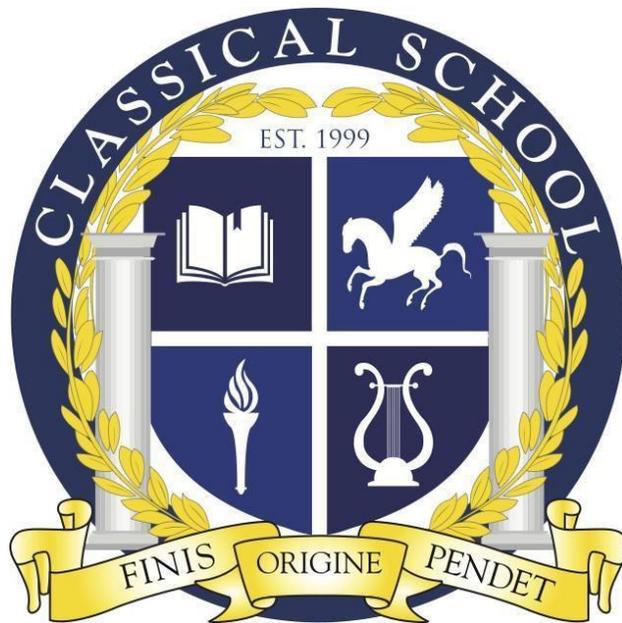


KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION



Classical School
Appleton, Wisconsin

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Classroom observation policy

Placement testing

Meet and Greet

Daily school schedule

Communication at Classical School

Kindergarten supply list

Preparing your child for Classical School kindergarten

Meet the kindergarten teachers

***** PLEASE NOTE: All information included in this packet is subject to change. *****

CLASSICAL SCHOOL FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

Classical School began in the fall of 1999. We currently enroll about 490 students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Our kindergarten program is a full-day program. We do not offer a half-day option.

CLASSROOM OBSERVATIONS

Parents and members of the community at large often ask if they may visit the classrooms at Classical School to see the program in action. Observations may be available through appointment. If you would like to arrange a classroom observation, please contact our Enrollment Specialist, Sara Schroeder, at 920-997-1399 (x3370) or schroedersara@asds.k12.wi.us.

To keep disruptions for the students to a minimum, we adhere to the following guidelines for classroom observations:

- The teacher will provide a seat for you in a designated area. Please have a seat when entering the classroom. At the end of class, please check with the teacher for an appropriate time to have your questions answered during your visit. You may also stop in to see Mr. Bomann or the other designated staff member assisting with the observation with any questions you might have.
- To enable the children to follow the teacher directives, we ask visitors not to interact with the children who are working independently in the classroom. For example, if a child comes to you with a question while you are observing the classroom, please direct the child to the teacher or aide unless otherwise specified.

MATH AND READING PLACEMENT TESTS

Kindergarten math and reading placement tests for enrolled students will be administered by the kindergarten teachers. Testing is done to determine the most appropriate skill-level classes for students. More information on testing will be provided.

MEET AND GREET FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS

Kindergarten students and their parents will have a chance to meet with the teacher, see their new classroom, and drop off their classroom supplies before the start of school, typically in late August.

CLASSICAL STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Supervision begins at 7:30 am on the playground. Students should not be at school before that time.

The first bell rings at 7:54 am, and students should be in their lines outside ready to enter the building at this time.

Students should be in their seats ready to start the day at the 8:00am bell when classes start. Lunch and/or lunch recess begins at 11:17 am.

School is dismissed at 2:49 pm. Students are dismissed onto the playground behind the school building.

COMMUNICATION AT CLASSICAL SCHOOL

Teachers and staff at Classical School utilize a variety of means to communicate with parents.

Daily: Completed and in-progress work is sent home daily in a take-home folder. The folder is labeled with one side containing papers to keep at home and one side containing papers to be completed and returned to school. When students reach 2nd grade, a daily assignment notebook is also employed to help students and families keep track of work that is due.

Weekly: Watch for school-wide announcements that are sent home in the take home folder every Thursday. These types of papers are referred to as the *Pegasus Flyer*. Starting in first grade there will be a separate envelope for these *Pegasus Flyer* papers.

Monthly: Each teacher produces and sends home a paper copy of their monthly newsletter summarizing classroom news and progress in subject areas. Classical School also produces a school newsletter, the *Classical Columns*, which is emailed home each month. The *Columns* pulls together important information regarding school events, clubs, the school calendar, and much more. Please contact Linda Kemps at kempslinda@ascd.k12.wi.us with any questions regarding the *Columns*. We ask all parents to read both the classroom and school newsletters carefully each month to remain informed and connected.

Ongoing:

- Classical School teachers use Infinite Campus (IC) to report student grades. You will receive more information on getting set-up in IC during the summer prior to school beginning. IC is used on a limited basis in Kindergarten.
- Parents are encouraged to email teachers with any questions, and most teachers will also use email to communicate directly with parents as needed. Please ensure your email address is reflected properly in Infinite Campus. <https://appletonwi.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/appleton.isp>
- The Appleton Area School District and Classical School use a school-wide email and automated call system to communicate with families. This system is typically employed to announce school closures or delays and to remind families of events, deadlines, or scheduled days off.
- The school website, www.classicalcharter.com, contains valuable information regarding the school's curriculum and links to parent and student resources. Parents may also subscribe to a blog and school calendar on the website.
- Find Classical School on Facebook: Classical School Appleton

KINDERGARTEN SUPPLY LIST

Label **each** item below. At “Meet and Greet,” place inside child’s desk:

- 24 regular crayons – Label each crayon with student’s name. NOTE: Please buy and bring in a 2nd box of labeled crayons. We will store them and give them out about half way through the school year.
- Scissors (Fiskars) - Label with name
- 1 large pink eraser (no novelty erasers) - Label eraser with name
- Box of 8 basic color, thick, washable Crayola markers (not RoseArt) - Label each marker with name
- 1 set of 8 watercolors – Label with name

Names not needed as items will go into shared bins:

- 8 purple glue sticks
- 4 Ticonderoga “Beginners” pencils
- 2 large family-size boxes of tissues
- Additional large pink erasers for later in the year
- Last name beginning with **A-F**: One package XL 2/2.5 gallon plastic bags
- Last name beginning with **G-O**: One package Ziploc 1 gallon freezer or sandwich bags
- Last name beginning with **P-Z**: One large container of Clorox wipes

Other Supplies with names:

- Paint shirt – Label with name
- Inside shoes with **Velcro** (used for gym and wet weather) - Label with name
- Extra set of underwear, socks, shirt, and pants for bathroom accidents and spills. Place inside a gallon Ziploc bag with student’s name on the bag.

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR OUR KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

The more you can work with your child to prepare him or her for the Classical School kindergarten academic program, the easier the transition will be. Please take time to work with your child so he or she will be able to perform the following tasks at the start of school if possible:

Math

- 1) Recognize and write numbers 0 through 10
- 2) Count backwards from 10 to 0
- 3) One-to-one correspondence (Example: When counting 10 items, touch each item one time only as you count it.)
- 4) Practice asking numbers that come before and after other numbers 0 through 10 (Example: What number comes before 7? What number comes after 4?)

Reading

- 1) Recognize and name the capital and lower case letters of the alphabet
- 2) Be able to print your first name using a capital letter at the beginning and lower case letters for the rest of your name
- 3) Follow a small series of directions. (Example: Put your shoes on THEN tie them.)
- 4) Practice recognizing and printing the letters b, d, p, g, and q in smaller case
- 5) Read stories to your child at home and ask questions during and afterward to help build comprehension skills

Penmanship

Handwriting is very important in kindergarten. It is very important for children to learn how to form letters correctly. It is beneficial for the student's development in this area if they are practicing skills in the same way at home and school. With that in mind, we would like to ask you to help prepare your child for school by practicing letters with the following guidelines in mind:

- All letters use a continuous stroke whenever possible.
- Letters do not start from the bottom line.
- Each number represents a lift of the pencil.

For example the capital letter "A" has a 1, 2, AND 3. This means that the pencil is lifted two times while making the letter. The lowercase "a" only has the number 1. This means that there is only one stroke with no lifts. There is another arrow but not another number.

When practicing at home, please do not feel that you must focus on pencil and paper only. There are many different ideas to use when practicing letter/number formation. A few examples include using shaving cream on a table, using a stick and sand at the beach or a backyard sandbox, or using a whiteboard or chalkboard. Different ideas make it more enjoyable for younger children, and it doesn't always seem like a chore as a result.

Other areas to practice:

- Practice tying shoes. **Unless your child is 100% independent at tying their shoes, please provide shoes with Velcro closures.**
- **Practice zipping coats. Please refrain from sending coats with button-front closures.**

MEET THE KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS

MRS. BOMANN bomannwendoly@aasd.k12.wi.us



I am very happy to say I joined the Classical School staff in the autumn of 2012 as a Classical School kindergarten teacher in the Appleton Area School District.

I attended college at UW Madison where I received an undergraduate degree in special education and completed the requirements for classroom teacher as well. I have worked in both the Edgerton School District (south of Madison and the home of Sterling North, author of Rascal) and in the Madison School District for a total of 7 years teaching prior to moving to Appleton. I have taught as a special education teacher and as a 6th grade classroom teacher (math/science). I have worked with children ages Pre-K to Grade 8 throughout the years in different capacities. During the summer of 2011 and 2012, I taught "First Grade Readiness" at Classical School. My children have graduated from Classical School.

While still in Madison, Mr. Bomann and I were thrilled to hear about the startup of Classical School and ...the rest is history. We are committed to our school and its curriculum. I gained experience with our reading and math programs while teaching in Madison, and this has been instrumental in the formation of my teaching philosophies. I am always thankful to the group of Appleton area community members that started our school! I am so happy to have the opportunity to teach Kindergarten at Classical and watch the children blossom under this rich program.

I grew up in Sturgeon Bay and enjoy returning to that area with my children to swim and to go fishing. We especially like spending July 4th holiday in Door County, staying up late and watching fireworks. Outside of my work, I enjoy taking care of the family and house, reading, walking/exploring, biking and gardening.

Feel free to make a connection with me as we start the school year. I very much look forward to meeting you and your child and teaching the fulfilling rich Classical School curriculum.

MRS. NAGREEN hernandezrobyn@asds.k12.wi.us



I first became involved in the school after I read a newspaper article in June of 1998. I was looking for something different for my daughter than the traditional public school. I have many of my own ideas about how a child should be educated, and I was thrilled to find a group of people who shared the same basic ideas. I became involved immediately. I am very pleased that I am able to be involved with the school as a teacher.

I was born in Appleton, and I have always lived here, other than attending college in Minneapolis. I am the youngest of many children. As a child, I enjoyed sports and was an avid reader, but I never really connected with school. Because of a promise I made to my dad, I did decide to attend college. It was there that I found joy in education. My education professors took me under their wings and helped me to develop character and perseverance. They really stuck with me...especially through my student teaching. One of my assignments was to teach an inner city sixth grade class. It was also a language magnet school. This meant that when I taught, the lesson was translated into three different languages at the same time. That was quite the experience.

My first teaching assignment was at Appleton Christian School where I taught 4th-6th grade classes. I really enjoyed working there, but after my daughter was born, I made a job change to Little Rock Day Care. As the director, I developed an academic preschool and kindergarten program. Because of a last-minute teacher resignation, I started teaching kindergarten until I could find a replacement. I found that I loved it.

I am now in my thirty-first year of teaching. My undergraduate education degree is from North Central University where I also majored in Biblical studies. Quite a few years ago, I earned my Master's Degree from Cardinal Stritch College. My degree is designed for teachers who want to stay in the classroom and strengthen classroom teaching skills. I focused on Direct Instruction, and my thesis was on Direct Instruction reading success.

Any kindergartner will know very quickly that I love animals. Believe it or not, we have two cats, and we raise chickens. I have always loved cats, but the chickens are a newer hobby that I enjoy.

I am looking forward to the school year. I am always excited about teaching children to read and learn math. The Core Knowledge curriculum is fun to teach and enjoyable for the children to learn. I enjoy teaching the children through storytelling. I always enjoy visitors, so feel free to schedule a time and come on in. I love for others to observe what the children are learning so they can see that children this young have a genuine understanding of the core concepts in the curriculum.