

**WELCOME TO
BANKS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



TM

KINDERGARTEN PHILOSOPHY

Each child is unique as a person and as a learner. The primary goal of our kindergarten program is to enhance and build upon that uniqueness to develop a positive attitude toward self, school, and others. To meet our goal, we offer a program to develop each child's physical, emotional, social, and intellectual growth.



LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- The goals of the language and literacy program are for children to expand their abilities to communicate verbally through reading and writing, and to enjoy these activities.



- The goals of the math program are to enable children to use math through exploration and discovery, and solve meaningful problems.
- The classroom is full of many social relationships: children explore values, learn rules of social living, and show respect for individual differences through experience. Respectful acceptance and appreciation of differences and similarities among people are emphasized.
- Art, music, movement, and dance are included in the curriculum as a means to enhance your child's aesthetic, physical, emotional, and intellectual expressions.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Immunizations

Oregon law requires the following immunizations for school. Prior to the first day of school, you will need to provide a copy of your student's immunizations. A child entering KINDERGARTEN needs:

- 5 Doses— Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)
- 4 Doses—Polio
- 1 Dose —Varicella (Chickenpox)
- 1 dose, if received after 12 months of age or 2 doses, if the first dose was received before 12 months of age.
- 2 Doses—MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella
- 3 Doses—Hepatitis B
- 2 Doses—Hepatitis A



Age

Under Oregon State law, a child is eligible for entrance into elementary school if he/she has reached age 5 by September 1 of that school year. Your child's birth certificate must be shown prior to the child being allowed to attend school. You must also show proof of residency or if you do not live within the District boundaries, you must have approval via an inter District Transfer. Sometimes, however, five year olds are not yet ready for Kindergarten. The following Kindergarten Readiness checklist will help you and our staff determine if your child is ready for Kindergarten.

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist



Personal Information

- Knows his/her full name
- Knows how old he/she is
- Knows his/her mother and father's first names

Social Skills

- Uses words instead of being physical when angry
- Goes to the bathroom by him/herself
- Speaks clearly so an adult can understand him/her
- Plays with other children
- Follows simple directions
- Expresses feelings and needs
- Waits his/her turn and shares
- Speaks in sentences
- Asks questions about things around him/her
- Enjoys having books read to him/her
- Can tell a story about a past event
- Says "please" and "thank you"
- Can spend extended periods away from Mom and Dad

Fine Motor Skills

- Puts a 10 to 12 piece puzzle together
- Holds scissors correctly
- Holds a pencil or crayon properly

Gross Motor Skills

- Runs, jumps and skips
- Walks backward
- Walks up and down stairs

Academic Skills

- Recognizes shapes (square, circle, triangle, rectangle)
- Can sort items by color, shape, and size
- Can identify six parts of his/her body
- Understands concept words such as up, down, in, out, behind, over
- Counts from 1 to 10
- Recognizes five colors
- Tries to write his/her name
- Recognizes his/her written name
- Starting to recognize letters by name or by sound

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Most of the supplies your child brings to school will be shared with others in the class; therefore, please do not label them, unless stated. You may want to prepare your child for this so he/she is not disappointed when supplies are collected for community use.

Classroom Community Supplies - to be shared by all students in the classroom:

- Two dozen Ticonderoga brand #2 pencils
- Three boxes of Crayola brand crayons--24 count
- Crayola washable markers- Set of 8, Primary colors
- Six glue sticks
- One box of Kleenex tissues
- One box of Baby Wipes

Personal Student Supplies - write child's name on these:

- Two Sets of Watercolor Paints
- One pair 5" or 6" FISKAR scissors (Student size)
- Headphones (no earbuds please)
- One Multipurpose Supply Box (non-locking)
- Two Spiral Notebooks



CALENDAR/SCHEDULING



We will have an Open House for all students on Tuesday, September 1st. This is a drop in to find the classroom, meet your teacher and bring your school supplies.

Kindergartners will start school in small groupings the first week of school so expect your child to only have one day of school either September 2nd, 3rd, or 4th. Kindergartners' first day all together will be Tuesday, September 8th. Kindergartners attend school every day, Monday through Friday. The school day begins at 8:25 am and dismisses at 2:45 pm. Morning supervision begins at 8:00 am, so please do not drop your student off prior to this time.

Wednesdays are late start, with the school day beginning at 9:10 am. Students may be dropped off at 8:45 am on late start Wednesdays.

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

Regular school attendance is important to your child. Irregular attendance makes children feel insecure and requires a period of readjustment which slows their learning. Please plan appointments, such as dental or doctor, at a time other than when your child is in school, if possible. According to Oregon State Law, ORS 433.260: "It is important that parents inform the school of any reason for any absence. When the cause of the absence is unknown, the school should make such investigations as are necessary. When there is reason to believe that the absence is due to communicable disease, the school administrator is required to notify the local health department." Please call the school prior to 9:00 a.m. at 503-324-2772 to notify us of a student absence. If your child is absent and the office does not receive a phone call to inform us of the absence, you will receive an automatic call-out from our attendance system. If you receive a call-out, please contact the office staff so we know your student is home safe.

VOLUNTEERS

We encourage volunteers in the classrooms. Let the teacher know if you would like to help on a regular basis or on special projects. Your child's classroom teacher will provide you with volunteer guidelines. Every volunteer is required to fill out a criminal history verification form.



LUNCH PROCEDURES

Lunch time for Kindergartners is from 11:30-12:05 and includes a recess. Children may bring a lunch from home or purchase a school lunch through our debit/scanner system. Students will be able to prepay for lunches. The cost of their meals will be deducted by use of the scanning system. Several hot lunch choices are available daily. The monthly lunch menu is available on-line at www.banks.k12.or.us. Lunch money should be turned in before school to the cafeteria. Please place money in an envelope labeled with your child's name, as well as their teacher's name. You can also pay online at www.mymealtime.com. You will need your child's student ID number. You may get that number from the school office.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

If your child will be riding a bus, you need to call Mid Columbia Bus Services at 503-324-2736 to get your child's bus number, symbol, time of pick-up and time of drop-off. If a child is to be picked up by a person other than parents or guardians, a note must be sent to the teacher or a phone call made to the front office. If your child is to ride a bus other than his/her regular route, a Request for Change of Student Destination form (available at the elementary office) must be completed and sent to school for an administrator's signature.

PROTECTING YOUR CHILD

We want your child to get to and from school safely. Please help your child know the following information before September:

Personal Safety:

- The first and last names of both himself/herself and parents or guardians.
- Your family's street address and phone number.
- What to do if no one is home after school.
- Not to talk with or accept a ride from strangers.
- Not to take toys, food, or candy from strangers or other students.
- Not to play with animals that are not family or classroom pets.

Street Safety:

- Stay on the sidewalk when walking.
- Cross streets only at corners or crosswalks, looking both ways before crossing.
- Walk, don't run, across a street.
- Go directly to school or home.



Bus Safety:

- Be sure your child knows which bus he/she will ride and where to board and where to get off.
- Remain seated and facing forward when the bus is moving.
- Talk in a normal voice and only to the person next to you.
- Stay well away from a bus when it is approaching or departing.
- Report any problem to the bus driver.
- Always follow the bus driver's instructions.

School Accident Insurance:

You have the opportunity to purchase school insurance at the beginning of the school year. Information will come home the first week of school.

BANKS SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Jeff Leo

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Marjorie Salter

Banks Elementary School	503.324.2772
Banks Elementary School Fax	503.324.3333
Student Services	503.324.5151
District Office	503.324.8591
District Fax	503.324.6969
Banks High School	503.324.2281
Banks Middle School	503.324.3111
Mid-Columbia Bus Services	503.324.2736

