

Wallingford-Swarthmore School District Kindergarten Registration

TO: Parents of Prospective Kindergarten Students **FROM:** Wallingford-Swarthmore School District

SUBJECT: REGISTRATION FOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS IN THE

WALLINGFORD-SWARTHMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT, 2022-23

DATE: November 2021

Who needs to register?

If your child will be entering kindergarten in September 2022, it is important that you register your child as soon as possible. In order to facilitate staffing and planning, we need to have an accurate count of children planning to attend kindergarten during the 2022-23 school year.

Please share this letter with neighbors and friends.

If there is a child of kindergarten age in your neighborhood who has no siblings attending district schools, please relay this information to his/her parents.

How do I register my child for Kindergarten?

Eligibility

To be eligible for kindergarten admission in September 2022, children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2022. **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

Process

The District offers **online registration** through our website <u>www.wssd.org/registration</u>. If you do not have access to a computer, you can make an appointment to use a district computer to complete the registration online at the Administration Building. Questions should be directed to the Educational Data/Registration Office at (610-892-3470 ext. 1506).

Deadline

Registration is ongoing, but children must be registered by Friday, February 25, 2022 in order to be included in the lottery to determine morning or afternoon kindergarten session placement.

On-Going Registration: After February 26th

If you are unable to register by February 26th, you should register online at www.wssd.org/registration. If you do not have access to a computer, you can make an appointment to utilize a district computer to complete the registration online at the Administration Building. Questions should be directed to the Educational Data/Registration Office at (610-892-3470 ext. 1506). If you need assistance, you can also contact the building secretary in your local elementary school.

Assignment to morning and afternoon kindergarten sessions

The Wallingford-Swarthmore School District Kindergarten is a half-day program. Each student is assigned to either a morning or afternoon session. The times for each session are listed below.

Morning Session: 8:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Afternoon Session: 12:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

May I indicate a preference for morning or afternoon session?

Families may indicate a preference for either morning or afternoon session, but the school district cannot guarantee that requests will be granted. The following procedure will be used to ensure equity in assigning sessions. (Please note: Session assignment will not be made on a first come-first served basis and will not be performed during registration.)

A request form for kindergarten session assignment is included in the online registration packet. Each family will be asked to note one of the following: **no preference, preference for morning session**; or **preference for afternoon session**. If the number of requests for one of the sessions exceeds our capacity to honor those requests, a lottery (i.e., random selection) will be used to determine session assignments. If a lottery is necessary, it will be held on March 1st in conjunction with the Kindergarten Orientation (see below).

Please note: children must be completely registered by February 25th in order to be included in the lottery. Registration is not considered complete unless all required parts have been submitted. Parents are advised to allow enough time to collect immunization records to submit as part of the complete registration.

The district makes every effort to adhere to the selection order determined by the lottery, but reserves the right to make adjustments necessary for balancing classes to provide an optimal learning environment for all students. Parents will be notified in writing of kindergarten teacher assignments in mid-August of 2022.

Documentation Required for Registration

- **1. Proof of residency:** (This is necessary even if you have other children in the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District.) Residency must be verified by presentation of **both** of the following documents:
 - 1st proof: real estate tax bill, deed, or rental/lease agreement
 - 2nd proof: current utility bill for the address
- **2. Age verification:** A child must be five years of age by September 1, 2022 to be eligible for kindergarten. For verification purposes, one of the following documents is required: birth certificate, baptismal certificate, *or* passport.
- **3. Immunization:** You must provide a written immunization record (baby book) or another document indicating immunization dates, **signed by a physician**, which provides proof that your child received the following:
 - 4 doses of tetanus and diphtheria vaccine (one dose given on or after the fourth birthday—usually given as DTP, DTaP, DT or Td)
 - 4 doses of polio vaccine
 - 3 doses of the hepatitis B vaccine
 - 2 doses of measles, mumps and rubella vaccine or a blood test showing immunity (MMR)
 - 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or signed physician statement showing your child had the disease
- 4. Parent Registration Statement
- **5.** Home Language Survey

No registration will be accepted unless the five requirements listed above are fully met. If you have any questions, please telephone the Educational Data/Registration Office at (610) 892-3470 ext. 1506 or 1203.

Kindergarten Orientation

We invite all parents to join us for a kindergarten orientation on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the elementary school for your residence area (see school websites for individual dates). See the website for your child's elementary school if you are uncertain of district school boundaries. The agenda will include information on school transportation, kindergarten health services, parent organization, and upcoming events for children and parents. (If necessary, the lottery – used to determine session assignment – will also be held at this time.)

Additional Information -

• Pa Department of Health requires physical and dental forms for all incoming students. These exams must be dated within one year prior to the start of the school year. Documentation of the exam must be received by the school nurse within 30 days of the start of school.