

# Howell Public Schools



## KINDERGARTEN and BEGINDERGARTEN Registration

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019**

**9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

Welcome students and families of the Howell Public Schools Class of 2032,

We are so excited to welcome you to Howell Public Schools and Highlander Nation! Whether you currently have a student enrolled in the district or are new to the district, we are excited and honored to have you as part of the Howell Family. We look forward to partnering with you to ensure that your child reaches their full potential.

As your child begins their education with us, our teachers and staff will work to instill a love of learning in him/her. All of our teachers are highly qualified and work tirelessly to create a safe, welcoming, caring, and fun learning environment.

While Begindergarten or Kindergarten is just the start of your child's educational journey, endless opportunities await them as they progress through Howell Public Schools. We are continually looking for new ways to enhance our students' learning. From opportunities to be involved in the elementary FIRST Robotics Program to solving real-world problems using Project Based Learning, learning is always fun at Howell Public Schools. As your child moves into middle school, there are STEM, world language, performing arts courses, and electives

offered. Howell High School truly provides opportunities for every student.

During our Kindergarten and Begindergarten Registration event on March 5, 2019, you and your child will have the opportunity to tour their school, meet their principal, kindergarten and begindergarten teachers, and explore a school bus.

Again, welcome to Howell Public Schools. We are honored to be your partner in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Erin J. MacGregor, Ed.S.  
Superintendent  
Howell Public Schools

*An Exemplary Learning Community*

## Program Information

Any child who turns five-years-old on or before September 1, 2019\*, is eligible for enrollment in either our Kindergarten or Begingergarten programs. Parents have the choice to send their child to either program. The descriptions below may help guide your decision. Students will participate in art, music, technology, and physical education in both programs. Below are descriptions of both Kindergarten and Begingergarten as well as indicators of Kindergarten Readiness.

### Kindergarten

- Designed for students who have turned five-years-old by September 1\* and who are able to stay focused and pay attention during activities, follow directions, control impulses and self-regulate, and complete basic tasks such as those listed in the next column
- Is the traditional next step from the informal learning at home/ preschool experiences to formal entry into the K-12 education system
- Primary focus is on instructing each student in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies based on the needs of the student; students also receive art, music, physical education, and technology
- Instruction utilizes hands-on experiences, the use of manipulatives, movement, and differentiation based on student needs
- Allows students to develop a healthy concept of self, physical skills and coordination, language skills and vocabulary, and the skills and knowledge needed to move to first grade

### Kindergarten Readiness

Parents often ask for help in determining Kindergarten readiness. Some indicators of Kindergarten readiness are:

- Recognize shapes and forms
- Knows most of the alphabet
- Recognize their name in print
- Can describe what is happening in pictures
- Count 10 objects
- Listen attentively to a story for five minutes or more
- Follow directions
- Work and play with peers
- Recognize rhyming words
- Can speak in simple sentences
- Can express, needs, feelings, and opinions
- Control impulses and self regulate
- Express curiosity and excitement for learning
- Initiate conversations
- Show muscle coordination
- Attempts to put on their coat, shoes, hats, etc.

While these are some Kindergarten readiness indicators, please know that our highly qualified teachers are skilled in meeting the needs of all eligible Kindergarten and Begingergarten students.

### Begingergarten

- Begingergarten provides students with an additional year to grow academically, emotionally, and socially before starting Kindergarten
- Designed for students who are young fives (September-December 1, birthdays) or who would benefit from additional time and support before entering Kindergarten
- Begingergarten addresses academics in addition to language development, fine motor skills, and most importantly, social and emotional growth
- The Begingergarten curriculum is based on Kindergarten standards, modified to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of younger students
- Provides children with the opportunity to learn new skills and explore new ideas, as they are ready
- Children will move from Begingergarten to traditional Kindergarten
- Offered as full day and half day classes
- Meets five days a week and operates on the district-wide school calendar; the same as other elementary classes
- Taught by a qualified Howell Public Schools certified teacher
- Class size limited to 23 students

### Vision Screening

Per Michigan law, a child must have a vision screening prior to the first day of kindergarten. The Livingston County Health Department offers free vision screening appointments in June, July, and August. Please contact the Health Department at 517.546.9860 after May 15, 2019, to schedule your child's appointment.



\*According to Michigan Law, if a student will not be five-years-old by September 1, 2019, but will be five-years-old by December 1, 2019, they may be enrolled in Kindergarten or Begingergarten if their parent or legal guardian notifies the school district in writing that he or she intends to enroll their child in Kindergarten or Begingergarten. A waiver form is included in the registration packet.

## Where to Register

Kindergarten and Beginndergarten Registration for the 2019-2020 school year will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at each Howell elementary school. Please register your child at their home school.

Parents may register their child online at

[HowellSchools.com/kdg](http://HowellSchools.com/kdg).

Registering online will allow parents to complete all of the required forms prior to attending the Kindergarten and Beginndergarten Registration event. Parents will still need to show the child's certified birth certificate and proof of residency at the registration event. Registration packets will be available at the registration event.

If you are unable to attend the Kindergarten and Beginndergarten Registration event on March 5, 2019, please preregister online at [HowellSchools.com/kdg](http://HowellSchools.com/kdg) or pick up a Kindergarten registration packet at any elementary school or at the District Registration Office located in the Howell High School Freshman Campus, 411 N. Highlander Way, Suite E, in the administration wing. Completed packets may be returned to the District Registration Office, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact our District Registrar Helen Hughes at 517.548.6232 or [Helen@HowellSchools.com](mailto:Helen@HowellSchools.com).



## Important Information

To enroll in Kindergarten or Beginndergarten for the 2019-2020 school year, students must be five-years-old by September 1, 2019.\*

For more information, or to find your child's home school, please call Helen at 517.548.6232 or visit our website at [HowellSchools.com/kdg](http://HowellSchools.com/kdg).

\*According to Michigan Law, if a student will not be five-years-old by September 1, 2019, but will be five-years-old by December 1, 2019, they may be enrolled in Kindergarten or Beginndergarten if their parent or legal guardian notifies the school district in writing that he or she intends to enroll their child in Kindergarten or Beginndergarten. A waiver form is included in the registration packet.

## What to Bring

Whether a child is preregistered or is registered in person at the Kindergarten and Beginndergarten Registration event, parents should bring the following documents:

- Child's certified birth certificate
- All immunization records
- Vision screen results
- Proof of residency (driver's license, current utility bill or purchase or lease agreement)

## What to Expect

During the Kindergarten and Beginndergarten Registration event, parents and their child will:

- Tour their new school
- Meet the school's Kindergarten and Beginndergarten teachers and principal
- Explore the school playground and a school bus

## School Locations

### Challenger Elementary

1066 W. Grand River  
517.548.6375

### Hutchings Elementary

3503 Bigelow  
517.548.1127

### Northwest Elementary

1233 Bower Street  
517.548.6297

### Southwest Elementary

915 Gay Street  
517.548.6288

### Three Fires Elementary

4125 Crooked Lake Road  
517.548.6387

### Voyager Elementary

1450 Byron Road  
517.552.7500

## Immunization Info

- All children who enter schools in Michigan are required by state law to be vaccinated
- New enrollees, including kindergartners and beginndergarten, must provide proof of immunization and cannot attend without the required immunizations or waiver
- The Livingston County Health Department offers walk in immunization clinics every Wednesday. For more information please call 517.546.9850
- Effective January 1, 2015, parents/guardians must obtain a certified non-medical waiver from a local health department
- Parents who would like to sign a waiver must schedule an appointment for a waiver education course with the Livingston County Health Department by calling 517.546.9850

# Kid's Kare & KinderFriends

## Before & After School Care

Kid's Kare and KinderFriends offer high-quality child care at reasonable rates at each Howell elementary school.

Kid's Kare sessions are available before school starting at 6:30 a.m. and after school until 6 p.m.

KinderFriends is available during the regular school day to complement the half day Begindergarten program.

In both programs, children will participate in arts and crafts, outdoor play, board games, homework time and more!

### For more information:

Lisa Zehnder

517.540.8276

[zehnderl@HowellSchools.com](mailto:zehnderl@HowellSchools.com)

Jennifer Myers

517.548.6310

[myersj@HowellSchools.com](mailto:myersj@HowellSchools.com)





## Howell Public Schools Early Childhood Education Programs

Howell Public Schools Early Childhood Education offers several child care and enrichment programs for Kindergarteners and Begingergarteners:

**Safety Camp:** A summer enrichment program that teaches children how to be safe in their environment. Fire Safety, School Bus Safety, Bicycle Safety, Playground Safety, and more will be explored through hands-on activities and classroom visits by local community agencies. This program is open to children either entering or completing Kindergarten or Begingergarten.

**Kids Kare:** A childcare program offering flexible, affordable before and after school care at each elementary building. We also provide half and full day care during Teacher Work Days, Professional Development Days, and during several school breaks. The program is in operation from 6:30 a.m. until the start of the school day and again at the end of the school day until 6:00 p.m. During this time, students are offered a variety of activities including arts and crafts, board games, gym or outdoor time, and homework or reading time. This program is available to all children enrolled in elementary school.

**KinderFriends:** A childcare program designed to support Begingergarten students that attend a half-day program. This program offers students an engaging environment to gain more practice of the skills and concepts being taught in the Begingergarten classroom. Availability varies depending on the type of program offered at the individual elementary buildings.

In addition to the programs listed above, HPS Early Childhood Education Programs also offer the following child care and preschool programs:

**Summer Kids Kare:** A full day childcare program for children during the summer months. This program is open to children that have completed Kindergarten or Begingergarten through 12 years of age. Thematic activities, group games, arts and crafts, special interest clubs, field trips, and much more fill the days with fun.

**Little Howeller's Child Care Center:** Our fully licensed and developmentally appropriate childcare program for children, birth to five years of age, is available on a year-round basis (summer attendance is not required). Our program consists of an infant and toddler room for children, birth through three years of age, and a full day preschool room for children three through five years of age.

**Half Day Preschool:** Our traditional half-day preschool programs are available to children that are fully potty-trained and at least three years of age by September 1, 2018. These programs focus on the social, emotional, physical and cognitive development of each individual child. The goal of these programs is to offer a fun, stimulating, and structured first school experience.

*For further information on program dates, location and pricing please call or email us at:*

Jennifer Myers  
517.548.6310  
myersj@HowellSchools.com

Lisa Zehnder  
517.540.8276  
zehnderl@HowellSchools.com

# Howell Safety Camp

Join us for two fun-filled weeks as we explore all different types of safety! This comprehensive safety program is open to children entering or having just completed Kindergarten or Begindergarten. Children will learn about how to be safe through hands-on classroom activities and presentations from local community agencies.

**Monday through Friday**  
**July 15-26, 2019**  
**9:30-11:30 a.m.**

\$90.00 per child

Pre-registration is required.  
Please call 517.548.6310 for more information.



## Topics Covered Include:

- Bicycle Safety
- Electrical Safety
- Fire Safety
- Playground Safety
- Poison Safety
- School Bus Safety
- Stranger Danger
- Water Safety

Please return the bottom portion with payment to: Howell Early Childhood Department, 861 E. Sibley St., Howell, MI 48843

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number where you can be reached while your child is at the Howell Safety Camp

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the names of any person other than parent or legal guardian that the child may be released to:

Method of payment

\_\_\_ Check payable to Howell Public Schools

\_\_\_ Visa or Mastercard Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ CSV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Checks will not be cashed until after July 1, 2019