



Mendocino K8 School

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TK – K: Information for Newcomers

Welcome to Mendocino K8 School! For many of you this is a first-time school experience and for others you have been through kindergarten with another child. The transition from preschool to kindergarten/transitional kindergarten (TK) can sometimes be difficult for students and parents. Below is a list of things to remember:

Transitional kindergarten is the first year of a two-year program. Students attend a year of transitional kindergarten and then matriculate to kindergarten.

Students are eligible for TK if they turn four before September 1st. Students are eligible for kindergarten if they turn five before September 1st.

Mendocino K8 School highly values a child's social-emotional competence along with academic fluency. A child's social-emotional competence influences current school achievement and is predictive of future academic learning (Thompson and Goodman 2009).

Information/Contacts

Check your child's backpack daily for papers and information from the school!

All school communications happen through ParentSquare. Go to ParentSquare.com to register your account or download the ParentSquare app. The email you provide the school upon registering your child for school will be the one used for ParentSquare.

Main Office: 937-0515

Attendance/Tardies

TK and kindergarten are programs that run five day a week. See below for times.

Mendocino K8 School: TK 8:30 – 12:15; kindergarten 8:30 – 2:20

Albion School: TK & kindergarten 8:00 – 12:15

Comptche School: TK & kindergarten 8:00 – 12:15

It is very important to have your child to school on time! If you aim for 8:25, that will give you a little cushion. It can be difficult for students to transition into a classroom



after school has already started and it definitely interrupts the class when students come in late. Often check-ins and instructions are missed when a child is late. Tardy students need to check into the office.

After 3 tardies, you will receive a letter from the school warning you of our concern.

We expect students to achieve at least 90% attendance in school. That means students miss less than two days per month, 18 days for the year. Research shows that being chronically absent is a predictor for future school success. There is a direct correlation between reading difficulties and chronic absenteeism.

If your student is absent from school, please contact the office.

Early Bedtime and Established Routines

Keeping an early bed time and establishing routines around going to bed and getting up for school can help with the transition to TK/kindergarten. All children are different in the amount of sleep they need but, know they will be working hard and growing fast during their first couple of years of school and adequate sleep is necessary for success! Look for signs of fatigue, crying, unusual behavior, etc. for children who might need more sleep. Some studies suggest between 10 and 12 hours of sleep for children four to five years of age.

Registration

In order to register for TK/kindergarten in Mendocino schools, you will need to provide proof of residency and immunizations. This could be a lease agreement, deed, or electric bill in your name. Please bring proof of residency and immunizations to the office before June 27th. This way you will be pre-registered in our system and August online registration will run more smoothly.

A Registration Day will be held on August 19th, 10:00 – 2:00 for Mendocino, Comptche, and Albion school sites. Registration will be completed online. You will need to print and sign the emergency card at the end of online registration and return it to the office. Registration day is a family event and students are encouraged to come! Registration day is also our official school picture day.

Immunizations

All TK/kindergarten students must be immunized before beginning school on August 21st.