



February 2019 Newsletter

Fargo Public Schools Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2019 opens online at [Fargo Public Schools registration link](#) on February 1, 2019. Child must be age 5 by July 31, 2019 to attend school in the fall.

Registration is a two-step process: online registration and document submission.

STEP ONE: Registration can be completed at home online anytime or at computer kiosks in the office at each Fargo Public elementary school building on the following dates with extended office hours:

- **February 25, 27, and March 1** – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **February 26, 28, and March 4** – 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

STEP TWO: *Once online registration has been completed, families MUST bring the following documents to the school their child will attend to finalize their child's registration:*

- Child's certified birth certificate
- Child's current immunization record
- Document (i.e. current city utility bill or bank statement) that includes parent/guardian name and address to verify the correct neighborhood school

If you do not know which school your child will attend, call 701.446.1043 or check online at [Fargo Public Schools Boundary Maps](#).

Written Notification of Interactive Dashboard (School District Report Card)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

North Dakota has launched a new website designed to help communities across the state access important information about K-12 districts and schools. [NDInsights](#) features easy-to-read reports on multiple measures of school success, including:

- Test scores
- Graduation rates
- English Learner progress
- Student attendance.

[NDInsights](#), or more commonly referred to as the “Dashboard,” is part of North Dakota’s new accountability system. It is the next step in a series of major shifts in public education that have raised the bar for student learning, transformed testing, and placed the focus on equity for all students. To learn more about the state’s accountability and continuous improvement, visit [North Dakota’s ESSA website](#).

To find out more information about our school, visit [NDInsights](#), select “Find My School,” and search alphabetically for our school.

Why a new system and new tool?

North Dakota is committed to informing communities about how well our schools are doing. North Dakota’s future success depends on tapping into the potential of all students, so they graduate choice ready with the knowledge, skills and disposition to be successful. For schools to reach this goal, teachers, parents, and the community need clear and useful measures of progress. As an accountability tool, the Dashboard will help the state identify schools receiving additional support and assistance.

What is different?

In the past, the accountability system for districts and schools relied heavily on test scores. But one test taken on one particular day does not provide a complete picture of all the ways schools are helping students succeed. The Dashboard continues to provide information on different aspects of student performance, but also includes information on school growth and other factors reflecting a more comprehensive view. The Dashboard replaces the former School District Report Card and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports.

Please note, the data made available to the public masks or hides data for groups with 10 or fewer students to protect confidential information about individual students.

What's next for our district?

We have strong plans for working to improve the educational programs at our school. We would like you and your child(ren) to continue to be active participants in our educational system. Please help support our high expectations for student achievement by participating in the school educational initiatives, offering input and support in our endeavors to raise student achievement, or volunteering at the school. Meeting our school's goals will take a united effort, and I look forward to working with our families to ensure success for each student.

School Support under ESSA

All schools engage in continuous improvement for general support; therefore our school will complete an AdvancED Continuous Improvement Plan annually.

Longfellow Elementary is not a participating Title I school, with a student membership count of 350. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the school at 20 NE 29th Avenue or 701-446-5000.

Teacher Requests

At the end of every year we start the process of putting together class lists. We take this process very seriously to ensure students are in classrooms where they can thrive. Grade level teachers get together and sort their children into different classrooms. They take into account academics, gender, behavior and other factors that impact a classroom.

I am sharing this information with you because I think it is important for families to understand this process. For those of you who would still like to request a teacher please pick up a teacher request form in the office. The forms are due May 1st and must include the name of two teachers. However, I highly encourage you to rethink whether or not you want to fill out a form due to the imbalance it can create. In the end, we want your child to have a rewarding year.