



St. Cloud Area School District 742

Learning for a lifetime. It's our promise to you.

You May Not Be Ready,
But Your Child Is.



2012-2013 Kindergarten Guide

Explore....

District 742 offers several programming options for your child to learn and develop within a safe and caring environment.

Discover....

District 742 focuses on each child's success in school and learning. Our outstanding kindergarten teachers and staff look forward to partnering with you as your child experiences a wide variety of learning opportunities.

Grow....

District 742 provides all day, everyday, Kindergarten classes for ALL students.



What will my child learn?

Social/Emotional Growth

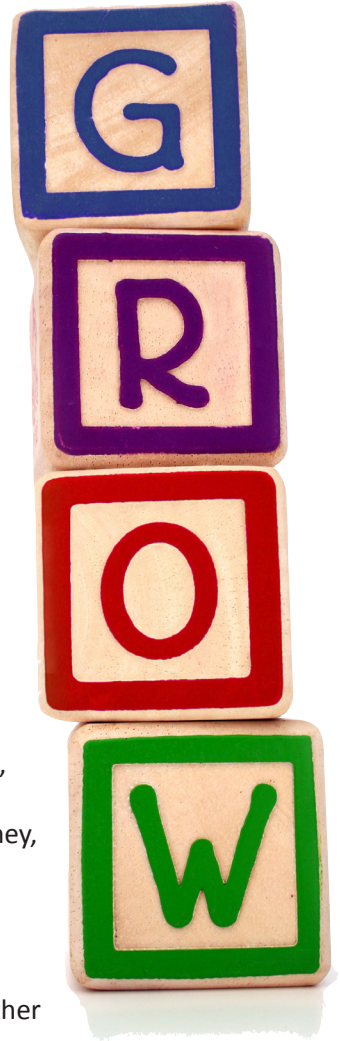
- Develop positive, constructive relationships
- Build self-confidence, self respect and respect for others
- Cooperate, negotiate, follow directions and problem solve
- Understand and appreciate our diverse society

Physical Growth

- Develop small and large motor skills
- Develop independence and self-help skills

Intellectual Growth

- Language Arts
 - Reading, writing, rhyming, sight vocabulary, sequencing and retelling, alphabet & sounds
- Math
 - Numbers, counting, graphs, measuring, patterns, estimation, addition, subtraction, shapes, classification, money, telling time
- Social Studies/ Science/ Health
 - Community helpers, careers, maps & globes, family, diversity, seasons, weather & environment, healthy eating habits
- Fine Arts/Computers
 - Art, music, dance, physical education, creative drama, computer lab



Where will my child attend?

Clearview

7310 Hwy 24 SE
Clear Lake, MN 55319
320.743.2241

Discovery

700 South 7th St
Waite Park, MN 56387
320.251.5770

Kennedy

1300 Jade Rd
St. Joseph, MN 56374
320.363.7791

Lincoln

336 5th Ave SE
St. Cloud, MN 56304
320.251.6343

Madison

2805 9th St N
St. Cloud, MN 56303
320.252.4665

Oak Hill

2600 County Rd 136
St. Cloud, MN 56301
320.251.7936

Talahi

1321 University Dr SE
St. Cloud, MN 56304
320.251.7551

Westwood

5800 Ridgewood Rd
St. Cloud, MN 56303
320.253.1350



Translation Services

**If you need help translating these materials
please call 320.202.6897.**

Si necesita ayuda para traducir estas materias, por favor llama 320.202.6897.

Haddaab u baahan tahay in lagaaga caawiyo tarjumaada ku saabsan waxyaabahan, fadlan soo wac telifoonkan 320.202.6897.



Language Immersion Programs

Over thirty years of research indicates that Immersion is the most effective type of foreign language instruction. Students are “immersed” in a foreign language in their classroom. Students develop proficiency in the second language by hearing and using it to learn all of their school subjects, rather than studying the language by itself. Language Immersion classrooms follow the Kindergarten curriculum, and 100% of classroom instruction will be in the second language.

Why begin a second language in kindergarten?

The young child’s brain is developmentally ready to learn a new language. Children just have this capacity. A child’s brain has twice as many synapses (connections) in the brain as an adult.

The young brain must use these connections or lose them. After this window of opportunity in which a child naturally learns a language, the brain slowly becomes less receptive. When children wait until high school to start studying a foreign language, the task can be more difficult.

In Kindergarten, Language Immersion teachers will speak to children only in the second language; however, the teachers realize that at the beginning of the year, their students will not understand everything they say. Teachers use body language, visuals, manipulatives, exaggerated facial expressions and expressive intonation to communicate their meaning. To draw students into the language, teachers carefully structure the day with familiar routines using songs, chants, rhymes and useful phrases.

While learning the second language, Kindergarten students speak in English to their teacher and peers. Students are encouraged to practice new words they have learned in the second language. They may speak in English and interact with other children from the English program while out of the classroom such as lunch and recess time. This interaction will continue throughout their elementary school years.



Language Immersion programs are offered to all District 742 Students. Clearview Elementary hosts our Spanish Immersion program and Madison Elementary hosts our Chinese Immersion program. Transportation is provided for all enrolled students who are residents of District 742.

In grades K-2, all instruction is in the Immersion language. Specials, including music, art, physical education and media are taught in English. Typically in first or second grade, a classroom will make the decision to try to only speak the Immersion language. This is a gradual, but exciting process.

In third grade, direct instruction in English begins in the classroom. Specials in music, art, physical education and media continue in English.

By fifth grade, about 75% of the day is in the second language and 25% is taught in English.

Learning a second language

- Has a positive effect on intellectual growth and enhances a child's mental development
- Develops flexibility in thinking, sensitivity to languages and a better ear for listening
- Improves a child's understanding of his/her native language
- Gives a child the ability to communicate with people s/he would otherwise not have the chance to know
- Opens the door to other cultures and helps a child understand and appreciate people from other countries
- Increases career opportunities where being bilingual is an asset



Is Language Immersion a good fit for all kindergarten students?

The Immersion Program is a good fit for any Kindergarten child whose family values learning a second language in the elementary grades. However, Language Immersion may not be a good fit for every child or every family.

- The Language Immersion program is a long-term commitment. Choosing the program because a friend or neighbor made that choice is not wise. Base your decision on the best interest of your child.
- Developing second language skills will follow a similar pattern to a child's first language development. If your child was older than most children in acquiring verbal skills or letter and number recognition in English, your child may be more successful in the English program.
- The Language Immersion program may not be a good fit for a child who has a language-processing disorder.
- If you are not sure whether Language Immersion is a good fit for your child, contact the principal of the host school for further consultation.



Want to learn more ?

Parent Immersion Meeting

January 19, 2012 from 6:30-7:30 pm

Schoolink Welcome Center

3015 3rd Street N, St. Cloud, MN 320.202.6897

Come and learn more about this exceptional program

- Find out what a typical day looks like
- Have your questions answered from program teachers
- Hear from other parents about the benefits of these programs



Opportunities to visit Language Immersion classrooms will be available in February. Please contact the Schoolink Welcome Center for these dates.

For more information about Language Immersion please contact:

Schoolink Welcome Center
Roosevelt Education Center
3015 3rd St N
St. Cloud, MN 56303
320.202.6897

Academia de Español Vista Clara
Clearview Elementary School
7310 Hwy 24
Clear Lake, MN 55319
320.743.2241

Guang Ming Academy
Madison Elementary School
2805 N 9th St
St. Cloud, MN 56303
320.252.4665

Registering your child is as easy as 1...2...3!

For students planning to attend:	Register at:	On these dates:
Discovery, Lincoln, Madison Oak Hill, Talahi, Westwood and Language Immersion Programs	Schoolink Welcome Center 320.202.6897 3015 3rd St N, St. Cloud	Jan 23 - Feb 3, 2012 M - Th: 8am-7pm Fri: 8am-4pm
Clearview and/or Spanish Immersion Program	Clearview Elementary 320.743.2241 7310 Hwy 24 SE, Clear Lake	Tues, Jan 24, 2012 7am-6pm Main Office
Kennedy	Kennedy Community School 320.363.7791 1300 Jade Rd, St. Joseph	Tues, Jan 31, 2012 4:30- 6:30 pm Main Office

*If you are unable to attend please call the
Schoolink Welcome Center **320.202.6897***

1 Find Your Kindergarten Registration Site

Registration for Kindergarten is required. (It is a separate registration process from Pre-school registration and Early Childhood Screening.) Children are welcome to attend, but need not be present. When registering your child, please bring your child's birth certificate or similar document verifying age.

When you arrive at the registration site you will....

- Complete the registration forms (also available on line at www.isd742.org)
- Learn more about various program options including:
 - Chinese Immersion program
 - Spanish Immersion program
 - Jumpstart classes (for students with limited English Language skills)
- Receive information about
 - Transportation
 - Kindergarten curriculum
 - Immunization requirements
 - Spring open house
 - After-school programs

2 Update Your Child's Immunizations

For the safety of all children, MN state law requires written proof that your child has been immunized against:

- 5 DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)
- 4 Polio
- 2 MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
- Series of 3 hepatitis B and 2 varicella

Immunization records must be returned to your child's school nurse by August 15th. If your child has a medical reason for not receiving immunizations, a signed statement from your physician or clinic is needed. Families who object to the immunizations must provide a notarized declinations form (available at your registration site).

3 Complete Early Childhood Screening

MN State law requires Early Childhood Screening for all children entering kindergarten in a public school. Ideally, your child should complete this between the ages of 3 ½ and 4.

If your child has NOT completed this FREE screening, please contact Jackie with Community Education at 320.529.6500 or register your child at www.stcloudcommunityed.com



St. Cloud Area School District 742
Schoolink Welcome Center
3015 3rd Street North
St. Cloud, MN 56303

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