



FAQ'S ABOUT KINDERGARTEN

How does drop off and pick up work?

Supervision begins on the playground at 8:10 every morning. Students may be dropped off directly on the playground any time between 8:10-8:30. It is important to note: we do not have supervision until 8:10. Students are not allowed to be dropped off before that time. At 8:30, the bell rings and students line up by class in the designated spot. At the end of the day, students stay in their classrooms and are called down by bus numbers. If your child is a pick up, you will go to the middle doors and wait outside. Your child will meet you there. Adults picking up children will be asked to sign out the student they are picking up. The sign out is on a clipboard. Pick up students are dismissed by grade level. Second grade goes first, then first grade, then kindergarten. The teacher at the middle doors will dismiss students one by one as she identifies the adult with whom the student is leaving. This process can take a while, especially in the beginning of the school year, as we become familiar with new families. Your patience is appreciated!

How can I get in touch with peers in my child's class?

You will receive a buddy list a few weeks into school. On the list, you will have contact information for each child (parent/guardian's name, mailing address, phone numbers and an e-mail address). Parents will be given some time to opt out of having their contact information included on the list.

How can I participate in my child's classroom?

Parents have many opportunities to volunteer in the classroom and for the school. Volunteers are needed for: The Emergent Reading Program, Four Winds (science program), PTO and various field trips during the school year. For a full list of volunteer opportunities and a short description of each, visit the "Welcome to Kindergarten" section of the school website. Let your child's teacher know if this interests you.

How will I know if another student in my child's class has a food allergy?

If you are in class with a student who has a food allergy, you will be notified with a letter. You will receive this letter when you get your placement letter over the summer. Specific directions around food allowed in the classroom will be included in the letter.

How does the purchasing and ordering of hot lunch and snack milk work?

Over the summer you will receive your child's pin number in the mail. Keep this letter; you will need it if your child would like to have hot lunch or snack drink during the year. You can add money to your child's student lunch account electronically or you can send a Colchester School District Nutrition & Food Service Deposit Slip (you will need your child's pin number for this form, as well). Each Friday, a weekly lunch order form will be sent home. You will

be asked to fill out the form so we know what your child is having each day, and if they are having a snack drink. The choices for hot lunch are: hot lunch choice on the menu, a chef salad or a cold sandwich. For a snack drink, he/she can have 2% milk, chocolate milk or orange juice. Your child can also have milk with his/her lunch from home.

How are birthdays observed in school?

Families are welcome to bring in some kind of special snack to share with the class to acknowledge a birthday. Please include plates, napkins or utensils (when necessary). If there is a student with a food allergy in the class, all special snacks need to be checked and cleared by the school nurse. We do not pass out birthday party invitations at school. You may use the Buddy List and mail invitations home.

What is the best way to contact my child's teacher?

Every student has a home school folder that is checked daily. Bus notes or anything needing immediate attention can be put in the Home School Folder in the form of a written note and it will be seen. Also, e-mail is a good way to contact a teacher. The teachers e-mail address is: firstname.lastname@colchestersd.org (for example, tracy.helfrich@colchestersd.org is the e-mail for Tracy Helfrich). Here are the e-mail addresses for the four kindergarten teachers:

Christine Anderson: christine.andersonc@colchestersd.org

Tracy Helfrich: tracy.helfrich@colchestersd.org

Hannah Hill: hannah.hill@colchestersd.org

Courtney Thomas: courtney.thomas@colchestersd.org