

## **Kindergarten FAQs**

# **Registration Questions**

- Does our child have to be present for the registration appointment? **No.**
- During in person registration, will someone be available to talk about specific special education questions? Not about questions that might be specific to your child. If you have questions that you would like answered prior to registration, please contact Cindy McKenzie, Coordinator of Gifted & Special Education at <a href="mailto:cmckenzie@northallegheny.org">cmckenzie@northallegheny.org</a>. There will also be a virtual information session hosted by the AIU on February 10, 2025. Parents should receive a pamphlet about this session from their child's preschool teacher. The AIU staff will share a link with parents directly.
- Will students participate in a screening assessment prior to the first day of kindergarten? Yes, students will participate in screening in April and May.
   More communication will be communicated by each school building soon.
- If we register now, but we find our child is not ready before the school year starts, how can we withdraw the student before school starts? Please email our Central Registration Office at <a href="mailto:registration@northallegheny.org">registration@northallegheny.org</a>.
- Does registration need to be completed before we can schedule a virtual or in-person meeting? Yes.
- What is the pre-approval process for registration? Go to the online registration
  at <a href="https://www.northallegheny.org">www.northallegheny.org</a> and begin the process. You will be informed of
  what to complete before you are considered pre-approved and can set a
  virtual or in person registration meeting.
- Does the lottery system adjust for students who have enrollment in programs (like K-Wrap through the YMCA)? No. However, you will be notified of your assigned kindergarten session before the end of the 2024-2025 school year.
- Does AM or PM tend to be more preferred by families? Historically, AM is preferred. However, the PM session has been more preferred in recent years.

#### **Academic Questions**

- Are students given opportunities to advance at their level if needed. Yes,
   students are given opportunities to advance at their level.
- Is there any introduction to any foreign languages? There is not a formal introduction to a foreign language but there are discussions about other cultures.
- Is there any additional focus on STEM in kindergarten? **STEM activities are embedded throughout the school year.**

### **Bus/Transportation Question**

- How do we find out where the bus will pick up/drop off? The Transportation
   Department will provide all information about bus schedules and locations before the first day of school.
- How is the elementary school determined? Is it based on where the student lives? Yes, it is based on where you reside. The <u>school locator</u> will inform you of your child's school.
- Do we have someone to escort the student from the bus to the classroom on the first day? Yes. All staff that do not have a homeroom are outside ready to assist students.

#### **General Questions**

- How can I find my child's kindergarten teacher? Each school building's webpage has classroom teacher information listed. Homeroom assignments will be shared in August before the first day of school.
- Are students that are enrolled in the AM session able to attend after school activities? Yes, parents would have to drive them.

- Do we need to provide our child a meal during their school day? **No, there is no snack or lunch.**
- Why does NA not offer full day kindergarten? NA has been offering half day Kindergarten for over 50 years. It has been discussed, however, there are costs and space needs that have to be considered.
- What after school program do you provide and how can I register? **Each** building will provide information to the students about what they offer.
- What's the process to register with YMCA? Please contact the YMCA.
- Do we need to send our child in with lunch/snack? No.
- Are children given any snacks during the day? No.
- Can PM kindergarten students eat lunch in school? **No.**
- Are there class size restrictions for kindergarten?
   For Kindergarten through Second Grade: The Administration shall determine the number of sections to be created for each grade level in a manner that ensures that no section exceeds 24 students at the time the determination is made. Board Policy 126.1
- Should a form be filled out if a vacation or trip occurs during the school year?
   Yes, this form should be filled out and returned to the building.
- For kindergarten, are both pickup & drop off offered by the school district? No, transportation is only one way. In the AM it is to school, and in the PM it is home.
- Will school counselors be involved at registration? School counselors are not at registration appointments but if assistance is needed, please contact the school building.
- What are the times for each kindergarten session?
  - AM Session: 9:00 am-11:45 am.

o PM Session: 12:45 pm-3:30 pm.