

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



HIGHLAND Local Schools

www.highlandschools.org

The Highland Local School District is committed to the highest academic and behavioral expectations. Our mission is to guarantee that each learner reaches his/her potential, by providing, in partnership with the community, a quality, progressive, educational program in a safe and dynamic life-long learning environment.

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Entering kindergarten is an exciting adventure for you and your child. Kindergarten is the foundation for developing new skills and future learning. During the kindergarten year, students will develop independence, confidence, relationships, behaviors, and attitudes that will ensure a positive school experience. We want this transition to be a smooth and happy one.

The Highland Local School District is dedicated to providing a strong curriculum that is aligned with Ohio's Learning Standards. Our goal is to engage children in the learning process, provide them with a sense of accomplishment, and help them develop a love of learning.

Educating a child is most successful when families and schools work together in the best interest of the child. Maintaining open and clear communication between you and the school is one way to ensure that your child meets his/her potential.

Going to school is one of the most important experiences in a child's life. School can be an exciting place where children meet new and different people and participate in many new and different experiences. Providing your child with a vast array of educational opportunities will permit him/her to reach his/her personal best.

The student of today holds the promise of tomorrow. To fulfill this promise, each child must acquire skills in the areas of literacy, math, science, technology, social studies and the arts. These skills develop incrementally, at appropriate stages in the child's academic life. Highland Local Schools work to be on the cutting edge in each of these disciplines.

There are challenges to be met and successes to be had. Together we can guide your child toward both.

Frequently Asked Questions

When can I enroll my child in Kindergarten?

To enroll in Kindergarten, a child must be five years old by September 30 of the coming school year.

What documents do I need to enroll my child?

- An original birth certificate (with a raised seal)
- Immunization records
- Proof of residency
- Parent picture ID (driver's license)
- Completed preschool report card
- Custody/adoption papers (if applicable)
- Current IEP (if applicable)

What forms must I complete for registration?

Parents must complete online registration forms through Final Forms beginning February 2. In order to register using Final Forms, go to www.highlandschools.org and click on "Back to School & New Student Registration/Information" on the left side of the homepage. Next, select "Final Forms" on the right side of the page to create an account or log in to an existing account. If you have questions regarding the registration process, please call the school office.

What are the immunization requirements?

The Ohio Revised Code (ORC 3313.67) requires that the following immunizations be obtained for school enrollment. Students who do not have the required immunizations will be excluded from school per Ohio State Law until such record is provided. You must provide an immunization record verifying the month/date/year for each of the following:

- 5 - DPT (Dose 5 required if 4th dose given prior to the 4th birthday)
- 4 - Polio (Dose 4 required if 3rd dose given prior to the 4th birthday)
- 2 - MMR (this is a combination of the measles, mumps, rubella vaccine)
- 3 - Hepatitis B
- 2 - Varicella (chicken pox) – (or documentation of having disease)

Will there be an opportunity for my child to visit the school and/or classroom before the start of the school year?

As we approach the 2021-22 school year, calendar dates will be available through the district website. Please visit www.highlandschools.org for the most current information.

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

To do well in school, children need to be supported and nurtured in all areas of development. It is also important that your child is physically, socially and emotionally ready for school. This checklist can help serve as your guide. But please remember, young children change so fast! If they cannot do something this week, you may see them do it a couple of weeks later. Is your child ready for kindergarten? Ask yourself these questions:

Development Area	Tips and Activities to Help Prepare Your Child
<p>Physical Skills Does your child...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● enjoy outdoor play such as running, jumping, and climbing; ● draw and trace basic shapes; ● cut with scissors; ● bounce a ball; or ● ride a tricycle? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Materials that will help your child develop the motor skills needed to learn to write include crayons, markers, pencils, glue, scissors, paper and paint, puzzles, legos and blocks. ● Activities that will help your child's coordination include climbing, jumping, skipping, playing ball, using playground equipment and riding a tricycle.
<p>Health and Safety Needs Has your child...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● had required shots; ● had a dental exam; ● had a vision exam; ● learned own first and last name; ● learned first and last name of parent; ● learned to watch for cars when crossing the street; ● learned to not talk to strangers; ● developed a set routine for going to bed; ● follow rules for safety? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Help your child learn their full name, address and telephone number. ● Help your child to look both ways when crossing the street. ● Talk with your child about strangers and who to go to for help. ● Use bedtime as the opportunity to read to and talk.
<p>Personal Needs Without your help, can your child</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● use the bathroom; ● wash hands; ● brush teeth; ● use tissue to blow nose; ● button/zip up shirts/pants; ● put on and take off coat; ● tie and/or velcro shoes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create morning and bedtime bathing and tooth-brushing routines. ● Allow your child to dress themselves. ● Practice putting shoes on. ● Help your child learn to use their words to tell other grownups when they are feeling sick or hurt.
<p>Social and Emotional Skills Does your child...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● play well with other children; ● separate from a parent without being upset; ● share with other children; ● care about the feelings of others; ● follow routines; ● put toys away when asked? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Give your child small chores to learn responsibility. ● Help your child learn to follow directions by giving simple steps. ● Encourage your child to share. ● Praise your child when her/she does something well. ● Provide guidance when your child is having difficulty.

Kindergarten Screening

During the beginning weeks of Kindergarten, your child will be assessed during the school day according to state requirements.

Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA)

The Ohio Department of Education has adopted an assessment tool that will help teachers identify early learning skills. This assessment is the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) which will be given in parts to all kindergarten students.

The areas assessed will be social foundations, mathematics, science, social studies, language and literacy, physical well-being and motor development. The assessment is a mix of teacher observations, responses to prompts, selected response items and performance tasks. Ohio Revised Code (ORC 3301.0715)

Vision and Hearing Screening

Ohio Revised Code (ORC 3313.673) requires that before November 1 of the school year in which a child is enrolled in kindergarten or first grade for the first time, the child must be screened for hearing, vision, and speech. These screenings are conducted by the school nurse during school hours.

Kindergarten and Ohio's Learning Standards

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. Ohio's Learning Standards can be located at <http://www.ode.state.oh.us>

General Information

Visit the district website at www.highlandschools.org for the most current information.

Granger Elementary

3940 Ridge Rd., Medina 44256

330.239.1901

Dr. LeAnn Gausman, Principal

Hinckley Elementary

1586 Center Rd., Hinckley 44233

330.239.1901

Mr. Jim Carpenter, Principal

Sharon Elementary

6335 Ridge Rd., Sharon Center 44274

330.239.1901

Mrs. Kathryn Kowza, Principal