



FREEDOM ELEMENTARY

Frequently Asked Questions

Welcome Freedom Elementary Kindergarten Families! We know that taking that step for kids and parents can be overwhelming. We are here to help answer a few of your questions regarding Kindergarten at Freedom. This document was put together as a joint effort by the Freedom Parent Organization (PTO) and the school.

- ★ Will my kindergartner have the opportunity to meet with his/her peers before the first day of school?
 - Yes! Play dates are currently scheduled for August 4th @ 11am and Aug 9th @ 5:30pm at Champion Creek Park on Champion Rd.
- ★ When/where/how does pick up and drop off work if my child is a walker/car rider?
 - Drop Off: The first bell rings at 8:50 AM; that is the earliest that a student may be dropped off, unless they attend the C.W. Avery YMCA morning program. The final bell rings at 9:05 AM and all students must be in the school by this time. The car drop off line is at the back (south end) of the school. Please note that students may not play on the playground prior to school.
 - Pick Up: When: AM: 11:50 and PM: 3:35 - Where: AM: All students will exit DOOR B (front of the school) regardless of how they are going home. For PM students: Walkers and car riders will exit DOOR B and bus riders will be escorted to their bus by a teacher. How: Car lines for Kindergarteners will be the first row closest to the school.
- ★ Can I pre-purchase a Supply Kit for my Kindergartener
 - You will be receiving information regarding the Kindergarten supply kits soon, if not already. However, you can also order them directly through <http://www.1stdayschoolsupplies.com/kits.php?sid=1177678> These kits are available for purchase and come with all the supplies your kindergartner will need for the year. Please keep in mind that the actual kits, if purchased, will be delivered to your child's classroom the day of your Meet & Greet (August 15th) with your child's teacher. You will then be able to disperse the contents in the supply boxes provided by the teacher in the classroom. If you choose to purchase items at retail stores, you can find the supply lists on the district or school website or some big box stores carry the lists as well.
- ★ How does my child know how to get to their classroom once they arrive at school after the first day?
 - Every day there are teachers and staff standing in the hallway directing and helping children get to where they need to go.
- ★ As a parent, how do I enter the school if I need to pick up my child or drop something off?
 - Security is taken very seriously at Freedom Elementary. Ring the doorbell to the right of the front entrance doors and the Main Office will buzz you in. Once you enter the building, you'll need to report directly to the Main Office where they can assist you. Please always bring in your Driver's License.
- ★ Who do I contact if my child is going to be leaving school with another person other than myself or their after school transportation has changed?
 - Call the main office at (815) 254-4005 and let them know any details. They will relay the information to the teacher and your child. If they are not on the approved security contact sheet, you will need to speak with the office to have them identified.



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- ★ Do I need to send my child with a snack everyday?
 - Full day kindergarteners will have 1 snack each day. Teachers ask parents to please not send students with messy snacks and be sure your child's snack is always labeled with their name. Half day kindergarteners will not have a snack time available. All kindergarten rooms have a water fountain for kids to access.

- ★ What days does my kindergartener have PE and do they need gym shoes?
 - Your child's teacher will provide you with an ABCDE calendar for the school year. Each school day will be marked with one of the five letters and represents your child's activity for the day. It is a good idea to write a "legend" for yourself directly on the calendar so you can easily discern which day is what activity. For PE, children should wear shoes that fully cover their feet and won't slip off easily.

- ★ Will my kindergartener have school on Early Release days?
 - No, kindergarten does not meet on Early Release days. Always check the district website for the most updated calendar.

- ★ How do I register my child for Kindergarten?
 - Registration for the upcoming school year is taking place right now. Registration is completed online. You can access the online registration forms on the school or district website. You can complete the registration and download the necessary documents from home or you can stop by the school and computers are available for families to use. Even though you register online, you will still need to come into the school with your child's original birth certificate and your driver's license. See the school website for additional information.

- ★ What is the best way to communicate with my teacher?
 - Your teacher will let you know the best way, but we've found that most teachers prefer emails so they can communicate back and forth since they are in and out of the classroom a lot with their students. A lot of information you will obtain during the school Meet-and-Greet the day prior to school starting. There is also a Curriculum Night soon after school starts. This allows you to receive more information on your child's classroom.

- ★ Will I have the opportunity to volunteer in my child's classroom?
 - Yes! Each teacher has their own preferred method of organizing volunteers once the school year has started, so they will let you know when these times are available to sign up. The PTO also offers over 40 different events and opportunities to volunteer in and out of the classroom. Please note that other siblings not attending Freedom may not come to the school with you during your volunteer time.

- ★ What is BooHoo Yahoo?
 - It is a fun get together where you can meet other Kindergarten parents, PTO Board Members and other seasoned Freedom Parents, answer questions you may have about school while enjoying a cup of coffee. This event is Wednesday, Aug 15th at 1 pm. Please proceed to the Media Center to attend.

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- ★ Where can I find additional information related to Freedom Elementary or the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)?
 - Information related to the school may be found on the school's website: <http://fres.psd202.org/>
 - Information related to the District may be found on the District's website: <http://www.psd202.org/>
 - Information related to the PTO may be found on the school's website or the PTO Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/Freedom-Elementary-PTO-Plainfield-IL-250451600052/posts/>