

What is Alternative Kindergarten?

Alternative Kindergarten is a full day program that gives a child the opportunity to grow another year before Kindergarten.

Children must be five by September 15th and a screener will be given to determine eligibility.

A year of AK is followed by a year of Kindergarten.

A student attending AK would be considered as being retained in Kindergarten.



For More Information:

Parents who are interested in AK can meet with their neighborhood school counselor or principal for additional information

Parents should plan to attend Kindergarten registration; March 2nd, at the Educational Leadership & Support Center (ELSC) located at 2500 Edgewood Road NW from 7:00am – 7:00pm.

If interested you can schedule a screening date at this time.

Top 10 Questions to Ask Yourself About Your Child:

- Does my child like to play with other children?
- Does my child initiate conversations with others?
- Is my child willing to share materials?
- Is my child afraid of new situations and environments?
- Can my child easily accept “no” for an answer?
- Can my child keep his or her hands to self?
- Does my child show an interest in learning letters and numbers?
- Can my child sit attentively when being read to?
- Does my child show good self-control?
- Does my child have preschool experience?

If you answered “No” to some of the questions, you may want to get information on Alternative Kindergarten

Alternative Kindergarten Program Sites

| Location 2017-2018 | Feeder Schools 2017-2018 |
|--------------------|--|
| Viola Gibson | Nixon, Hiawatha, Pierce, Viola Gibson, Wright, Jackson (addresses East of the river) |
| Coolidge | Coolidge, Cleveland, Harrison, Hoover, Madison, Truman, Van Buren, Jackson (addresses West of the river) |
| Kenwood | Kenwood, Arthur, Erskine, Garfield, Grant, Grant Wood, Johnson, Taylor |

Parents will be notified as to placement and location decisions prior to the end of the school year.



Alternative Kindergarten

In the

Cedar Rapids Community Schools

Informational Brochure

2017-2018 School Year



What is the AK Philosophy?

- AK provides for varying rates of growth and development and respects children's internal timetable.
- All children can learn and succeed.
- Different levels of ability are expected, valued, and accepted.
- AK respects the child's individual development by offering a variety of opportunities to enhance the development of the whole child.
- The AK program provides a balance of both teacher-directed and child-selected activities, active and quiet activities, and large group, small group and individual activities.
- AK provides a curriculum strong in social skills, teaching children to develop and maintain meaningful relationships.
- Positive guidance with firm, consistent procedures for behavior helps children develop self-control and learn to take responsibility for their actions.
- Teachers and student work together to gather data, plan instruction, take action, evaluate learning and continue to improve.

Alternative Kindergarten Expectations I can...

Literacy Foundational Skills

- Identify and say rhyming words
- Say the letter sounds
- Write letters for sounds in words
- Show how a book works
- Point to words as I read
- Retell parts of a story
- Use new words and phrases I have learned
- Use writing in a variety of ways

*These are a sample of the kindergarten literacy expectations. Alternative Kindergarten students will follow all kindergarten literacy standards.

Physical Development

- Cut curves, corners, and shapes
- Draw a self-portrait.
- Write my first name.



Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Cedar Rapids Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (employment only), marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (students/program only) in its educational programs and its employment practices.

There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. District employees with questions or a grievance related to this policy should contact Rodrick Dooley, Executive Director of Human Resources, rdooley@cr.k12.ia.us 319-558-2000. Students and others should contact Ken Morris, Jr., Manager of Student Equity/Title IX Coordinator, kmorris@cr.k12.ia.us or Paul Hayes, Director of Learning Supports/504 Compliance Officer phayes@cr.k12.ia.us 319-558-2000. The District mailing address is 2500 Edgewood Rd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-1015.



Math

- Name 10 colors (red, yellow, blue, green, orange, purple, black, white, brown, pink).
- Name 4 shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle).
- name numbers 0-20.
- Count to 50.
- Count 15 objects.
- Make a pattern.
- Sort objects 2 ways.

Student Behavioral Expectations

- Strive for high quality products and outcome. (Personal Best)
- Listen attentively and speak appropriately. (Active Listening)
- Show tolerance and regard for people, property, and ideas. (Respect)
- Follow directions and procedures, and be dependable. (Responsibility)
- Be truthful, reliable, and choose to do the right thing. (Trustworthiness)