

# WEST DE PERE 4K NEWSLETTER

# Welcome



Thank you for entrusting the West De Pere 4-Year-Old Kindergarten Program with your child(ren)'s early education experience. We feel honored with this opportunity. We will do our best to work with you to provide your child(ren) with a positive start to their educational career.

The 4K program is developed to be an exciting and positive step in your child(ren)'s lifelong journey of learning. "Given that early childhood is a journey and not a destination, our goal is for each child to be an active, engaged learner who will grow to their full potential in a high quality, nurturing, and educational environment." We are dedicated to planning and preparing activities that will build your child's confidence in their abilities, provide love and acceptance so they can be comfortable to explore their vast potential and celebrate the wonder and excitement of this special time in your child(ren)'s life.

If you know of anyone interested in registering their child for four-year-old kindergarten or if you have questions about four year-old kindergarten, please contact Mr. Mike Kowalczyk, 4K Director (920-425-1900 ext. 3327), Hemlock Creek Elementary (920-425-1900) or Westwood Elementary (920-337-1027).

Again, thank you for this opportunity!

Developmentally appropriate community-based program may include but will not be limited to:

- \*Readiness skills
- \*Language development
- \*Social development
- \*Emotional development
- \*Physical development
- \*Self-help skills



## OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Highly trained and experienced teachers.
- Beautifully equipped classrooms with careful consideration given to developmentally appropriate materials.
- Small class sizes that allow for individual attention.
- Safe and sanitary learning environment.
- Child friendly and convenient class times.
- Regular daily/weekly communication with teachers and a commitment to keeping parents well informed about your child's day and the upcoming events.
- Educational field trips and school presentations that enhance the curriculum.
- Parent involvement activities that provide fun ways to interact with the families and staff in our program.
- The 4K program is play-based. Within these play experiences; children are exposed to a literacy/print rich environment. They are provided opportunities for dialogue, learning through social interaction, dramatic play, listening to stories, and writing. A play-based program allows children to develop at individual rates. Teachers are able to differentiate instruction to meet the various needs of their learners.
- Research shows that play in early childhood is the best foundation for success in school. Play develops many skills that are necessary for children to learn to read and write for success in math and science. Play also develops behaviors that help children learn all school subjects.



## OUR CURRICULUM INCLUDES:

- Group activities that develop social skills such as sharing, listening, patience and cooperation.
- Thematic units that present a large array of fun and exciting topics for children to discover.
- Small group learning activities that promote skill development in the areas of letters, numbers, vocabulary and children's individual educational needs.
- Opportunities for independent learning through hands-on experiences in classroom learning centers.
- Daily living skill development through daily routines and activities.
- Self-expression through the arts and music.
- A word rich environment that includes an appreciation for literature and reading.

# THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL PROCEDURES:

- At **ENCOMPASS** the students will go straight to the classroom after being greeted by a staff member at the front door.
- At **WESTWOOD** when your child arrives on the first day, the teachers and instructional aides will greet your child off the bus and then gather in the 4K playground area.
- At **KIDDIE COLLEGE** the students will go straight to the classroom after being greeted by a staff member at the front door.



## BUSSING:

- Bus numbers and times of pick-up will be mailed to parents in August. Parents must call Lamers Bus lines at 336-0565 option #2 if they are not riding the bus. Also, this year you will find attached colored wristbands and tags. What these two items are intended to do is help the bus driver and/or school personnel identify a 4K student. Each wristband and tag will be color coded to match a particular 4K site. In addition, each 4K student will receive their own 4K bags during their open house times. This black and orange bag is only for 4K students and is easy to spot. If at any time you have questions or concerns about bussing please feel free to contact Mr. Jim Gamble - coordinator at 336-0565.

## FEES:

- The 4K fee is \$15.00. Application for a fee waiver/envelope will be sent home with the students on the first day of school.

## CLASS TIMES:

### Westwood

Morning Session: 8:40-11:25 a.m.

Afternoon Session: 12:40-3:25 p.m.

### Encompass

Morning Session: 8:40-11:25 a.m.

Afternoon Session: 12:30-3:15 p.m.

### Kiddie College

Morning Session: 8:40-11:25 a.m.

Afternoon Session: 12:40-3:25 p.m.



# UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:



- September 4:** Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
- September 5:** FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
- September 5:** Westwood PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at Westwood
- September 12:** Hemlock Creek PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Brickhouse Craft Burgers and Beers
- September 15:** First Day Hispanic Heritage Month
- September 22:** NO 4K (Early Release)
- September 25:** West De Pere School Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at West De Pere District Office
- September 27:** 4K Picture Day - **Westwood**
- October 3:** Westwood PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Westwood
- October 3:** Hemlock Creek PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at Hemlock Creek
- October 6:** No 4K (Early Release)
- October 7:** West De Pere High School Homecoming Noise Parade, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- October 9:** Indigenous Peoples' Day
- October 9:** Columbus Day
- October 10:** 4K Picture Day - **Encompass**
- October 11:** 4K Picture Day - **Kiddie College**
- October 18:** West De Pere School Board Meeting, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Annual Meeting at the High School)
- October 19:** No 4K (Early Release)
- October 20:** No 4K
- October 31:** Halloween

## INFORMATION SENT HOME

Many pieces of information will be coming home with your child. Look for them during the first few days of school.

1. Applications for "School Fee Waiver."
2. Envelopes for "Payment of Student Fees."
3. School bus rules.
4. "Letter from Superintendent" about directory information.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Many volunteers are needed in the course of the school year. We utilize volunteers to help with classroom activities, as chaperones, to assist with projects, to read with or help small groups. Volunteers are expected to follow school rules and guidelines within the volunteer handbook and practice confidentiality regarding students and complete a background check. Volunteers must be approved.

# IMMUNIZATIONS:

WI Immunization Law requires all public and private school students to present written evidence of immunization against certain diseases (measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, Hepatitis B, chicken pox) within 30 days of admission. Parents of children who lack the proper immunizations will be notified and will be in compliance with the WI Immunization Law. Requirements for the 2023 school year are as follows:

<b>AGE/GRADE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF DOSES</b>
<b>PreK (2 years to 4 years)</b>	4 DTP/DTaP/DT -- 3 Polio -- 1 MMR -- 1 Varicella or Chickenpox disease -- 3 Hep B
<b>Kindergarten through 1</b>	4 DTP/DTaP/DT -- 4 Polio -- 2 MMR -- 2 Varicella or Chickenpox disease -- 3 Hep B
<b>Grades 2 through 5</b>	4 DTP/DTaP/DT -- 4 Polio -- 1 MMR -- 2 Varicella or Chickenpox disease

## SCHOOL SECURITY INFORMATION

The following procedures are in place for security and safety:

1. Volunteers are welcome at school. We are required to do a background check on all adults who come to work with our children. You will not be able to work/volunteer in our facility until your background check is completed. Additional information can be found on the Westwood or Hemlock Creek websites under Parent Info.
2. At Westwood, supervision begins at school at 8:25 a.m. At Encompass and Kiddie College, supervision begins at 8:30 a.m. Students are not to be dropped off prior to that time. In the afternoon, supervision begins at Westwood at 12:35 p.m. and at Encompass and Kiddie College at 12:30 p.m.
3. If you come in during the day to drop off a project or a treat, we will not send you directly to your child's classroom. We will be glad to have your child come and talk with you, but we would like to reduce disruptions so that we can focus on learning time.
4. All doors, except the front office, are locked during the day. If you are coming to pick-up your child or visit, you must sign-in and wear a visitor badge. All doors at Encompass and Kiddie College are locked during the day. You must buzz the office to be allowed to enter at all locations.

### TUESDAY NOTES

Every Tuesday, home to school communication, PTO memos, and many other items for your information are emailed out.

### MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The monthly newsletter will be emailed home on the 1st Tuesday of every month.

# MEET OUR SUPER STAFF:

## Encompass

**Teacher:** Mrs. Catherine Seidl

- **AM Aide:** Angie Heck
- **PM Aide:** Lisa Lemirand

**Site Admin:** Ashley Gumieny, Director

**Facility Phone Number:** 920-336-1541

## Kiddie College

**Teacher:** Ms. Tracy Bisick

- **AM Aide:** Maureen Manning
- **PM Aide:** Kyle VenHuizen

**Site Admin:** Deb Larson, Director

**Facility Phone Number:** 920-347-9260

## Westwood Elementary

**Teacher:** Mrs. Emma Chouinard (Scholler)

- **AM Aide:** Nicky Popp
- **PM Aide:** Laurie Maes

**Teacher:** Mrs. Kristy Dugre

- **AM Aide:** Sue Schreurs
- **PM Aide:** Kendra Deschane

**Teacher:** Mrs. Jennifer Torres

- **AM Aide:** Kristy Suda
- **PM Aide:** Jillian Holtger

**Site Admin:** Dr. Jason Lau, Principal

**Assistant Principal/Summer School Director:**

Mrs. Kristin Krahn

### ***Special Education***

**Teacher:** Ms. Cassidy Cherney

- **AM Aide:** Lynn Schauer
- **PM Aide:** Amber Weber

### ***Speech and Language***

**Teacher:** Mrs. Kelly Fink

**Facility Phone Number:** 920-337-1087



## 4K Office

**4K Director:** Mr. Mike Kowalczyk  
920-425-1900 ext. 3327

**4K/Summer School Secretary:**

Jamie Schnurer  
920-425-1900 ext. 3100  
M/W/F - Westwood  
T/Th - Hemlock Creek

If you have any specific questions pertaining to 4K you may call **Mr. Mike Kowalczyk**