions page*

**Spanish Dual Language Programs:**

- This program is available at Lake Hills, Sherwood Forest and Stevenson schools. Entry into these programs is through application and lottery the winter before your student begins kindergarten. For more information, please visit our Spanish Dual Language Program page.

*If you want to be placed on the wait list for one of the Spanish Dual Language Programs, please visit our Apply to Choice Schools page. Students will be admitted as there is room and will be assessed for their language skills.*
Areas of Child Development

Developmental Needs of Children

- Social:
  - Interaction with adults & peers
  - Problem solving

- Emotional:
  - Recognize and name feelings
  - Recognize and acknowledge other’s feelings
  - Comfortably separate from parents

- Physical:
  - Fine motor (draw, color, write, cut)
  - Gross motor (jump, run, bounce, catch)

- Intellectual:
  - Literacy (letters, writes name)
  - Math (numbers, shapes, patterns)
  - Science (creativity, exploration, persistence)

In September & October teachers conduct observational assessments of students in the 6 domains of readiness:

- Social-Emotional
- Physical
- Language
- Cognitive
- Literacy
- Mathematics
Kindergarten Readiness Skills and Concepts

Language and Literacy

- Names letters, numbers 1-20 and colors
- Identifies most letters in alphabet
- Makes many letter sounds
- Enjoys being read to and/or reading books
- Can print letters
- Recognizes own name in print
- Hears and makes rhymes
- Talks about a variety of topics
- Participates in conversations
- Tell a simple story in any language
- Speaks clearly so other people can understand their words

Math and Science

- Counts number of items in a group
- Recognizes patterns in colors, shapes, etc.
- Uses math vocabulary such as some, few, all, many, etc. to describe amounts
- Recognize numbers 1-20
- Curious about new things or ideas
- Create solutions to try to solve a problem
- Sorts objects by more than one feature
- Makes observations about environment (ie. leaves on a walk outside, animals in a park, etc.)

Note: Kids are on a continuum of development and do not show 100% proficiency in all areas. All students have strengths and areas to encourage development.
Kindergarten Readiness Skills and Concepts

Motor Skills
• Moves from one place to another using different types of movement.
• Holds pencils and crayons to draw and/or write
• Uses kid size scissors to cut on lines or make basic shapes

Social-Emotional Skills
• Plays well with other children
• Says a child they play with is their friend
• Shares with others and takes turns
• Communicates needs and requests for help
• Offers ideas to resolve conflict
• Identifies feelings in self and others (empathy)

Self-Care & Well-Being
• Goes to the bathroom independently
• Washes hands after bathroom use
• Puts on coat and shoes
• Eats and drinks independently
• Uses tissue/covers mouth when coughing

Note: Kids are on a continuum of development and do not show 100% proficiency in all areas. All students have strengths and areas to encourage development.
How can I help my child prepare for Kindergarten?

Language, Literacy & Play

• Read to and your child every day in home language and/or English.

• Encourage use of scissors, beads, playdough and small building blocks like Legos. These activities help to develop hand muscles for holding pencils/crayons to write and draw.

• Teach your child their full name and parent/guardian’s names.

• Use everyday situations to practice taking turns and sharing.

• Help your child learn skills to calm themselves (like taking deep breaths or counting to 10) if they are upset. Help them learn to use words to solve problems with others.

Cultivate Positivity & Problem-Solving Skills

• Answer questions and talk about your child’s feelings about going to Kindergarten.

• Encourage your child to make new friends and meet new people.

• Encourage your child learn every day by positively participating, making good decisions and solving problems kindly.

• Help your child to think of solutions if they have a problem or talk about what they could do in a situation that comes up unexpectedly.
How can I help my child prepare for Kindergarten?

Be Ready for the School Day

• Help your child to have a good day by keeping a regular schedule. Ensure they are getting enough sleep and plenty of exercise (spend time outdoors every day).

• Check your child’s backpack after school for notes, completed student work and library books.

• Encourage daily reading and math skills in home language and/or English.

Get to Know Your School

• Take your child to the school they will be attending for orientation, welcome events or just to play on the playground.

• Visit the building with your child (before the 1st day if possible) to find important places together so you will both know what to expect.

• Take a walk to the bus stop before the 1st day so your child gets familiar with the routine.
Child Find

When should a child be referred to Child Find?

• When birth complications or a medical disorder interferes with development and/or learning
• When a child seems to have difficulty hearing or seeing
• When you or others outside the family don’t understand a child’s speech
• When a child appears to be learning more slowly than other children their age
• When a child appears to have social emotional difficulties that affect their ability to learn
• When a child has motor difficulties (moving, jumping, using their hands, etc.) that interferes with their ability to keep with other children

Note: Kids are on a continuum of development and do not show 100% proficiency in all areas. All students have strengths and areas to encourage development.
A Day in Kindergarten!
The Kindergarten Day

Instruction Includes

• **Literacy:** Reading & Writing
• **Math:** Counting, adding 1-10, shapes, categorizing
• **Social Studies:** communities & helpers
• **Social Emotional Learning:** feelings & regulation
• **Science:** Earth, Physical, Life & Engineering
• **Specialists:** Art, Music, PE & Library

Sample Schedule

**Daily Schedule**
9-9:20 – Opening Circle
9:20-10:50 – Literacy
10:50-11-Snack
11-11:40 – Specialist
11:40-12:30 – Lunch & Recess
12:30-1:30 – Math
1:30-1:50 – Recess
1:50-2:40 – Science/SS
2:40-3:10 – Small Groups & Choice
3:10 -3:20 – Packing up
3:30-3:35 – Closing & Appreciation Circle
Curriculum & Homework

Detailed information can be located here:

Elementary Curriculum
• Social Emotional Learning
• Literacy
• Social Studies
• Math
• Science
• Specialists: Library, Art, Music and P.E

Note: We are developing a computer science pathway for all students. For more information, please visit: K-12 Computer Science

NO Homework Assigned in Kindergarten:
• Family Activities Calendar provided by Teacher
• Invited to read every night with child(ren)
• Engage in Language Activities
School Staff & Support Beyond the Classroom

**Nurses:** Provide resources for students and families, conduct vision and hearing screenings,
- **Individual Health Plans (IHPs):** Focus on medical issues that do not affect learning such as diabetes, seizures and severe allergies. Please communicate with your School Nurse to let them know about any health concerns that would impact your child’s learning or safety at school.
- **Required Health Forms**

**Counselors:** Counselors are an integral part of students’ daily educational environment and are partners in student achievement.
- **Provide Academic, Social, Person, and Support Services**
- **Section 504s:** provides students with disabilities equal access to educational programs, services, and activities.

**Multilingual Learners Facilitators:** Provide inclusion supports for Emerging and Progressing MLLs. For more information, see [Elementary School Services](#).
- All Emerging, Progressing and Proficient MLLs are served by ELL-endorsed teachers and facilitators in their home schools.

**Special Education and Resource Teachers:** Facilitate programs and services are available to all students who meet state eligibility criteria for special education services and are being served on an Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- For more information, see [Special Education Programs & Services](#).
- **Individual Education Program (IEP):** is a written plan for a child with a disability that includes specific information about areas needing additional or special support, and the services that will be provided.
FAQs – Class and School

Can my child be class with their friend?
• Class assignment is determined in August. Parents are not able to request a specific teacher. Schools will notify families and this may or may not include a known friend. Students will make many more friends in their class. Is there a dress code or uniform?
• BSD does not have school uniforms. BSD Policy 3224 outlines student dress code and all schools align with this policy.

• How do I join PTSA?
  • Information will provided by school PTSA. You can also check your school’s website.
• Lunch and Recess times? Is recess inside if it rains?
  • Lunch is 25 minutes and 2 recesses totaling 40 min.
  • Students should dress for seasonal weather, including a raincoat as recess is generally outside.

How many students in a class?
• This varies based on enrollment. Average class size in elementary is 21.3 students.
FAQs – Class and School

Can I tour the classroom and watch lesson?
• We cannot provide tours/observations of lessons as this would be distracting for students. Schools will share information in August about welcome sessions and how to set up WaKIDS Family Meetings prior to the first day of school.

Can I stay with my child the first day/week of school?
• No. This would be very distracting for students. Students quickly thrive and become independent in their classroom settings.

How are students supported?
• Students are all supported with nurturing relationships and instruction to meet their needs
• Parents of BSD kindergarteners do not need to apply for Advanced Learning in Kindergarten. This process take place automatically within the classroom.

I don’t speak English. How will I communicate with my child’s teacher?
• BSD has translation services to support on-going communication between families and school staff.

What do I do if my child has a bathroom accident at school?
• It is a good idea for your student to have a change of clothes in their backpack or cubby at school for bathroom emergencies or mud puddles! 😊
Family and School Partnership

- Value Communication
- Share commitment to your child’s success
- Invitations to be involved:
  - **Attend Beginning of Year Meeting with Teacher** – Information will come from your school.
  - Join PTSA – check with your school
  - Volunteer in Classes – [Check BSD Requirements](#)
First Day & Family Connections Meetings

• **Personal Meeting with the Classroom Teacher:**
  - You and Kindergartener will be invited before school starts for a meeting September 3, 4 or 8.
  - This is an opportunity for the teacher to learn about students and families.
  - Parent invited to share important information to support student transition to kindergarten.
  - You will receive communication from your school and/or teacher for the meeting either in person or digital/phone.

• First Day for Kindergarten is September 9th, 2020!
Family Connections Centers

Affirming and Supporting All Families and Students

BSD Family Connections Centers are part of our welcoming school community focused on affirming and supporting all families and students. Located in elementary and secondary schools and staffed by Family Engagement Specialists, their mission is to contribute to student achievement by connecting families with district and community support services, providing them with educational opportunities to better navigate the school system and helping them become engaged in the education of their children.

Who We Serve

Family Connections Centers serve thousands of Bellevue families each year. While our locations are school-based, all BSD families are welcome to walk into any center throughout the district for support. We believe that the support and resources provided by our centers and specialists can benefit all BSD students and their families. We invite you to stop by a center near you. Family Connections Centers are open during school hours and when schools are in session.

For More Information Please See: Family Connection Centers
**Quick Facts:**
- Students eat lunch in the cafeteria.
- Students can bring their own lunch or purchase school lunch.
- Lunch is supervised by school staff.

**Meal Prices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Breakfast Reduced Price</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Lunch Reduced Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, &amp; 3rd</td>
<td>$ 2.25</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>$ 3.50</td>
<td>FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PreK, 4th &amp; 5th</td>
<td>$ 2.25</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>$ 3.50</td>
<td>.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>$ 2.50</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>$ 3.75</td>
<td>.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>$ 2.50</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>$ 3.75</td>
<td>.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$ 3.25</td>
<td>$ 4.75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Application for Free & Reduced Price Meals**

Breakfast served in cafeteria at: Ardmore, Enatai, Lake Hills, Newport Heights, Phantom Lake, Sherwood Forest, Stevenson, Wilburton & Woodridge.

Lunch served at all schools in cafeteria.

Setting up Online Payment for Meals
Snack Time

• Daily time is built into schedule for students to have a snack time and is in the classroom.

• Schools all follow federal, state and district guidelines for practices.

• If your student has an allergy, please be sure to notify the school to ensure staff know and can support your child appropriately.

• Additional information will come from your school and teacher regarding time, suggestions, classroom allergies, etc.
Student Drop-off & Pick-up

• Each elementary school will provide the process and procedure for drop-off and pick up areas.
• Please pull forward in drop-off and pick-up zones and drive slowly.
• There are designated bus zones. Cars are not permitted in the bus zones for student and staff safety.
• All drop-off and pick up areas are supervised by staff.
Transportation

• We provide free transportation for students who reside within their school attendance area but outside their school’s walk boundary. All elementary schools have a one mile walk path boundary.

• We also provide transportation for some additional programs and choice schools (Advanced Learning, Puesta del Sol, Jing Mei, etc).

• Bus Routes & Times: [https://bsd405.org/departments/transportation/bus-routes/](https://bsd405.org/departments/transportation/bus-routes/)

• First week of school, all kindergarteners must be met by an adult or an older siblings at the bus stop.

• It is the family’s responsibility to educate their student to notify the bus driver if the parent is not at the stop.
Before and After School Learning

BSD Early and Extended Learning Programs

• Before and after school programs are available for children kindergarten through 5th grade.

• Programs are conveniently located at all elementary schools to ensure a smooth transition between the school day and the before and after school program.

• Options include either before school, after school or before and after school.

• Complete a Registration Form and submit.

• Many organizations within the Bellevue Neighborhoods provide before- and/or after-school care. You can contact your school to learn which organizations are near your assigned school.