



May 1, 2020

Dear 2020 Kindergarten Families,

The spring has not gone as expected, but we continue to move forward and utilize new ways to communicate, problem solve, and plan for the future. That being said, our normal Kindergarten registration and placement routines are a little different than originally planned. Please see below for updated information. Thank you!

Registration:

Please be sure to [register for Kindergarten](#) if your child may be attending Ballard Schools in the fall. This will allow us to plan our staffing needs accordingly. Please register for Kindergarten regardless of your preference for Early Kindergarten placement or Kindergarten. It is the same registration process.

Please mail completed paperwork to the admin office: Attn: Amber Jungst
509 North Main Ave.
Huxley, Iowa 5

If you have registered, and your plans have changed, please contact Amber Jungst, ajungst@ballard.k12.ia.us , and let her know your child will not be attending in the fall.

Parent Meeting:

The regularly scheduled parent meeting has been cancelled. We will create a recording of the information we would have shared and post to the Kindergarten registration page on our website soon. We understand this is not ideal, so please reach out if you have questions that are not answered after watching the presentation.

Kindergarten Round-Up:

We will not have Kindergarten Round-Up this year.

Early Kindergarten Placement Procedure:

This is explained in more detail in the virtual presentation, but the basic steps are as follows:

1. If you would like your child to be considered for Early Kindergarten placement we must have an ASQ-SE form on file. You can request a copy of the form from your local preschool teacher or Jennifer Johnson, Principal at Ballard West.
 - a. Return to Jennifer Johnson by Wednesday, May 13
 - b. Electronically: jjjohnson@ballard.k12.ia.us
 - c. US Mail: Attn: Jennifer Johnson
Ballard West Elementary
105 East Main Street
Slater, Iowa 50244

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| Ballard District Administration Office Huxley, IA 50124 Phone: (515)-597-2811 Fax: (515)-597-2965 | Ballard High School 701 Ballard Drive, P.O. Box 307 Huxley, Iowa, 50124 Phone: (515) 597-2971 Fax: (515) 597-2964 | Ballard Middle School 509 N. Main, P.O. Box 307 Huxley, Iowa 50124 Phone: (515) 597-2815 Fax: (515) 597-2818 | Ballard East Elementary School 505 W. 4 th Street, P.O. Box 110 Cambridge, Iowa 50046 Phone: (515) 220-4306 Fax: (515) 220-4310 | Ballard West Elementary School 105 E. Main, P.O. Box 267 Slater, Iowa 50244 Phone: (515) 228-3890 Fax: (515) 228-3892 |
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2. Local preschool teachers will meet with Ballard West staff and will share the academic and social emotional skills they have observed throughout the year. The following assessments will be used for decision making: GOLD, IGDI's, classroom observations, and the ASQ-SE assessment.
3. Typically, we also use data gathered during Kindergarten Round-Up in our Early Kindergarten decision making process. Since it was cancelled this year, we will not be able to include that information in our decision-making process.
4. All families who request their child to be considered for Early Kindergarten will receive an email regarding placement by the end of May.
5. **IMPORTANT TO NOTE:**
 - a. We will meet this group of students where they are. We recognize that most have missed the last quarter of preschool and we will adjust our Kindergarten instruction accordingly. Early Kindergarten placements will not be made solely due to school closures in the spring.
 - b. Early Kindergarten placement is NOT automatic based on parent request.

Thank you for your patience as we navigate the changes that school closures have presented to us. One thing that hasn't changed is our excitement to meet your child and make it a great year! We look forward to meeting you and your amazing children in the fall!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Johnson

Principal, Ballard West Elementary

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