

Welcome!



Concord Elementary School 2019 – 2020

Kindergarten will be your child's first experience with formal learning in a public school. In order to help you prepare for this experience, we have developed this handbook.

Welcome to Concord Elementary School!

We are looking forward to working with you and your child throughout the 2019-2020 school year. We know that we have an exciting, fun, and challenging year ahead of us.

We would like to begin by introducing the kindergarten team.

Ms. Holly Thiede, Room 206

Mr. Gary Davidson, Room 207

Mrs. Lynn Anderson, Room 209

Mrs. Kristin King, Room 210

Mrs. Stephanie Blachowiak, Room 233

SUPPLIES

The following is a suggested kindergarten supply list for our classrooms. The materials will be shared within the classroom by all students. Please leave these in your child's cubby during Open House or bring them to the conference **before** school begins.

- 4 boxes Crayola Crayons - 24 Count
- 2 boxes Washable Classic Thick Crayola Markers - 10 Count
- 3 each Large Elmer's Glue Sticks (0.77 oz size)
- 2 boxes Kleenex
- 3 pkg Clorox Wipes
- 1 box Gallon-sized Ziploc bags

Please label your child's backpack.

FIRST WEEK ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

The first two days of school (**August 27th and 28th**) the kindergarten teachers will meet the children on the west side of the building where the bus drop-off is located. Parent volunteers will be available to assist your child in finding his/her teacher. **Please attach your child's DISMISSAL TAG to his/her backpack for the first two weeks of school.** This will be a great help for the bus drivers and the parent volunteers, so please check to make sure all information is filled in correctly. If your kindergartner is a walker, or you plan to drive him/her to school, **please walk your child to bus ramp drop-off area on Tuesday and Wednesday to meet the teacher and the class.** The teacher will then escort the entire class to the classroom.

DISTRICT BUS POLICY

For safety reasons, all students who have to leave school early or are to be picked up must be signed out from the Concord office. The district policy states that students will NOT be permitted to ride a bus other than their assigned bus to and from school. Children will NOT be permitted to go to a friend's house from kindergarten unless transportation is provided by the parent. Questions regarding this district policy should be directed to Transportation Services (952.848.4979).



SNACKS

We will have time for a brief **nutritional snack break** in our classroom each day. If the children choose, they may bring a small snack from home that they can eat in a short amount of time. Suggested **healthy snacks** include fruit, raw vegetables, cheese, crackers, applesauce, breakfast bars, etc... **Please do not send drinks with them to school**; however, water bottles are allowed. These can be stored in your child's cubby or locker. Some classrooms might be **NUT-FREE** so please take note if your classroom is.

BIRTHDAYS

We will have a small birthday celebration for each child's birthday. Summer birthdays will be celebrated on the child's half birthday. Birthday "treats" **must be non-consumable** due to the district Wellness Policy. Stickers, pencils, or a book/game donated to the class are some ideas for the "treat". In addition, please do not send party invitations to school with your child unless everyone in the class will be invited, as this can result in hurt feelings. You can access student addresses using the online Concord Directory.

READING/LANGUAGE

This year your child will be involved in many experiences integrating language and reading with each other, as well as with other areas of the curriculum. The foundation of this program will be centered around print of all types: big books, pattern books, picture books, poems, songs, letters, recipes, and rhymes to name a few. Each day your child will have experiences in writing through journaling, classroom books, stories, secret messages, and letter writing. Specific skills such as phonics, sequencing and punctuation will be covered during these shared reading experiences.

HANDWRITING

Our handwriting program uses the Zaner-Bloser alphabet. Please help your child practice printing his/her name. Many of the children print their names, but use all capital letters. Practice and encourage your child to print his/her name with the first letter capitalized and the rest with lower case letters.

MATHEMATICS

Our Math curriculum is called *Math in Focus*. This program focuses on a process that moves from concrete to pictorial to abstract. Foundational skills will be built upon with the focus on problem solving and asking students why and how they got their solutions. Collaboration and critical thinking will enhance the program from the beginning.

SCIENCE

As part of our *Science Foss* curriculum, we will be encouraging scientific thinking through many hands-on exploratory activities. Some of these activities will be taught through mini-units such as weather/seasonal changes, trees, and animals. In addition, your child will have opportunities to do experiments and make observations in our classroom science center.

CHOICE TIME

For approximately 30 minutes each day, your child will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of activities. During this time your child will be involved in experimenting with many areas of the curriculum such as art, science, iPads, writing, reading, math, blocks and building, sensory (water, sand, play dough) and dramatic play. Some choices will be free exploration while others will be adult guided.

WIN TIME

For approximately 30 minutes each day, your child will participate in WIN (What I Need) time. During this time, students may or may not stay in the classroom and will participate in either enrichment or remedial math, literacy, or other kindergarten activities. This is a great opportunity for your child to learn at his or her level.

SPECIALISTS

Your child will have physical education, music, and art with a Concord specialist. These specialists align their activities with the kindergarten curriculum.

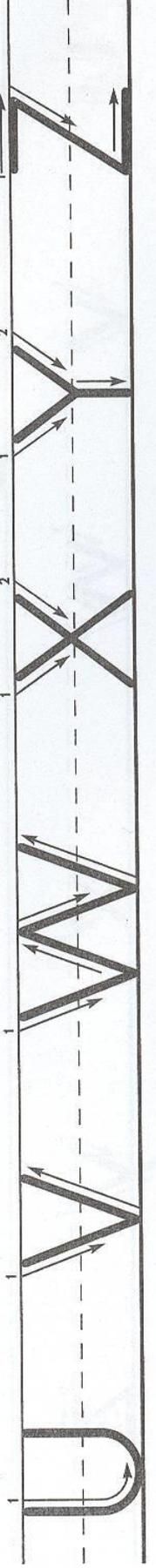
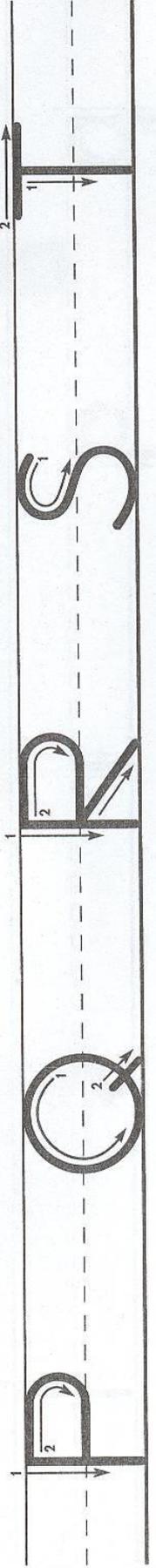
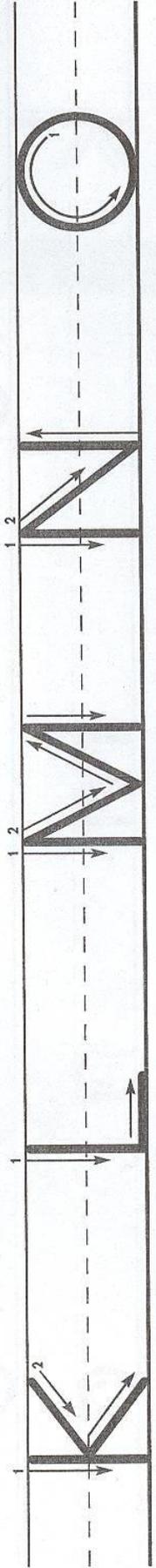
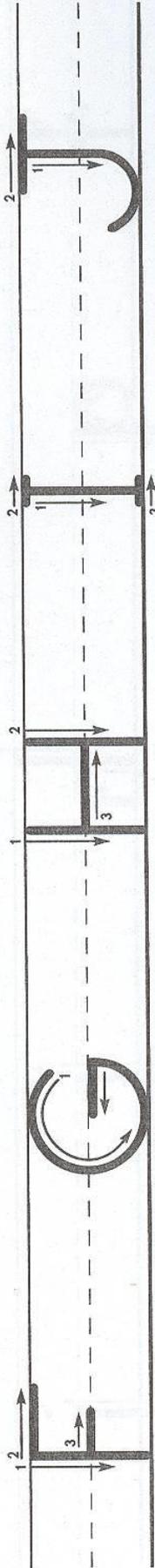
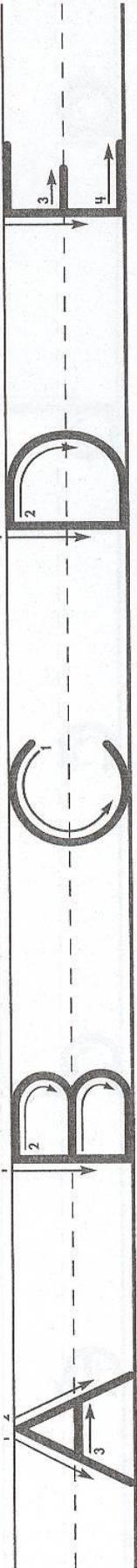
If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call us at school. We are looking forward to working in partnership with you and your child to create a successful kindergarten experience.



**Welcome to
Kindergarten**

Kindergarten Sight Words

see	the	and	I	a	you
me	we	are	can	in	is
like	it	my	she	have	make
all	on	at	your	be	had
one	two	if	will	big	too
him	not	for	but	day	up
look	or	did	school		food
just		he	to	by	was
little	what	some	out	so	



a b c d e

f g h i j

k l m n o

p q r s t

u v w x y z

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10