

Frequently Asked Questions about Kindergarten in Crook County

1. What school will my child attend?

The Crook County School District Elementary School boundary map can be found [here](http://crookcounty.k12.or.us/2015/05/26/new-elementary-boundary-lines-2/)

2. Who do I contact at my child's school if I have questions?

In many cases the school secretaries can answer your questions or refer you to the person with the answers.

3. What are the school hours?

School hours vary by a few minutes each school year, but generally are 8am to 3pm. All Kindergarten in the State of Oregon is "full-day."

4. When will I be informed of my child's teacher?

Class lists are posted before the open house the week before school starts.

5. What are "Kindergarten Conferences?"

Kindergarten Conferences are a time that families, students, and teachers can sit down to share information about what to expect in each classroom. It is also another great opportunity for students to meet the teacher again and for the student to familiarize themselves with the classroom environment.

6. What is "Staggered Start?"

Staggered Start in Kindergarten is the opportunity for your student to start school with just half of their class. This gives the students a chance to get to know their teacher, classmates and the rules of the school in a smaller, less intimidating environment. Students are divided into "Group A" and "Group B" generally alphabetically. Your student's teacher will inform you which staggered start group you fall in as school approaches.

7. Is there before and/or after school care at the school?

There are after school care options available at Crooked River Elementary and Barnes Butte Elementary.

8. What is the procedure for picking my child up from school early, dropping my child off late, or for when my child is absent?

All late arrivals and early pickups require checking into the office as to account for the safety of our students. Absences must be called into the office to be accounted for.

The School Day

1. Is breakfast or available at the school?

Breakfast and lunch are available at the school for purchase or through the free and reduced lunch program for which students can be qualified by filling out a form before the start of the school year.

2. Will my child have homework in Kindergarten?

This varies from classroom to classroom. Your child's teacher will let you know at Kindergarten conferences.

3. Will my child have recess?

Our elementary schools have a morning, lunch, and afternoon recess.

4. What will my child do in the classroom?

Each day elementary students in the Crook County School District spend about 2.5 hours building early literacy skills (reading/writing), about 1.5 hour building math skills (counting/addition/subtraction) as well as time with science, social studies, health, and art. All public K-12 teachers in the State of Oregon are required to teach to the Common Core State Standards, which can be found [here](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RF/K/) ! Kindergarten teachers in the Crook County School district work hard to make learning fun and effective, while maintaining high expectations for all students.

5. Will my child have to take tests?

There are several periodic tests that are administered to students at the beginning, middle, and end of the year. The information from these tests is used to tailor classroom instruction to meet the needs of each individual child. In general, the tests are given one-on-one with a teacher and last less than 10 minutes.

6. Will my child receive a report card? When and how would I receive it?

The Crook County School district issues progress reports or report cards at the end of each quarter. Report cards for kindergarten are not based on a "ABCDF" scale, but rather a reflection of skills and knowledge the students need to successfully continue to the next grade level.

Families

1. How can I volunteer in my child's classroom?

All of our volunteers in the Crook County School District must pass a background test, which can be found [here](http://crookcounty.k12.or.us/files/2015/02/Volunteer-Form-Universal.pdf) and turned into the front office at your child's school. Each teacher has their own volunteer

policies in their classroom. Our parent-teacher organizations are always looking for families to volunteer.

2. Can I stay with my child on the first day of school?

We encourage independence on the first day of school and recommend a quick and cheerful goodbye when dropping your child off on the first day. Attending kindergarten transition activities and the free, 2-week, summer kindergarten readiness camp “Jump Start” can help build confidence and ease anxiety about starting Kindergarten.

3. Can I eat lunch with my child at school?

We recommend giving students a few weeks at the start of the school year to adjust to the routines of school, but after that occasionally eating lunch with your kindergartener can be time to build special memories. Eating lunch at school requires checking into the office and meeting your student as they are on their way to lunch.

4. Can I ride the bus with my child?

Parents are not permitted on the busses except for field trips. Attending kindergarten Jump Start, where transportation is provided, can help ease everyone’s anxieties about riding the bus. During Jump Start extra adults ride and greet the students on their first day riding the bus. It is also a great opportunity to practice riding the bus with just a few other kindergarteners before the rest of the grades ride the bus.

5. How can I communicate with my child’s teacher?

You can communicate with your child’s teacher through phone, email, or text. Your child’s teacher will let you know which method works best for them.