



**BAINBRIDGE  
ISLAND**

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 303

# PARENTS & GUARDIANS OF THE CLASS OF 2037: IT'S TIME TO DISCUSS KINDERGARTEN

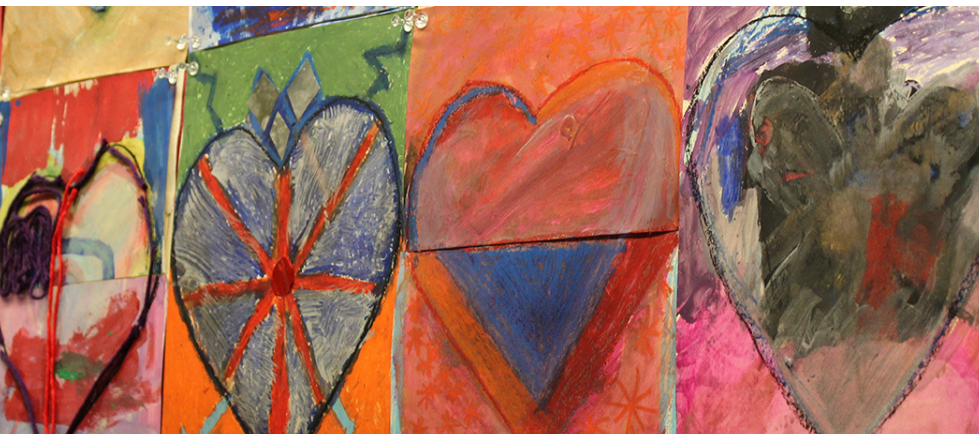


## WELCOME

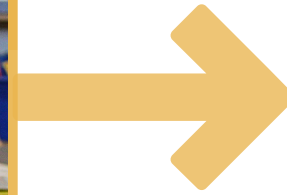
Your child is about to embark on a wonderful milestone and BISD is proud to be part of this momentous event. Kindergarten sets the foundation for your child's school career and puts your student on a lifelong path of learning.

While kindergarten is a time of great discovery, excitement and growth, it's also a big transition — for families and children alike! That's why when you enroll your child in kindergarten at BISD, your student will receive a high-quality education and gain a team of staff whose main goal is to help your child succeed intellectually, socially and emotionally.

It is a time of close partnership between the school and the home. Parent and guardian involvement is encouraged— look for opportunities to volunteer in the classroom and the school.



PLEASE INTRODUCE  
YOUR FAMILY



WE ARE EXCITED  
TO MEET YOU

### **Blakely Elementary School**

Principal Reese Ande  
Office Manager Kyanne Hawkins  
Phone: (206) 842-4752

### **Ordway Elementary School**

(Includes El Velero Spanish Immersion Program;  
Enrollment for El Velero is via a lottery.)  
Principal Debra Dunn  
Office Manager Sarah Dunstan  
Phone: (206) 842-7637

### **Ālailc Elementary School**

Principal Whitney Skarbek  
Office Manager Sheila Jakubik  
Phone: (206) 842-4411

### **Commodore Options School**

(Includes Odyssey and Mosaic Home Education Partnership;  
Enrollment for Odyssey is via a lottery.)  
Principal Trish Corsetti  
Office Manager Alli Schilf  
Phone: (206) 780-1646





# BISD KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students receive core instruction in:

- Reading
- Writing
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Health
- Social skills

They also participate weekly with a content specialist teacher in the following areas:

- Physical Education
- Music
- Art
- STEM Lab (hands-on exploration of science and engineering concepts)

## THE WHOLE CHILD APPROACH:

BISD is dedicated to supporting the development of students who explore and acquire a range of skills each year. The district is committed to providing each student with an excellent academic program in an engaging and supportive environment.

BISD provides students with a range of services to support learning needs, such as academic support, special education services, and a highly capable program.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



### KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT GENERAL BISD

#### KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM\*

**WHEN:** Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 6 pm.

**WHERE:** At Blakely Elementary, 4704 Blakely Ave.

(Representatives from all BISD elementary schools will be in attendance)

*\*Note: This event is intended for adults. Incoming kindergarten students will have an opportunity to visit a kindergarten classroom (see below).*

### KINDERGARTEN VISITS

School visitations allow students and parents/guardians to visit a kindergarten class, tour the school and learn more about BISD.

#### Blakely Elementary

Thursday, April 11 @ 9 a.m.

#### Ķalilc Elementary

Thursday, April 11 @ 9 a.m.

#### Ordway Elementary

Friday, April 12 @ 9 a.m.

*Visits of El Velero and Odyssey will take place after their enrollment lotteries.*



As a community, we collectively commit to honoring and nurturing the unique skills, talents and passions of every student. We provide a welcoming and respectful environment where students flourish and forge a life-long love of learning through relevant, engaging learning experiences. We empower our students to find purpose and contribute to a more just and equitable world.

## We believe...

- in every child;
- everyone has the potential and the right to lead a meaningful and productive life;
- all students can learn at high levels when provided with engaging learning opportunities that both support and challenge them;
- social and emotional health is as important as academic performance;
- diversity is essential to a vibrant community;
- strong, supportive relationships are the foundation of all that we do;
- empathy and critical thinking skills are essential for citizenship in a diverse and connected world;
- in becoming an anti-racist, inclusive organization that eliminates educational disparities and challenges traditional practices and norms;
- our families and community are our partners in the success of each child.



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STRONG MINDS, STRONG HEARTS, STRONG COMMUNITY



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### What is the birthday cutoff to be a kindergartner?

Children must be five years old by August 31st.

### What is the kindergarten schedule?

Except for the first three days of the school year, kindergartners follow the same school calendar and schedule as other elementary students. They ride the bus and eat lunch at school, just like the older grades.

The first three days of the school year are different. Instead of regular school days, kindergartners and parents/guardians participate in kindergarten readiness activities and a get-to-know-you conference.

Elementary schools start at 7:50 a.m. and dismiss at 12:50 p.m. on Mondays and dismiss at 2:20 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

### How many students are in a kindergarten classroom?

Our goal is to have kindergarten classrooms with 20 or fewer students. This may vary slightly due to enrollment.

### How are kindergarten classrooms staffed?

All kindergarten classrooms are staffed with one certificated classroom teacher. Teachers are supported by instructional specialists, the school counselor and their kindergarten teaching team.

### Do kindergartners require special arrangements for transportation or food?

Kindergartners are included in their schools' regular bus routes and food service plans.

- Kindergartners are greeted at buses in the morning and are walked to buses in the afternoon.
- Students with food allergies and dietary restrictions are closely monitored by staff.



# NOTES:

