

# Welcome to the ELC Kindergarten Presentation

Marysville Early Learning Center  
- Jennifer Cassarino ELC Principal



YOU ARE ON



Coast Salish

Coast Salish

LAND



[USDAC.us/nativeland](https://www.usdac.us/nativeland)

#HonorNativeLand

Artwork by: Lightning Waa Waa, Ty Juvinel (Tulalip Tribes)

## Gathered on Indigenous Lands

I would like to begin by acknowledging that we gather today on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish Peoples, who have lived in the Salish Sea basin, throughout the San Juan Islands and the North Cascades watershed, from time immemorial.

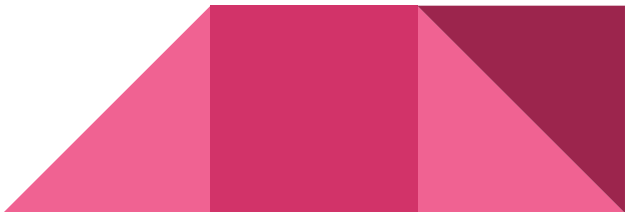
# March Into Kindergarten!

- Registration for Kindergarten kicks off on March 1!
- Kindergarten nights at the Elementary Schools are happening the week of March 28th
- Kindergarten Registration is available online (<https://www.msd25.org/o/district/page/register-for-school>) or in-person at your neighborhood school
- To register you will need:
  - Birth Certificate
  - Immunization Record
  - Emergency Contact Information
  - Parenting Plans or other legal documents related to custody or guardianship




# March into Kindergarten Registration Resources

Although your child is enrolled in the school district for preschool, families will need to update their child's records to prepare for kindergarten.

- Immunization Record: Our office can provide a current copy.
  - Birth Certificate: Certified copies available at the Snohomish Health District:  
<https://www.snohd.org/467/4550/Birth-Death-Certificates>
  - Registration is available online, however, paper packets are available at neighborhood schools starting in March.
  - Find your Neighborhood School: go to  
<https://www.msd25.org/o/District/page/transportation--702#FindRoute>  
or call (360) 965-0300.
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# Choice Transfers

While it is always recommended to enroll your child in your neighborhood school, we do understand that at times circumstances exist that create the need to enroll in a school outside of your neighborhood school boundary area or outside Marysville School District.

- Neighborhood school benefits: Transportation is available, your children go to school with other children in the neighborhood, guarantees your spot at your local school every year.
  - Transferring is a multi-step process and not a year to year guarantee.
  - The transfer request is done online:  
<https://www.msd25.org/o/District/page/student-transfer-information--4>
  - Parents/guardians must provide transportation to a transfer school.
  - You need to fill out a transfer request even if you already have another child at the requested school.
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# What does Kindergarten “Readiness” Mean?

- Kindergarten Readiness is a term we use to talk about the preparation leading up to a child’s first year in Kindergarten
- There is not a specific set of developmental standards or milestones a child must meet to be able to attend Kindergarten
- In Kindergarten, we meet children where they are at developmentally, socially, emotionally and physically
- Kindergarten admittance is determined by a child’s birthdate (and graduation date)
- Children on an IEP have specific goals they are working on with their teams, these goals will either be continued in Kindergarten, or the IEP team will determine new Kindergarten goals



# COVID and Kindergarten

- Students may be at different places with skills, levels and abilities than in typical years
- Teachers are aware students may be at different stages and skill sets
- Don't worry, COVID has shifted what we are and aren't prepared for. Just remember, we are all at the same place together.
- Don't underestimate all of the work you've already done as a parent or caregiver. Our kids are doing great and they have you to thank!



# Kindergarten Questions

- How old does a child need to be to register for Kindergarten? A child must be 5 years old by midnight of August 31st 2021.
- How will I know if my child is “ready”? There are no requirements beyond your child’s birth date. Children who come to Kindergarten have a wide range of skills the widest range of skills in school are typically found in Kindergarten and 1st graders.
- Will the Kindergarten teacher be ready for my child? Yes, Kindergarten teachers spend the first days and weeks getting to know families and students. Kindergarten Assessments help teachers find children’s strengths and where children may need more support.
- Teachers support a wide range of skills and development



# Kindergarten: A Sense of Belonging

Our Children want to feel Safe, Seen and Soothed:

- (Safe and Secure) Kindergarten teams will meet individually with each family to get to know students and caregivers before school begins
- (Seen) Students will have opportunities during the first days of school to show off their strengths and share them with their teachers so that teachers can gain information about their students
- (Soothed) Kindergarten classrooms have many of the same stations and quiet areas that preschool classrooms have. Students will recognize quiet corners, the Zones of Regulation and other materials and curriculum in the classroom



# Summer Activities to Practice (Children may not have these skills mastered yet and that's ok!)

- Teach your child their school lunch number
- Practice identifying shapes and colors
- Practice counting (numbers up to 20)
- Practice A-Z
- Practice writing your name and coloring
- Play rhyming word games
- Play matching and sorting games or projects
- Visit the playground at your neighborhood school to build familiarity







# More Summer Activity Ideas

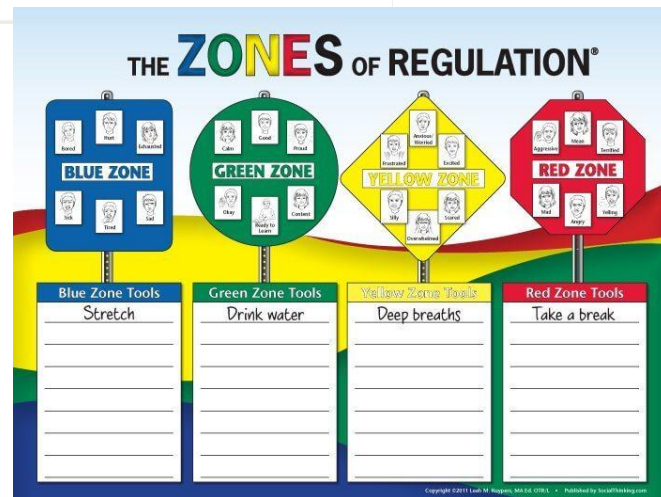
- Play board games where you have to take turns and where people win and lose
- Stand in line at the store and talk about how people wait in line
- Have your child hold a book, turn the pages, talk about the pictures and words, and ask questions about the book
- Play “Eye Spy” games
- Sort and count coins (with adult supervision)
- Allow your child more personal choices (like picking out clothes)
- Practice dressing: tie shoes, buttoning pants, zipping, putting on coat
- Practice opening food containers and packages independently
- Practice independent bathroom skills

# Zones of Regulation

- Taught at the ELC and Kindergarten
- Quiet space located in classroom to take a break
- Can be used at home
- Talk about the Zones with your child

**The ZONES of Regulation®**

			
<b>BLUE ZONE</b> Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	<b>GREEN ZONE</b> Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	<b>YELLOW ZONE</b> Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	<b>RED ZONE</b> Mad/Angry Mean Terrified Yelling/Hitting Out of Control



# ELL and Kindergarten

- Home Language Surveys are included in the registration packets.
  - If your child learned another language first or your child speaks another language at home most often ( other than English), then they are tested on the English Language Proficiency Assessment Screener in September.
  - If they score at Proficient, they do not qualify for services. If they score Emerging or Progressing, they will receive services in their home classroom.

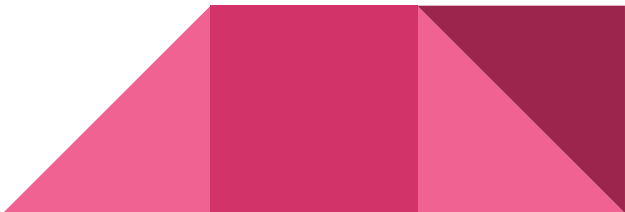
Each school has an ELL Specialist to assist classroom teachers.



# Special Education

- Your preschool special education teacher will plan an IEP team meeting with you specifically around programming this spring
- Team members from the elementary school may attend the IEP meeting if necessary, however, we cannot guarantee your child will have the same teacher in the fall

*Please remember Special Education programs follow a continuum of services, each individual student has an individualized education plan (IEP) please refer to your child's special education teacher/case manager with any specific questions you may have.*



# Ways to Stay Connected and Involved

- Download the Marysville App
  - Select your neighborhood school as your main school
  - Go into settings and select push notifications
- Like your neighborhood school on Facebook
- Like the Early Learning Center on Facebook
- Follow the Marysville School District on social media and the web
- Get involved in your school's PTSA
- Volunteer opportunities
- Kindergarten Registration Page:

<https://www.ms25.org/o/early-learning-center/page/kindergarten-transition-information>



# Parting Thoughts

“...greet the children where they are, not where we think they should be. Greet them with art supplies, and writing materials, and music and dance and so many other avenues to help them express what has happened to them in their lives during this horrific year. Greet them with stories and books that will help them make sense of an upside-down world. They missed you. They did not miss the test prep. They did not miss the worksheets. They did not miss the reading groups. They did not miss the homework. They missed you.”

---Teresa Thayer Snyder, Retired Superintendent  
from Voorheesville, NY



Thank you!