

DECEMBER 2018

Welcome to

ISD  
728  
★★★

INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 728

ELK RIVER | OTSEGO | ROGERS | ZIMMERMAN



WWW.ISD728.ORG/KINDERGARTEN

## THE ADVENTURE STARTS HERE!

Welcome students and families to ISD 728 Kindergarten! This coming September, your child will embark on an amazing adventure, where they will meet new friends, learn from dedicated educators and begin their journey of learning in ISD 728.

From now until September, you will receive postcards, which will include fun tips, activities and information on preparing your child for Kindergarten.

We can't wait to see you at school!



KINDERGARTEN READINESS SKILL

## PLAYING WELL WITH OTHERS

Your child will need your assistance refining essential social skills such as sharing, compromising, turn-taking and problem-solving. By the time they reach kindergarten, they should be able to express their feelings in words and begin to understand sharing, as well as that two people can use the same thing at the same time.

If your child gets in a power struggle over a toy and can't seem to work it out, step in and say, "It looks like we're having a problem here. What can we do about it?" Encourage him or her to come up with possible solutions, offering your own suggestions, if necessary. Help kids understand the feelings of others. You want them to know when a friend is sad by looking at their face and seeing that their mouth is frowning or her eyes are crying. This nurtures compassion, empathy and values that are prized by kindergarten teachers.



KINDERGARTEN READINESS SKILL

## COUNTING NUMBERS

Learning math through play is always fun! Count your steps as you climb the stairs, count the number of dogs you see at the park, the flowers in the garden, the items on conveyor belt at the supermarket, fingers and toes while singing, how many red cars whiz past the window and so on! Children learn best through real life experiences, and when we then build on those to create more learning at home or at school, they can be just as practical, tactile and enjoyable. Here are just a couple of activities you can try at home:

- Learn patterns and counting with beads, play dough and a spaghetti noodle. Stick the noodle in the play dough, add the colored beads and count away!
- Set some plain beans into a basket and then write numbers 1 to 20 on small planter pots. Have them count the beans and place them into the corresponding numbered pot.
- For more info visit: [www.isd728.org/LearningActivities](http://www.isd728.org/LearningActivities)



## MESSAGE FROM ISD 728 SUPERINTENDENT DAN BITTMAN

Kindergarten is often seen as 'the beginning.' In ISD 728, it's the start of what we believe is an amazing adventure that takes kids and builds them into amazing young adults who contribute positively to our local and global communities. Along the way, these students meet new friends, learn from educators who are passionate about children and the curriculum they teach, and people who bring the spirit of learning to the classroom each and every day. Our mission is to educate, inspire and empower all of our diverse learners, to shape their future and to assist in the journey as they accomplish their dreams. That mission begins here in kindergarten classrooms throughout ISD 728.



There are new and exciting things happening across our district that will have a positive impact on our newest students:

- ISD 728 is utilizing funds approved by voters to incorporate the latest technology into the kindergarten curriculum, including hand-held devices, Smart Boards and other advancements to ensure children are prepared for college and career.
- District-wide science standards have been adopted with an engineering component that will be applied in our kindergarten classrooms. Families can continue this science and engineering pathway through our Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) schools at the elementary and middle school levels.
- ISD 728 utilizes specialists at the kindergarten level in art, music and physical education. This gets kids started on the right path in both the arts and activities.
- Thanks to building remodeling and expansions and a new school in Otsego, kindergarten classes have improved space, with no portable classrooms.
- Our district has incorporated Singapore math into its curriculum, which equips our youngest learners with new math skills.
- Special education services are available at each ISD 728 elementary building to help all students thrive, which is at the heart of our core values.
- There is a daily focus on both math and reading, preparing all students for first grade and beyond.

Each kindergarten class is housed at a building that offers a complete, comprehensive education, creating the perfect path for the student's journey. If you need care for your kindergartner prior to or after the school day, take advantage of EdVenture Club, ISD 728's extended day childcare program. To learn more about our kindergarten classes, contact your school office today! They will arrange a personal visit to your new school and be able to answer any question you might have.

Welcome to ISD 728, and congratulations to you and your family on taking the first step into a bright and promising future.

### HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR CHILD?

Kindergarten registration is now open for the 2019-2020 school year! Visit our online registration portal at [www.isd728.org/register](http://www.isd728.org/register). The process is quick and convenient! If you need any technical assistance in completing your registration, or access to a computer, please contact the ISD 728 Welcome Center at 763-241-3536 or [welcomecenter@isd728.org](mailto:welcomecenter@isd728.org).



ELK RIVER | OTSEGO | ROGERS | ZIMMERMAN

11500 193rd Ave. NW  
Elk River, MN 55330

Our mission is to **educate**,  
**inspire** and **empower!**



# KINDERGARTEN

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