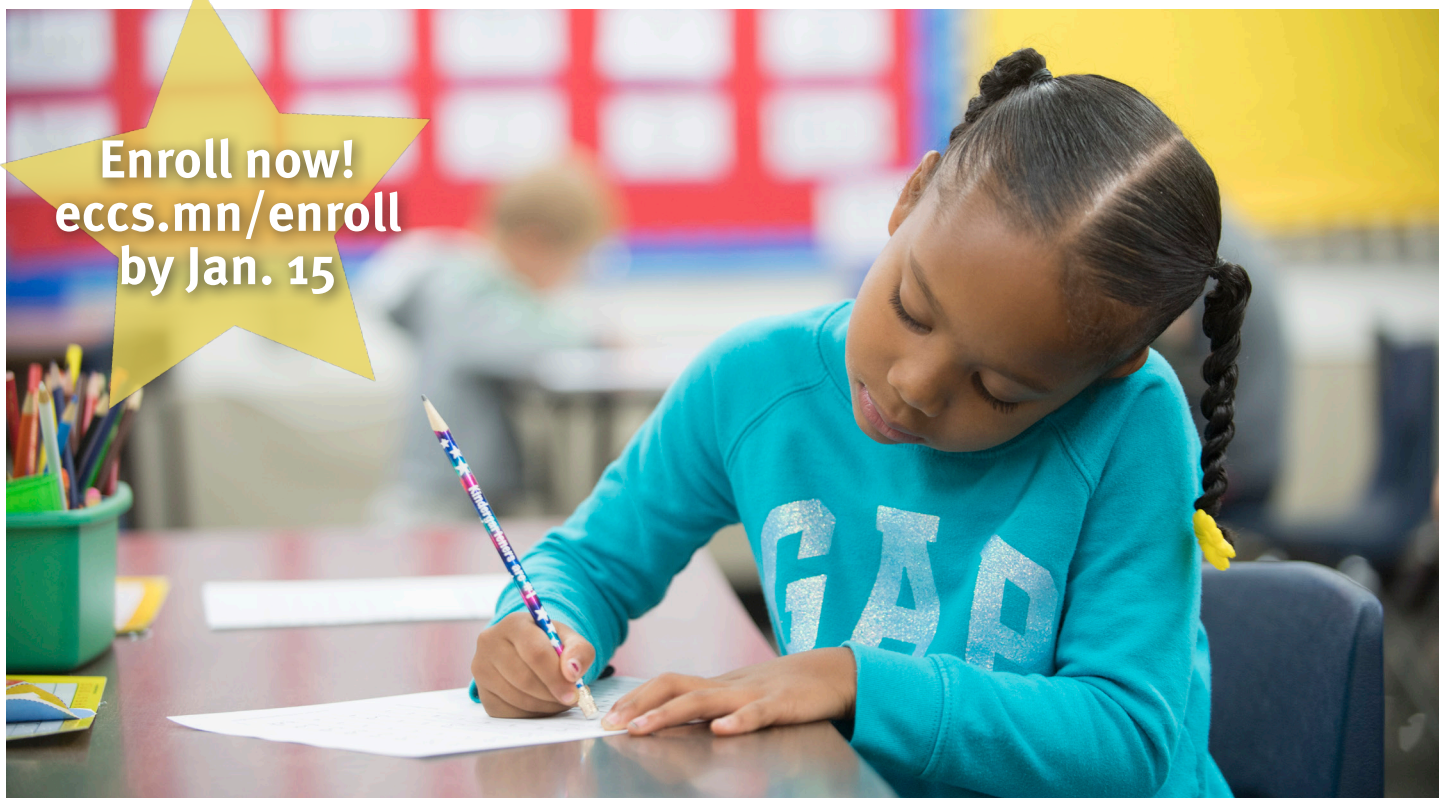


Enroll now!
eccs.mn/enroll
by Jan. 15



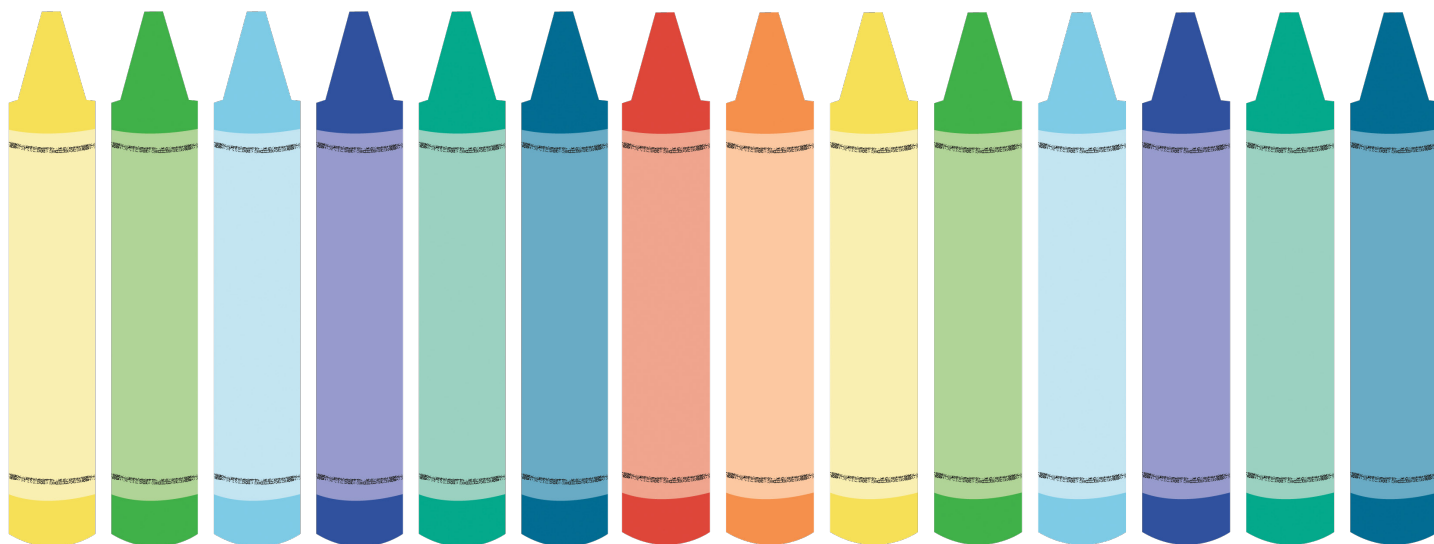
Welcome to Kindergarten!

Eastern Carver County Schools

Exceptional, personalized learning



2020-2021





2020-21 Kindergarten Important Dates

★ Jan. 15

Registration due (register at eccc.mn/enroll)

★ Apr.

Watch for mailed invitation to Sneak-A-Peek at kindergarten

★ May

Sneak-A-Peek at your child's school

★ May 31

Schedule your Early Childhood Screening as soon as possible, but no later than this date – more info. on pg. 12

★ Sept.

Start of kindergarten and Connect & Assess conference with your child's teacher - more info. on pg. 13

Dear Parents / Guardians



In just a few months, we'll welcome your child into kindergarten. Kindergarten is when children meet friends, gain healthy independence, and learn fundamental lessons that they will carry throughout their lives. It is Eastern Carver County Schools' promise to provide a welcoming, inclusive, equitable, and personalized learning environment for your child. We know that your child comes to us with a unique set of talents and needs. We value those differences, and we're eager to make your child's kindergarten year an exciting and positive learning experience.

This registration booklet is full of information about our kindergarten options and registration information. Read about our programs, then register online at eccs.mn/kindergarten by the end of the day on **Jan. 15, 2020**.

We're looking forward to meeting you and your child in May at our kindergarten Sneak-A-Peek. Until then, please feel free to contact the Welcome Center (952-556-6112) or WelcomeCenter@district112.org with any questions you might have. We are happy to help.

Sincerely,

Joan MacDonald, Principal, Bluff Creek Elementary
June Johnson, Principal, Carver Elementary
Greg Lange, Principal, Chanhassen Elementary
Nate Slinde, Principal, Clover Ridge Elementary
Jay Woller, Principal, East Union Elementary
Nancy Wittman-Beltz, Principal, Jonathan Elementary
Gretchen Kleinsasser, Principal, La Academia & Kinder Academy
Jill VeLure, Principal, Victoria Elementary





Exceptional, Personalized Learning

National Leaders in Personalized Learning

In Eastern Carver County Schools, we place students at the center of the learning process, where the pace of learning and instruction is tailored to each learner. Instruction is something we do with, rather than to, students to promote growth, achievement, and lifelong success. Learning is a personal experience. Our practice of tailoring instruction to each learner is the most advanced in the community.



Your child has the opportunity to discover and learn in the way that works best for them through exceptional, personalized learning. See examples of personalized learning in action at **eccs.mn/pl**.

Kindergarten



Strong Curriculum

Kindergarten is the beginning of a child's journey into elementary school. We've embedded S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) into our kindergarten curriculum to provide opportunities for problem-solving and critical thinking. We pair excellent teaching with the right technology. Creativity is fostered through student participation in Music, Art, Physical Education and Media classes.

Commitment to Communication

Parents and guardians are partners with teachers in our schools. We offer many opportunities for parent/guardian involvement and keep families well informed about their children's progress.

Safety is a Priority

Physical, mental and emotional safety of students is our priority. We have substantial security measures in place to ensure the safety of your child including an ID scan for visitors, secure sign out for students when leaving school, and video monitoring of our buildings. Our staff is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, inclusive and equitable learning environment for all students.

Special Services Available

Each school has a team of teachers who have additional training in the areas of special education, speech/language, English language learners, gifted services, adaptive physical education, social work, counseling and school psychology.





Exemplar Student Behavior

The schools in our district utilize the Minnesota Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) system to recognize and reward positive student behaviors while seeking to eliminate negative ones. In 2017-18, E. Carver Co. Schools was awarded the Exemplar District Recognition from the Minnesota Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) State Leadership team.



What is Right for Your Child?



Your Neighborhood School: Kindergarten

We offer an outstanding kindergarten program that has been carefully developed for young learners. Learn more on pg. 7.

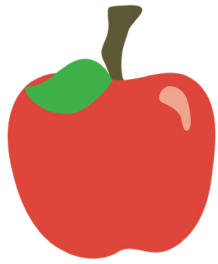
La Academia - Spanish Immersion School

La Academia is a two-way, dual-language Spanish immersion school; this immersion model is unique to the west metro. A typical day looks very similar to other kindergarten classes, but the curriculum is taught in Spanish. Learn more on pg. 8.

Kinder Academy - Program for Young 5 Year Olds

Parents and guardians frequently ask us, “Is my child ready for kindergarten?” If your child meets the state age requirement — five years old on or before September 1 of the kindergarten year — the answer is “yes.” Kinder Academy is a program is designed for young five-year-olds, such as those with summer birthdays. Learn more on pg. 9.





Kindergarten

Neighborhood School

Our kindergarten program develops children academically, socially and emotionally. Students are introduced to reading skills, writing and problem-solving and are provided personalized instruction and support as they progress. We have integrated STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) concepts into our rich curriculum, and technology is used in the classroom to enhance learning experiences for students. Students also attend specialist classes such as Physical Education, Music, Media and Art. To determine your child's neighborhood school, visit our attendance area app at eccs.mn/attendance.

See what school looks
like from the eyes of a
kindergartener:
eccs.mn/GoPro3



Spanish Immersion School La Academia

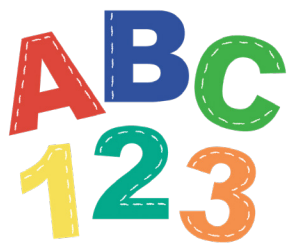


In this two-way immersion program, students have the opportunity to be both first-language models and second-language learners with native English and Spanish speakers beginning in kindergarten.

A typical day in La Academia looks very similar to a traditional classroom. Students work toward the same academic standards, attend specialist classes, and go to lunch and recess. Teachers in dual language immersion may be especially animated as they use unique methods and strategies to help students learn a new language; this includes many gestures, pantomimes, songs, props and other instructional tools. Transportation is available to La Academia students that live within our district.

If you enroll your child in La Academia, you must complete a required parent contract. The contract is available at eccs.mn/enroll when you enroll online.





Program for Young Students **Kinder Academy**

Kinder Academy is a program for young five-year-olds, such as those with summer birthdays. The program follows E. Carver Co. Schools' kindergarten curriculum. Students who are ready to move on to first grade after one year, will do so. Students who would benefit from an additional year will stay in the program. The teacher will modify the curriculum for the older children's developmental level. The older kindergarten students become leaders in the class and role models to incoming five-year-olds. This program is housed at La Academia and is not an early entrance option. Transportation is available to Kinder Academy students that live within our district.

If you enroll your child in Kinder Academy, you must complete a required parent contract. The contract is available at eccs.mn/enroll when you enroll online.



Club Care

Child Care



Club Care (eccs.mn/clubcare) is an optional, fee-based, before- and after-school child care program for students kindergarten through 5th grade. The program is in high demand due to its excellent quality, convenience and competitive fees. Enrollment in Club Care is not guaranteed, and each school has a limited enrollment capacity. **Students must be registered for kindergarten prior to registering for Club Care (eccs.mn/enroll).** Children and families enrolled in our Club Care programs enjoy many benefits including:

- A welcoming environment with friendly, caring staff
- A child-centered, developmentally appropriate learning environment
- Opportunities for academic skills reinforcement
- Recreation and enrichment activities that include art, science, computer lab and gym or outdoor play
- Before- and after-school hours conveniently located in your child's school
- Parent and family support in partnership with other school staff
- Opportunities for growth and the development of social skills
- School release day (Kidz Venture) and summer program options
- Daily morning and afternoon snack

2020-21 online Club Care registration is scheduled to open early April. Families enrolled in the current school year Club Care program have first priority to register for the 2020-21 school year program. There is a high demand and limited enrollment capacity for Club Care. Watch for registration details on the website eccs.mn/clubcare mid March 2020.



Sample Schedule

Below is a sample schedule to give you an idea of how a day in E. Carver Co. Schools kindergarten could be structured. Please note that, depending on your school/teacher, your child's schedule may be designed differently. You can find your school's hours at [eccs.mn/ST](https://eccs.mn/st).

8:00 a.m. Students Arrive/Attendance/Daily Routines/
Morning Meeting/Breakfast

8:40 a.m. Math

9:20 a.m. Language Arts

10:00 a.m. Specialist Classes (Phy Ed/Music/Media/Art)

11:20 a.m. What I Need (WIN)*

12:00 p.m. Lunch and Recess

1:20 p.m. Rest/Read Aloud

1:40 p.m. Social Skills/Science/Social Studies/Health

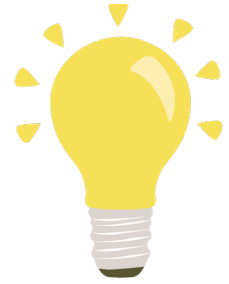
2:15 p.m. Pack Up

2:30 p.m. Dismissal

**WIN stands for What I Need and is a set time during the day where instruction is tailored to the student's individual needs. This may mean working one-on-one with teachers or working in small groups. We meet students where they are at in their learning.*



Need to Know



Early Childhood Screening is Required – Has your child been screened?

The State of Minnesota requires that students entering kindergarten must have completed an Early Childhood Screening prior to the start of kindergarten. The screening is free to Eastern Carver County Schools residents.

- If your child has been screened in another school district, please provide a copy of the screening record to the Welcome Center.
- If your child has not been screened, please schedule an appointment through Community Education as soon as possible online at eccs.mn/screening or by phone at 952-556-6407.

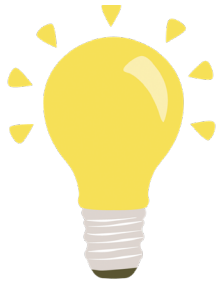
Health Services & Immunizations are Required

Your kindergartener must be up-to-date on all immunizations before starting school. Kindergarten boosters are required after the age of 4. The form at this link, eccs.mn/immun, or a copy of your child's immunizations records, even if partially complete, should be submitted along with your registration. Please work with your child's physician to schedule a well-child check and immunizations before the start of kindergarten. Schedule your appointment early; August is a very busy time for clinics, with full schedules of children needing well checks and/or immunizations. If immunizations are not up-to-date by the start of kindergarten, you will be notified by health services staff. According to Minnesota Immunization Law, it allows for the exemption of these vaccines for medical or conscientious beliefs (with notarization).

All elementary schools are staffed with a registered nurse all day. Our health services staff will work with you to accommodate your child's health needs. Complete the form at this link, eccs.mn/hform, and submit to your child's school as soon as possible. This helps us prepare the appropriate placement for your child and accommodate any health needs on the first day of school.

Campus Portal

Campus Portal will provide you access to information about attendance, busing, class schedule, grades, news and alerts from your child's school, and more. An email with an activation key for your Campus Portal account will be sent to you shortly after you complete registration for kindergarten. Please follow the link "Access to Campus Portal" and enter your activation key to set up your Campus Portal account. Visit eccs.mn/parentportalFAQ for more information about Campus Portal.



Need to Know (continued)

Riding the Bus & Transportation

Transportation information will be available in late July/early August via Campus Portal. When our students arrive at school, we greet them as they get off the bus, and then at the end of the day, we escort them back to the bus. Your child's bus stop will be near your home. If your student will be picked up at a stop other than what will be assigned to your home address, there is a form you must fill out annually: the Elementary and Middle School Transportation Registration form is available online at eccs.mn/embus. You do not need to complete this form if your child will be picked up and dropped off at your home address each day.

Parents/guardians can view the location and estimated time of arrival of their student(s)'s school bus with MyStop, a free service provided by the district. Parents/guardians and students can access MyStop from a smartphone, tablet or desktop computer to see the approximate location of the bus while it is en route. Go to eccs.mn/transportation to learn more.

Connect & Assess

Kindergarten students and their parents/guardians will join their teacher prior to the first day of kindergarten for an academic Connect & Assess meeting. Teachers meet one-to-one with each learner to begin a positive school-home relationship and to gather some baseline information about each child in areas such as number and letter recognition. These are not tests of ability or intelligence. This personal interaction allows teachers to better meet each learner's needs as the school year begins. More information about scheduling a time slot will be communicated to you directly, and during Kindergarten Sneak-A-Peek in May.



Checklist

Enroll Now



☐ **Student Enrollment (due Jan. 15)**

Enroll at eccs.mn/enroll or visit the Welcome Center (11 Peavey Road, Chaska) to complete the forms. Your child's enrollment is not complete without the following:

☐ **Birth Certificate**

A photo copy of your child's birth certificate.

☐ **Pupil Immunization Record**

Complete the form at this link, eccs.mn/immun, or provide a copy of your child's immunization records.

☐ **Proof of Residency**

A current utility bill or signed rental/lease agreement or signed purchase agreement.

☐ **Early Childhood Screening (due ASAP)**

This screening is required by state law and is free to Eastern Carver County Schools district residents. If your child has been screened in another school district, please provide a copy of the screening record. If your child has not been screened, please schedule an appointment as soon as possible. Call 952-556-6407 or schedule a screening at eccs.mn/screening.

☐ **Alternate Address Busing Request – (if needed)**

Please complete the Elementary and Middle School Transportation Registration form (eccs.mn/embus) only if your child is picked up or dropped off at an address other than your assigned home address bus stop, such as daycare.

☐ **Student Health Form (due ASAP after registration)**

Complete the form at this link, eccs.mn/hform, and submit to your child's school. This helps us prepare the appropriate placement for your child and accommodate any health needs on the first day of school.

Stay Connected



facebook.com/ISD112



@ISD112

It's time to enroll in kindergarten!



Welcome Center
11 Peavy Road
Chaska, MN 55318
952-556-6112



Enroll at:
eccs.mn/enroll

If your child will **NOT** be attending kindergarten in Eastern Carver County Schools next fall, please call us at 952-556-6137. Thank you!

Junta de padres para información de los estudiantes que irán al Kindergarten el próximo año. Nuestro programa de dos vías de lengua de inmersión en español en La Academia podría interesarle a su hijo/a. Para mas información en español, llame al 952-556-6301.