

All-Day Kindergarten 2022-2023

**A Parents' Guide to
Kindergarten Readiness**

**Unified School District No. 305
Salina Public Schools**



Mission Statement

The mission of Salina Public Schools is to be the best place to learn and work by embracing challenges, creating belonging, fostering pride and inspiring hope.

Non-discrimination Notice

The district does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, or genetic information in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in the district's programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The executive director of human resources has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 except discrimination on the basis of sex, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, and the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended.

Complaints regarding alleged discrimination on the basis of sex, as prohibited by the Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and other federal and state laws regulating such discrimination and other discriminatory harassment, shall be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in board policies GAAC and JGEC and shall be directed to the Title IX Coordinator at: Executive Director of Human Resources, 1511 Gypsum Ave, PO Box 797, Salina KS, 67402-0797, (785)309-4726.

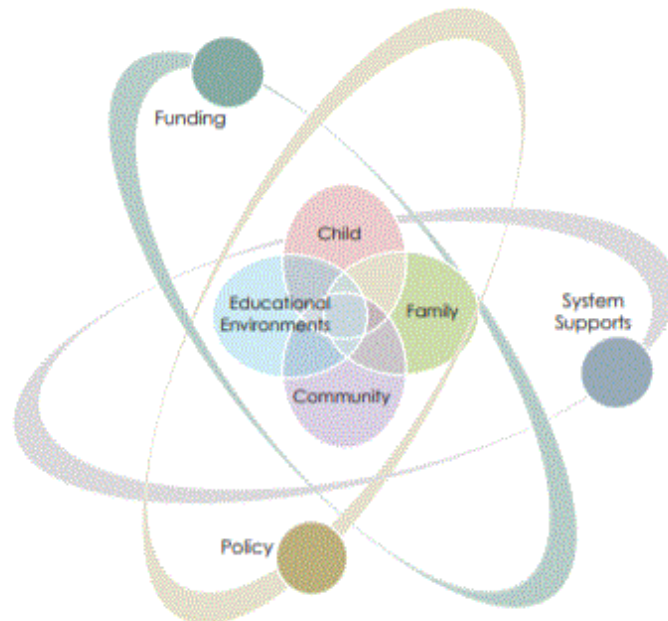
What is School Readiness?

School readiness begins at birth. Healthy children with involved families and supportive communities enter kindergarten ready to succeed. Parents are a child's first teacher. Every environment is a learning environment that can either help or hinder the skill, knowledge, and abilities a child gains in his or her first five years of life. Everything a child experiences impacts lifelong learning. School Readiness is the result of the early learning years.

Entering kindergarten is a big milestone. Parents worry their child may “not be ready”, but...

All children are ready to enter kindergarten when they meet the age requirement – five on or before August 31 of their kindergarten year.

The Kansas vision for school readiness is represented by the Kansas School Readiness Framework.



An essential building block for future achievement and academic success is school readiness. Early childhood experiences from birth to kindergarten entry that ensure health and physical well-being, and the development of cognitive, communication, and social-emotional skills are necessary for school success and have a direct influence on future outcomes.

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Welcome to
Kindergarten!

Dear Kindergarten Parents:

Congratulations! Your child will soon be old enough to enter kindergarten. Kindergarten is such an exciting time. Your child is at a marvelous age where each day brings opportunities for wonder, curiosity, excitement, and discovery.

This booklet will help you and your child prepare for this first year partnership with your child's teacher. As you look through this book, you will see that kindergarten is a year filled with learning, exploring, and growing. We hope your child will develop an enthusiasm for life-long learning.

Your child's success starts with us working together to help your child grow in many ways: intellectually, socially, and emotionally. We look forward to building a long lasting partnership with you regarding your child's education. This is the first step along the path to success for your child.

Age Requirements:

Students must be five (5) years old on or before August 31 of the current school year.

Documents for Enrolling in Kindergarten:

- **Proof of student's identification.** The following will be accepted as proof:
 - Birth certificate (hospital or official state copy); or
 - Copy of a court order placing the student in adult's custody; or
 - Baptismal certificate

- **Copy of student's immunization record:**

KDG and Grade 1	
Vaccine	Requirement
DTaP/DT	5 doses
IPV (polio)	4 doses
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)	2 doses
Varicella (chickenpox)	2 doses
Hepatitis A	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses

(Subject to updates)

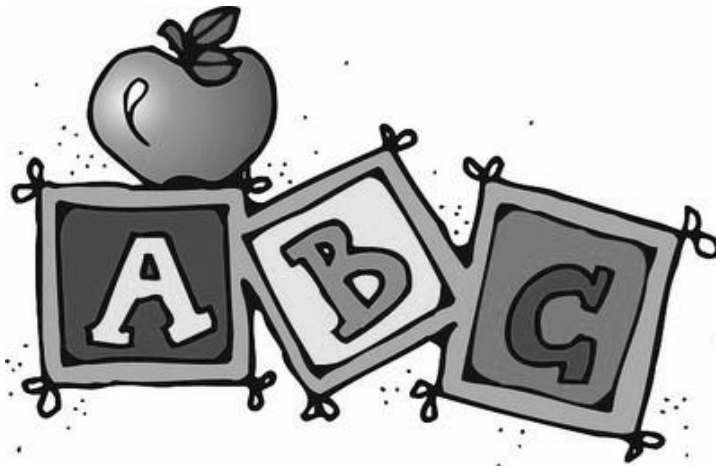
- **Copy of health assessment completed by an approved health care provider within 12 months of the student entering school.**

Kindergarten Attendance

Making sure that your child attends school every day is one of the most important things you can do to help your child succeed in school. On time, regular attendance is required.

Did you know?

- Missing even one day of school every few weeks can make it harder to develop early reading and math skills.
- Children who attend school regularly are more likely to be ready for first grade.
- If your child arrives even 30 minutes late or leaves school early, they are missing important parts of the day.
- Regular attendance helps reduce crime and teen birth rates later in life.



How You Can Help Your Child to Succeed in School

- Attend school every day and be on time.
- Make sure your child gets 10-13 hours of sleep in a 24 hour period.
- Set a regular bed time.
- Don't keep your child home unless he or she is truly sick.
- Have a back-up plan to get your child to school if your transportation falls through.
- Schedule doctor's appointments when your child is not in school.
- Plan vacations for when school is not in session.

Skills that Help to Ease your Child's Transition into Kindergarten

It is never too late to help your child to do better in school. Becoming involved in your child's education and partnering with his/her teacher will help him/her succeed in school and in life.

Parents Can Help by:

- Building a positive attitude toward school
- Making certain that your child has a good night's rest, a good breakfast, and a happy, unworried mind to start the day
- Providing opportunities for your child to help with family chores
- Allow your child time to play with children his/her own age
- Visit the library and read on a regular basis

Safety Skills for School:

- Knows their first and last name, address, and telephone number
- Knows their age and birthday
- Knows names of parent(s) or guardian(s)
- Understands the meaning of traffic lights
- Walks on the sidewalk or on the left side of the street facing traffic
- Walks the neighborhood with your child. Show them safe places they can go in an emergency, like a neighbor's house or an open store
- Walks together with friends
- Never accepts rides from anyone they don't know

Self-help and Social Emotional Skills:

- Practices good hygiene (use the toilet, wash hands, blow nose by themselves)
- Separates from parents easily
- Can dress themselves – buttons, zips clothes, etc.
- Follows simple directions
- Handles emotions appropriately
- Shares with others
- Works independently
- Asks for help appropriately
- Plays well with others
- Helps put toys away

Fine Motor Skills:

- Holds pencil firmly enough to write
- Uses scissors
- Can assemble a puzzle with interlocking pieces

Math Skills:

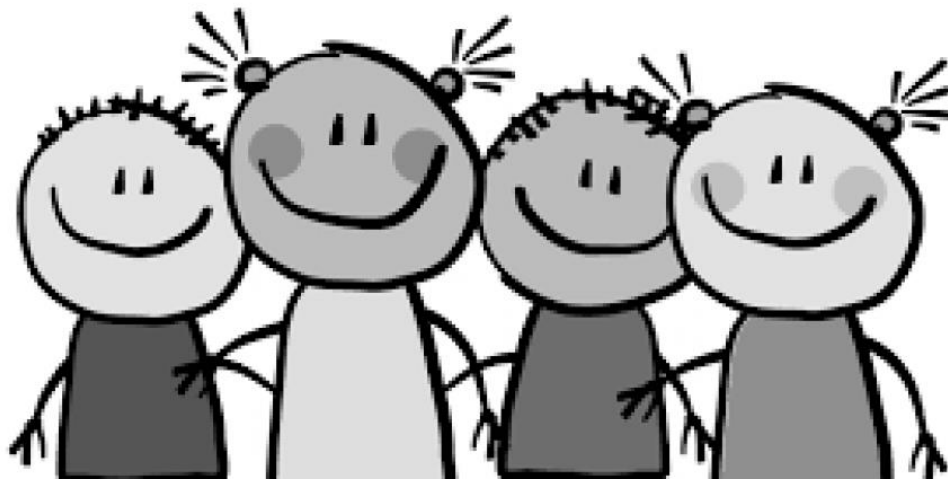
- Counts to 20
- Recognizes some numbers
- Counts objects 1-10
- Names some shapes (circle, triangle, square, rectangle)
- Understands concepts of more than and less than

Early Literacy Skills

- Identifies first name
- Holds a book correctly and turns pages
- Knows what print is for and shows interest in books and in words around him (Such as by asking what signs or labels say)
- Hears and makes rhymes
- Retells a simple story
- Names basic opposites (front/back, up/down)
- Participates in shared conversation with peers and adults

Basic Knowledge:

- Sings a simple song such as Twinkle Twinkle Little Star or Happy Birthday
- Knows left and right
- Identifies colors basic eight: red, blue, green, yellow, orange, purple, black, brown



Fall Screening

Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ)

As a parent, you are the best source of information about your child. The questionnaires that you will complete for the school staff in August focuses on your child's communication, motor development, problem solving, and personal-social skills. This information will help your child's teacher get to know your child and create a welcoming and nurturing learning environment at school.

Kindergarten Curriculum

Language Arts:

Reading

Comprehend different kinds of text

- Listen to a variety of texts
- Discuss and answer questions about a variety of texts
- Increase vocabulary
- Follow oral directions/listen attentively
- Relate past experiences to the texts

Decode and understands new words

- Identify lower and uppercase letters
- Demonstrate phonological skills:
 - Count the number of words in a sentence
 - State how many syllables in a word
 - Recognize rhymes
 - Recognize beginning and ending sounds in words
 - Segment words into sounds (“dog” □ /d/ /o/ /g/)
 - Blend sounds into words (/s/ /i/ /t/ □ “sit”)
 - Add or take away sounds in a word (sip □ slip)
- Demonstrate letter/sound relationships
- Use context clues
- Identify high-frequency words
- Decode words by using letter/sound knowledge

Read Fluently

- Participate in group reading
- Read own writing or drawing
- Demonstrate an understanding of how print works
- Read patterned text independently

Writing

- Write lower and uppercase letters
- Use drawing, dictating, and writing to compose short pieces of text

Speaking

- Respond in a complete sentence when asked a question
- Participate in conversations with peers and adults

Math:

In Kindergarten Math, your child will focus on two critical areas. The first is representing and comparing whole numbers, including modeling the process of simple joining and separating. The second is describing shapes and space.

Whole Numbers:

- Count how many objects are in a group
- Compare two sets of objects or numbers to identify which is greater to or less than the other
- Understand addition as putting together and subtraction as taking away from
- Break apart numbers less than or equal to 10 in more than one way (for example $9=6+3$, $9=5+4$, etc.)
- For any number from 1 to 9, find the missing quantity that is needed to make 10
- Represent addition and subtraction word problems using objects or by drawing pictures
- Solve addition word problems involving numbers that add up to 10 or less
- Solve subtraction word problems by subtracting from a number 10 or less

Shapes and Sizes

- Describe their world using geometric ideas and vocabulary
- Identify, name, and describe basic two and three-dimensional shapes

Social Studies:

- Self-awareness: How do I fit in with my family, my community, my state, my country, my world?
- What are rules, and why are they important in our lives?
- What is the difference between wants and needs?
- What are geographic features, and why are they important in our world?
- Why do people have to make choices?
- What can history teach us?

Science:

- What happens to an object if we push or pull it?
- What do plants, animals, and humans need to survive?
- How does the sun affect the earth?
- What observations about the weather and weather patterns can we make?
- What impact does our environment have on living things?

Music:

- Listen to a variety of music
- Sing songs in a group
- Participate in rhythm and musical games

Physical Education:

- Strengthen their bodies through physical fitness activities
- Develop safe movement concepts and fundamental skills, using good sportsmanship

Social Skills:

- Follow oral instructions
- Participate in oral sharing with peers
- Maintain age appropriate focus for short periods of time

What to Expect During a Day of Kindergarten

Classrooms will vary from school to school. Each classroom will be staffed with a kindergarten teacher, often with additional staff present. Parents are always welcome in the classroom and encouraged to volunteer. Upon arrival, please stop at the office, sign in, and get a visitor's badge. The design of the classroom has furniture and features to make each room child-friendly. The classroom schedule may vary from classroom to classroom.

Below is a brief look into a typical day:

Arrivals and Morning Activities

Time is spent unpacking book bags and checking in with the teacher. The morning usually consists of reading books out of the classroom library, writing, or doing starter activities. These activities are self-directed to encourage students to work individually as others arrive.

Morning Message and Writing Activities

Teachers will do mini lessons. Students share with others and do calendar activities. Students also practice writing with the teacher's assistance, as well as writing independently.

Reading or Math Whole Group

Instructional blocks of time together with interactions between teachers and peers. Times are broken down into smaller portions to help the students stay focused.

Snack and Recess

The time varies from day to day. At this time typically a small snack and a recess/restroom break occur.

Word Work including Phonics and Vocabulary Building

Using guided practice to learn letters and sounds within the context of a book.

Lunch and Recess

Students will eat together in the cafeteria daily and will be provided recesses throughout the day.

Quiet Time

After recess, students may use the restroom. Teachers read stories and students can rest or read a book on their own at this time. This is a time to help them refocus for the afternoon.

Small Group Math or Reading

Small group instruction to help students meet their needs takes place at this time. Students not in small groups interact in centers that involve a variety of learning activities and learning games.

Creative Play

Creative play takes place in a variety of centers. These centers include dramatic play, block, sensory area, books, table toys, art, music, nature, and science. Integration of work areas occur in many of the centers through hands on play and teacher interactions to increase academic learning. Development of social-emotional skills occur also at this time through interactions with their peers.

Other Academic Opportunities

Students will have designated times for Music, PE, Library and Science Lab during the week.

Clean Up and End of the Day Routines**Dismissal**

Finding Your Child's School

Attendance boundaries are set for each elementary school. The primary residence of the legal parent(s) or guardian(s) will determine which school the child will attend. Call the district board office at 785-309-4700 for more information about which school your child should attend.

You will need:

- **Proof of residence. The following will be accepted as proof:**
 - Any current bill sent to a parent/legal guardian with name and address; or
 - Current tax statement; or
 - Current lease agreement; or
 - Current documents proving the purchase of residence

Enrollment and Supply Costs:

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Full Price Amount</u>	<u>Approved Reduced Rate</u>	<u>Approved Free Rate</u>
Kindergarten	Textbook Rental	\$60	\$30	\$0

** *subject to updates*

- A supply list will be provided at enrollment and on the USD 305 website
- If you cannot afford all the supplies on your child's list, contact your school for the date and time of the community-based programs to help defer cost.

School Day Time, Transportation and Visiting School:

- Your child's school day will begin at 8:30 and end at 3:25
- Transportation will be provided for students living more than 2½ miles from their assigned neighborhood school
- Parents are welcome to visit school. Please check with the teacher before visiting to verify schedules and to provide for meaningful observation. Please check in with the office upon arrival.

School Lunches

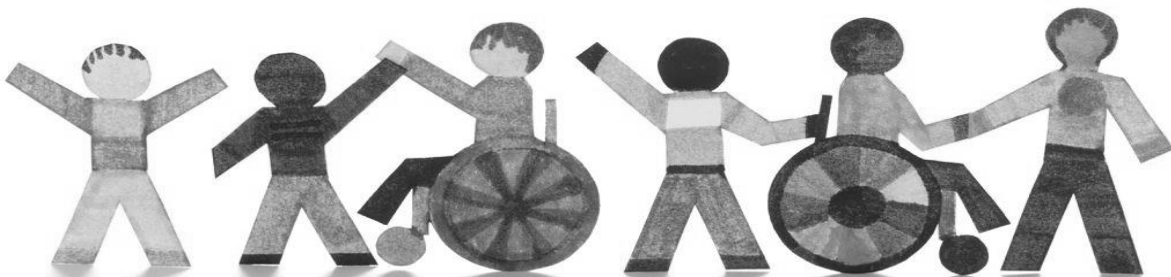
- School lunches will be provided for your child
- You may always choose to send a lunch from home for your child
- An application for free or reduced price meals will be part of the online enrollment process
- Only one application is needed PER HOUSEHOLD

<u>Item</u>	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Reduced</u>
Breakfast	\$1.70	.30
Lunch	\$2.80	.40

**Subject to updates*

Transition Considerations for your Child with a Special Need:

- If your child has special education services and an IEP, you will work with both the preschool special education providers and the elementary school providers to insure the services needed are in place when the school year starts.
- If you have questions about this process or the timelines, visit with your preschool education provider and/or the case manager for more detailed information.



DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Board of Education Office

<https://www.usd305.com/>

1511 Gypsum (785) 309-4700

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Central Kansas Cooperative in Education

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Jeff Hayes, Executive Director of Special Education

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