

WELCOME

TO FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

A PARENT PREVIEW OF WHAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD CAN EXPECT IN 4K



A WORD ABOUT FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

What will your child be learning this year? How can you help your child be successful in school? We've outlined the Oconomowoc Area School District's (OASD) major academic expectations below, including information on homework, how our teachers measure learning progress, home/school communications, and more. Together, we can help your child reach their full potential and get the most out of their school experience.

EXPECTATION LIST

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

This information provides an overview but does not encompass everything your child will learn and experience at school. Please contact your child's teacher at any time during the school year for more information.

MEASURING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING PROGRESS

- Teacher observations
- Daily classroom activities
- Report cards
- Individual student portfolios

HOW TO BE INVOLVED

- Contact your child's teacher with questions or concerns
- Attend parent/teacher conferences
- Volunteer in your child's classroom and take part in class field trips
- Participate in classroom parties and in home projects
- Share information about your career or hobbies with your child's classroom
- Attend school-sponsored programs
- Join your school Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

SUPPORT LEARNING

- See that your child comes to school rested, well fed and ready to learn
- Talk with your child about the day's activities
- Take an interest in what your child is learning; recognize your child's achievement and progress
- Read to your child daily
- Engage your child in learning games and conversations
- Reinforce classroom and school rules
- Work in cooperation with your child's teachers and school staff
- Review classroom and school communications

WHEN STUDENTS COMPLETE FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN, THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

COMMUNICATION ARTS AND READING

- Enjoy stories
- Explore books beginning to end
- Participate in large group activities
- Follow directions
- Demonstrate proper book care and library checkout

WRITING

- Include details in drawing
- Identify letters in their name
- Print name

MATHEMATICS

- Recognize colors
- Rote count accurately

- Recognize the four basic shapes: square, circle, triangle and rectangle
- Count objects with a 1-to-1 correspondence
- Explore geometry
- Explore measurement
- Recognize numbers 0-to-10
- Recognize, copy and extend patterns
- Use math vocabulary: more/less, heavier/lighter, next to/behind

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Explore social studies concepts
- Contribute to discussion and activities
- Follow school and classroom rules and routines

SCIENCE AND HEALTH

- Explore science concepts
- Demonstrate self-help skills

MOTOR SKILLS

- Throw and catch a playground ball
- Kick a stationary playground ball
- Use a tripod pencil grip
- Use scissors appropriately

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Work cooperatively with others
- Demonstrate self-control
- Respect self, others and property
- Enjoy friends

DOES 4K POSITIVELY IMPACT CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT?

Presently, Wisconsin does not have the data to correlate student performance on statewide tests with past 4K participation. We can, however, explore the impact of 4K participation in this state by reviewing data from one national study that included Wisconsin and from several Wisconsin school districts that conducted their own studies.

Key findings are summarized below:

The National Center for Early Development and Learning study of State-Wide Early Education Programs conducted a study that examined variations among prekindergarten programs in five states (Massachusetts, New Jersey, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin). The study also related program variations to child outcomes at the end of prekindergarten and in kindergarten.

In Wisconsin, one classroom in each of 100 4K sites was randomly selected to participate in the study during the fall of 2003. Within each classroom, four children (two boys and two girls) were randomly selected, pending parental consent, resulting in a sample of 400 Wisconsin 4K students. Data collection, including direct assessment of children's early academic skills, took place in fall 2003 and spring 2004.

Key findings are summarized below:

- In the spring of the 4K year, Wisconsin 4K students were above the national average on three of the four academic skills assessments having standardized national averages of 100, and scored particularly high on a letter-word identification subtest.
- Wisconsin students showed growth on all ten academic skills assessments between the pre-test and the post-test administrations. Gains were particularly noteworthy in students' ability to write their names and identify letters.
- Academic assessment information categorized by students' economic status showed that the performance of both poor and non-poor students improved between the fall 2003 pre-test and the spring 2004 post-test on all measures.
- Wisconsin 4K students improved on all nine dimensions in language and literacy. Pre-test ratings on the 1-5 scale ranged from a low of 1.53 to a high of 2.90, and post-test ratings ranged from a low of 2.22 to a high of 3.

(from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction)

COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

Partnership is essential for your child to achieve success in school. By working and talking together, we can create a very positive learning environment for your child. Please contact your child's teacher by email or phone, or the school office by phone, with any questions or concerns.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We post photos and video of student learning and accomplishments and important reminders and school safety updates.

Facebook: @oconomowocschools

Twitter: @oconschools

Instagram: oconomowocschools

WAYS WE KEEP IN TOUCH

- www.oasd.org
- Open House in August
- Parent/teacher conferences
- Trimester grade reports and progress reports
- Parent/teacher notes, phone calls, emails
- School email newsletters
- Weekly OASD Superintendent Update email newsletter
- Volunteer in your child's classroom
- Join your school PTO
- Review schoolwork with your child daily



OCONOMOWOC AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



Greenland Elementary Grades 4K-4th
440 Coolidge St. Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-560-8100



Ixonia Elementary Grades 4K-4th
N8425 North Rd. Ixonia, WI 53036
262-560-8400



Meadow View Elementary Grades 4K-4th
1500 Whalen Dr. Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-560-8000



Summit Elementary Grades 4K-4th
1680 Valley Rd. Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-560-8300



Park Lawn Elementary Grades 4K-4th
300 Park Lawn St. Oconomowoc WI 53066
262-560-8200



Nature Hill Intermediate Grades 5-8
850 Lake Dr. Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-569-4940



Silver Lake Intermediate Grades 5-8
555 Oconomowoc Parkway
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-560-4300



Oconomowoc High School Grades 9-12
641 E. Forest St. Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-560-3100



Oconomowoc High School East Campus
915 E. Summit Ave. Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-560-3100