

Marion Community Unit School District #2

Marion, Illinois



Kindergarten Information

WELCOME

Welcome to kindergarten in Marion Community Unit School District No. 2. We are pleased to have your child enroll in our kindergarten program, look forward to a successful school year, and welcome the opportunity to work with you and your child.

General information about our kindergarten program is provided in this information book. We hope you will find it useful and will keep it in a convenient spot for quick reference. More specific school building information will be provided once your child is assigned to a school attendance center. Refer to the Fall Enrollment section of this booklet for additional information.

As a resident of Marion Unit No. 2, your child will attend one of the following schools. A placement letter will be sent to parents/caregivers approximately one week before the child's first day of attendance:

Adams School	15470 Lake of Egypt Rd. Creal Springs	996-2181
Jefferson	700 East Boulevard	997-5766
Lincoln	400 Morningside Drive	997-6063
Longfellow	1400 West Hendrickson	993-3230
Washington	420 East Main Street	993-8534

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Marion Community Unit School District No. 2 kindergarten program is based on a child-centered philosophy that recognizes that each child enters school with individual skills, abilities, and needs. Our goal is to address individual needs while providing each child with optimum opportunities to achieve to the best of his/her ability.

In kindergarten your child will learn:

- ★ To follow classroom rules.
- ★ To listen without interrupting.
- ★ To play, share, and take turns with others.
- ★ To accept responsibility for self.
- ★ To respect the rights and properties of others.
- ★ To follow directions.
- ★ To work quietly without disturbing others.
- ★ To work independently.
- ★ To recite the alphabet.
- ★ To enjoy books and stories.
- ★ To recognize and name colors, shapes, and numbers.
- ★ To recognize and name upper and lower case letters.
- ★ To hear beginning, middle and ending sounds.
- ★ Read 40 sight words.
- ★ Write complete sentences.
- ★ In addition, more challenging skills will be introduced.

See attached Quarterly Kindergarten Literacy Skills/Concepts for more information

ADMISSION OF PUPILS

Children entering kindergarten must be five (5) years of age by September 1, 2021, and must be a resident of Marion Community Unit 2 Schools. Proof of residency is required.

All students entering kindergarten are required to present a properly **certified birth certificate** (may be obtained from the courthouse in the county in which your child was born). You may bring copies or copies will be made and placed in your child's file.

The Department of Public Health requires every child before entering school the first time, to have a physical examination and present proof of immunity against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, rubella (red measles), rubella (three day measles), and mumps. Children entering kindergarten are also required to show physician documentation of having had the chickenpox disease or of having received two doses of the varicella immunization. Lead screening is also required. **Your child will not be permitted to attend school this fall until compliance with the health laws is met.**

The State of Illinois requires all kindergarten, second, sixth-grade, and ninth-grade students to have a dental examination. **Students are not required to submit proof of examination to the school until May 15, 2022. However, examinations must have been completed after November 15, 2021, to qualify for the requirement.**

In addition, the State of Illinois now requires students entering kindergarten to complete an eye examination. The examination must be performed by an ophthalmologist or optometrist and must have been completed within one year prior to the start of school.

A dental program is offered at each school for students who qualify. A dentist comes to the school and performs examinations on students that qualify. Parental consent is required for the dentist to perform the examination.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FEE

The basic instructional fee provides for books and supplies used by the student during the school year. Kindergarten fees are \$33.00. Fees must be paid by the first day of school.

BEGINNING OF YEAR SUPPLIES

Please note that we ask parents to furnish some supplies. Minimal requirements for the beginning of the year supplies vary by building. The school supply list may be found on the district's website by following the Registration link.

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND SNACK

Breakfast and lunch are provided daily.

Cost:	Breakfast	\$1.75
	Reduced Breakfast	\$0.30
	Lunch	\$3.00
	Reduced Lunch	\$0.40

You can pay for meals by the day or week. If your child will be buying breakfast or lunch, please send the money for these meals in envelopes. Be sure to put your child's name and the classroom teacher's name on the outside of the envelope. Forms for free or reduced meals will be available on registration and on your child's August screening day.

Children bringing lunch to school can buy white milk for \$0.30 a carton. Please label your child's lunch box and/or thermos. Lunches should not contain items that need refrigeration, pressurized cans (soda), or glass containers. All students, including those eligible for free or reduced-price meals who want milk with the sack lunch, must purchase the milk.

Due to the increasing number of students being diagnosed with life-threatening peanut and/or tree nut allergies, snacks should not include any kind of nuts or nut products.

SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT, STUDENT SCREENINGS & IMPORTANT PARENT MEETING

In an attempt to provide reasonable teacher-to-student ratios among the district's five elementary schools, students are assigned to attend a specific school building. Students that attend a prekindergarten program at Adams or Jefferson may *or may not attend the same school for their kindergarten school year.* The District appreciates parents' understanding of this procedure to create a desirable teacher to students ratio.

Parents will receive a letter in the mail about ONE week before school begins telling their child's school assignment. Advance notification is not available.

The parent letter contains information about when your child should attend an academic screening. A parent meeting date will also be included. During the parent meeting, parents have the opportunity to learn about the school's procedures, programs and meet their child's teacher. It is VERY IMPORTANT that a parent attend this brief meeting.

STUDENT SCREENING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

A.M. (8:30-11:30 a.m.)

Last Name – Initials (A-H)

P.M. (12:30-3:30 p.m.)

Last Name – Initials (I-P)

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

A.M. (8:30-11:30 a.m.)

Last Name – Initials (Q-Z)

PARENT ORIENTATION is scheduled for **THURSDAY, AUGUST 12 at 6:00 p.m.** at your child's assigned school.

****Please bring school supplies to the orientation.****

THE FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN is **FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2021** from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

BUSSING

Marion School District uses Illinois Central Bus Service to provide student bussing service. Typically, a student that lives 1 ½ mile away from their assigned school may be eligible for transportation.

If your child is eligible to ride a bus, you should be notified by Illinois Central Bus Service a few days before school begins to let you know the number of the bus and approximate times for pick-up and delivery of your child. If you are not notified or if you are unsure if your child is eligible for bus transportation, please call Illinois Central Bus Service (993-9170).

ESSENTIAL FOR ENROLLMENT

You must have your child's physical, a record of immunizations, the legal birth certificate (from a county courthouse), his/her social security card, two local phone numbers other than your own for emergency situations, two items as proof of Marion CUSD 2 residency, and the fee of \$33.00. You should also be able to tell the teacher about your child's transportation arrangements (bus number, car, or walking arrangements).

No kindergarten child is allowed to leave school or get off the bus without supervision by an adult or older sibling. Please send your child's bus number to the teacher on the first day.

HEALTH AND MEDICATION

Healthy children learn best. **A child who has been ill should be without a fever, diarrhea, or vomiting for 24 hours before returning to school.**

The district has lice and a nit-free policy. If lice are contracted, a child can return to school after treatment **and** all nits (eggs) are removed from the hair.

Students may only take medication at school if the school nurse receives a medication form signed by a physician and parent. Forms are available in the school office or from the school's nurse.

The Parent-Student Handbook issued at the beginning of the school year provides more information on health matters.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parent involvement begins at home. You are your child's first teacher. You have the most important impact on how successful your child will be in school. Please refer to the **PARENTS CAN HELP** section of this handbook for ideas.

Marion Community Unit School District No. 2 recognizes the necessity and value of parent involvement to support student success and academic achievement. Parents are welcome to visit the classroom. All elementary schools have active parent involvement organizations in which you are encouraged to participate. Our kindergarten teachers welcome parent volunteers. Please let your child's teacher know of your interest.

PARENTS CAN HELP

Promote good health

- ★ provide nutritious meals
- ★ provide adequate rest (eleven or twelve hours)
- ★ provide proper immunizations and physical

Encourage hand-eye coordination

- ★ help child string beads and paint
- ★ help child color with crayons, cut, and paste
- ★ put puzzles together with your child
- ★ provide the child with clay or playdough to play with

Encourage language development

- ★ read to your child, let your child read to you
- ★ go to the library and allow your child to choose books
- ★ ask your child to tell you a story
- ★ encourage imitation

Encourage an understanding of math concepts

- ★ provide blocks for play
- ★ use numbers in conversation—for example, if your child wants a snack, say, "You may have three crackers." Then count them out onto a plate.
- ★ count with your child

Stimulate social and emotional growth

- ★ praise your child often and allow mistakes
- ★ encourage curiosity and build independence
- ★ avoid comparisons between children
- ★ be firm but fair, use consistent discipline
- ★ give your child simple chores
- ★ provide opportunities for play with other children
- ★ encourage self-control
- ★ really listen to your child

Prepare for the first day of school

- ★ show pride and excitement as the “big day” draws near
- ★ walk or drive by the school often
- ★ visit the school together, use playground equipment
- ★ talk about the fun school activities
- ★ label personal belongings that are brought to school

Be involved throughout the year

- ★ be excited about the work that is brought home
- ★ ask about and discuss experiences at school
- ★ communicate openly with the teacher
- ★ volunteer in the classroom
- ★ be involved with parent/teacher organization