



Moorhead Area Public Schools Independent School District 152

Probstfield Center for Education • 2410 14th St. S. • Moorhead, Minnesota 56560
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Superintendent of Schools: (218) 284-3330
Assistant Superintendent: (218) 284-3370 • Human Resources: (218) 284-3350

May 30, 2013

Dear Parents of Incoming Kindergartners,

Moorhead Area Public Schools is pleased to inform you that at the May 28, 2013, meeting, the School Board approved offering families free all-day, every-day kindergarten beginning in fall 2013. A half-day kindergarten option will also be available.

- If your child is already registered for kindergarten, he or she will be automatically enrolled in free all-day kindergarten at his or her current school. Kindergarten attendance areas may need to be adjusted due to enrollment and available space at each building. In the event this is necessary, some Robert Asp and Ellen Hopkins students may attend kindergarten at Probstfield Center for Education. You will be notified if your child will be attending a different school.
- If you prefer that your child remain in a half-day program, call Nicole in the Assistant Superintendent's office at 218-284-3370 by noon on Friday, June 21 to indicate your interest in half-day kindergarten. The district is currently considering half-day options and plans to make a decision about how to best accommodate these requests by July 15. This decision will be based largely on the demand for a half-day program.
- If your child is already registered for Kinder Plus (K+), the registration in K+ will be canceled.
- If your child is not yet registered for kindergarten, we invite you to do so as soon as possible by contacting your child's elementary school. If you do not know which school your child will attend, please call Nicole in the Assistant Superintendent's office at 218-284-3370.

Frequently asked questions are on the back of this letter. More information is available on the district website at www.moorhead.k12.mn.us/kindergarten. If you have any immediate questions, please contact one of us. We look forward to welcoming your child to kindergarten at one of our elementary schools this coming fall.

Sincerely,

Chris Triggs, Principal
Jacob Scandrett, Assistant Principal
Robert Asp Elementary School
218-284-6300

Anne Moyano, Principal
Travis Okerlund, Assistant Principal
S.G. Reinertsen Elementary School
218-284-5300

Dr. Mary Jo Schmid, Principal
Michael Daus, Assistant Principal
Ellen Hopkins Elementary School
218-284-4300

Robin Grooters, Kindergarten Administrator at
Probstfield Center for Education
218-284-3800

An Equal Opportunity Employer

The mission of the Moorhead School District is to develop the maximum potential of every learner to thrive in a changing world.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where will free all-day kindergarten be offered?

Free all-day kindergarten will be available at Robert Asp Elementary, Ellen Hopkins Elementary and Probstfield Center for Education. S.G. Reinertsen Elementary students have been attending kindergarten at Probstfield Center for Education for several years. With the addition of all-day kindergarten, more classrooms will be used for kindergarten at Probstfield. Separate kindergarten attendance areas may need to be established due to enrollment and available space at each building. In the event this is necessary, some Robert Asp and Ellen Hopkins students may attend kindergarten at Probstfield Center for Education. Parents/guardians will be notified if your child will be attending a different school for kindergarten.

How will half-day and all-day kindergarten options differ?

All-day and half-day options will have high quality teachers and instruction. Students in the all-day program will have greater access to specialists currently available for grades 1-5.

Why would I choose to have my child attend all-day kindergarten? What will be the advantage?

Years of research indicate that additional time in the classroom can boost young children's achievement levels and have positive effects on social skills and behaviors.

If I have a child with special education needs, will my child receive the same IEP services if he or she is in all-day kindergarten or half-day kindergarten?

The services on the IEP are determined by the team according to the educational needs of each student. They are not based on the length of time the student attends school. The IEP case manager and program manager will work with the IEP team to determine the level of support needed. If you have questions, contact Robin Grooters, early learning program manager, at 218-284-3800.

Will before- and after-school care still be available?

The YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties will provide before- and after-school programming beginning with the 2013-14 school year, as well as summer programming beginning with summer 2013, for K-5 students at Ellen Hopkins, Robert Asp and S.G. Reinertsen Elementary Schools and Probstfield Center for Education. Summer programming for incoming Probstfield kindergarteners (students who live in the S.G. Reinertsen attendance area) will be provided at S.G. Reinertsen. Questions about school-age programs can be directed to Becky Mueller, YMCA school age director, at 218-512-2030 Ext. 3313 or mueller@ymcacassclay.org.