



The Kindergarten Forum: Welcome to Kindergarten!

North Hills School District
January 31, 2019



Opening Remarks and Introductions

Dr. Jeff Taylor,
Assistant Superintendent



Kindergarten Readiness Assessments

When, Why, Where, How?

**Dr. Jeff Taylor,
Assistant Superintendent**

Kindergarten Readiness Resources

Dr. Jeff Taylor

- Drawstring bag
 - Kindergarten readiness calendar
 - Flash cards
 - Storybook
 - NHSD cup
 - Bookmark and Pencil
 - Northland Library Info.
 - Volunteer clearance information
 - Social emotional standards
 - Registration information
 - NHSD kindergarten readiness FAQs



What Can I Do To Prepare My Child For Kindergarten?

Mrs. Jill Zunic

- Print Knowledge
 - Book handling
 - Identify basic features of print
 - Associate some letters with their names and sounds
- Math
 - Know number names to 10
 - Rote count up to 20
 - Differentiate numbers from letters
- Expressive and receptive language
 - Participate in a group conversation
 - Follows directions



What Can I Do To Prepare My Child For Kindergarten?

Mrs. Jill Zunic

- <http://www.nhsd.net/KindergartenReadiness.aspx>
 - Kindergarten readiness calendar
 - Pre-kindergarten standards
 - Copy of this PowerPoint presentation
- Toilet Trained – what does this mean?
 - Students must be independent in the restroom.
 - Students are not permitted to attend wearing pull ups or diapers

What Can I Do To Prepare My Child For Kindergarten?

Mrs. Jill Zunic

Social and Emotional Readiness

- Self-Awareness and Self-Management
 - Manages Emotions and Behaviors
 - Resiliency
- Establishing and Maintaining Relationships
 - Trust and Attachment
 - Communication
 - Managing Conflicts
 - Asking for Help
- Decision-Making and Responsible Behavior
 - Interpreting the consequences of choices



Community Resources

Ms. Amy Bialek

- 211 Information
- Libraries
- Children's Museum Program
- <http://www.nhsd.net/KindergartenReadiness.aspx>



Fostering Independence

Ms. Amy Bialek




- Zipper and Button Coats
- Shoes and Boots
- Lunchboxes
- Bathroom



Reading with Your Child

Mrs. Maria Hutsler

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Open and Learn, 1982)

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.



Daily Schedule

Ms. Maria Hutsler

Morning

Morning Meeting/Calendar Math

ELA

ELA Centers

Math

Specials

Afternoon

Writers' Workshop

Social Studies or Science

Small Groups





Lunch Questions

Mrs. Jill Zunic

- **Adding money to your child's account**
 - Send in a check to food services with your child's name and pin number written on the check.
 - Make an online payment to myschoolbucks.com
 - There will be a fee if you use this option.
- **Pin Numbers**
 - Your child will have help with their pin numbers. The teachers and cafeteria staff will help them the first few weeks of school.
 - The students must memorize their pin number.
- **Opening Items for Lunch**
 - There will be staff on hand to assist your child open things when necessary.
 - Practice opening items at home to help foster your child's independence.
- **Free and reduced lunch**
 - Nhsd.net>parents>food service
- **Food Allergies** must be reported to the nurse. Peanut free areas are provided in each school cafeteria.



First Day of School

Mrs. Jessie Friedrich

- Staff will be positioned throughout the school to assist your child to their classrooms.
- For safety purposes, you are not permitted to walk your child to their classroom.
- We offer an orientation for students on August 16 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. that will allow your child the opportunity to learn their way around the building and meet their teacher.
- Your child should bring a backpack on the first day of school along with a change of clothes.
- Bathroom breaks will be taken throughout the day as needed.



Dismissal

Ms. Maria Hutsler

- Dismissal information will be mailed to you.
- Students will wear a tag for the first few weeks of school to ensure everyone gets to the correct bus.
- An adult must be at the bus stop to meet a kindergarten aged student.
- Have your child follow the same dismissal routine on the first day of school. Avoid doing something special on the first day.



The Curriculum

Ms. Alyssa Cerminara



The Curriculum cont.

Ms. Alyssa Cerminara

- Math-
 - Math in Focus
- Printing
 - Handwriting Without Tears
- Science
 - Foss
- Social Studies
 - Houghton Mifflin



The Curriculum cont.

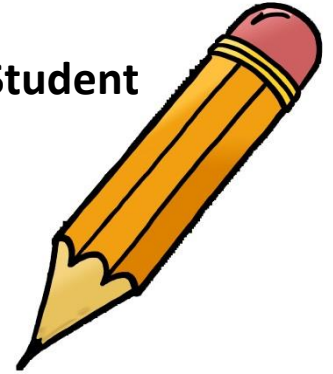
Ms. Alyssa Cerminara

- Health and Physical Education
- Art
- Music
- Library/Media
- Computer Literacy



Kindergarten Registration

Mrs. Jessica Friedrich



- **Starting January 7, 2019, visit www.nhsd.net>Administration>New Student Registration**
 - Schedule a registration appointment for February 18
 - Fill out the online registration forms.
 - Print out and complete the Home and Health Packet.
- **Register Your Child Early!**
 - Per School Board Policy 205, children who are not registered to attend school by June 1, may be assigned to a district building outside of their attendance area.
- **New for 2019-2020**
 - All incoming kindergarten students will participate in a kindergarten readiness assessment in order to provide parents and teachers with readiness information about the child.
 - Students must be 5 years of age before August 1, 2019, to be enrolled for the 2019-2020 school year. For the first year of this policy change, students who turn five years of age in August and seek admission to kindergarten shall take a kindergarten readiness assessment. If your child does not pass the assessment, the parent may request a conference with the district's superintendent to discuss the results as well as kindergarten expectations.

District Contact Information

Mrs. Jessica Friedrich

Building Principals:

- West View: Jesse Simpson
- Highcliff: Kristy Bilderback
- McIntyre: Amy Mathieu
- Ross: Jason Beall
- K-6 Assistant Principal: Michelle Spingola

Transportation Questions:

- Tim Jones, Transportation Coordinator
- (412) 318-1024

Food Service Questions:

- Lindsay Radzvin, Director of Food Services
- (412) 318- 1053

- **Health-Related Questions – Building Nurses: *. Contact the nurse to discuss any medical conditions or food allergies.**

- Highcliff- 412-318-1585
- West View- 412-318-1505
- McIntyre- 412-318-1625
- Ross- 412-318-1545



Morning Care Program

Mrs. Jessica Friedrich



Before School Morning Care Program:

- **Highcliff and West View**
 - 6:45 to 8:15 a.m.
 - The building opens to all students at 8:15 a.m.
- **Ross and McIntyre**
 - 7:15 to 8:55 a.m.
 - The building opens to all students at 8:55 a.m.
- The fee is \$3.50 per day.
- **Note:** NHSD also provides a free Before-School Program from 8:40 to 8:55 a.m. only at the McIntyre and Ross elementary schools.

After School Program

Mrs. Jessica Friedrich



After-School Care Program:

- After-school care is available to all North Hills elementary students in their respective schools until 6 p.m. on school days.
- The program is operated by the North Boroughs YMCA - call 412-761-1227 for more information.
- North Hills School District also provides a district-sponsored free After-School Program only at Highcliff and West View elementary schools. All students who are utilizing the NHSD After-School Program at West View and Highcliff will need to be picked up by a parent at or before 3:30 p.m.

Clearances and Important Dates

Mrs. Jessica Friedrich

- **Upcoming Dates:**

- Kindergarten parent orientation – August 15, 2019 from 6:30 -8:00 p.m.
- Kindergarten student orientation date- August 16, 2019 from 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- First Day of school- August 20,2019

- **Clearances**

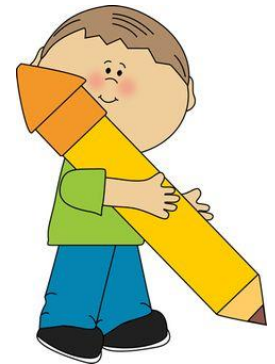
- How do I obtain the proper clearances?
 - Visit nhsd.net >parents>volunteer clearances
 - Follow all of the directions listed.
 - Make sure to complete the online intent form.
 - A copy of your clearances must be turned into the school office.
 - Completed paperwork will be reviewed and approved on the 15th and 30th of each month via the office of the Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jeff Taylor.



Keeping Informed

Mrs. Jessica Friedrich

- **Peach Jar**
- **E-Link**
- **NHSD app**
- **Power School**
- **Website**
- **Facebook**
- **Instagram**



General Questions and Answers

from the Panel

Followed by Building Specific Questions

in the Cafeteria

