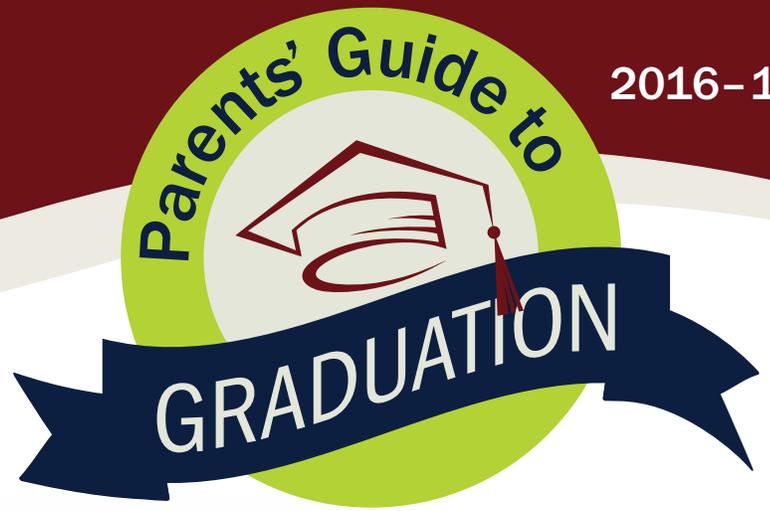




2016-17



Hello Parents,
Welcome to

Preschool!

Your child is entering a wonderful
and exciting world of learning!

Preschool is the time when children learn about being in a school
setting and develop skills that prepare them for kindergarten.

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WHAT IS MY CHILD LEARNING?

State standards describe what Oregon **students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year**. Standards progress in complexity every year as a child matures. They represent skills that build on each other year after year as a student advances through school.

Following are a few examples of state standards for PRESCHOOL students:

Approaches to Learning

- Maintains focus on activities for extended periods of time (15 minutes or more).
- Successfully follows detailed, multi-step directions, sometimes with reminders.

Social and Emotional Development

- Uses basic strategies for dealing with common conflicts, such as sharing.
- Uses words to describe his/her own feelings.

Literacy

- Understands that written words are made up of a group of individual letters.
- Knows the sounds associated with several letters.
- Answers questions about details of a story with increasingly specific information, such as when asked, "Who was Mary?" responds, "She was the girl who was riding the horse and then got hurt."
- Attempts to independently write some words using invented spelling, such as K for kite.
- Writes first name correctly, or close to correctly.

Mathematics Development

- Counts verbally or signs to at least 20 by ones.
- Counts and answers "How many?" questions for approximately 10 objects.
- Associates a number of objects with a written numeral 0-5.
- Correctly names basic shapes regardless of size and orientation.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO GRADUATE?

High school graduation is several years away, but most parents remark that the time passes quickly! Early recognition that graduation is important to your child's future, and that he or she needs your support to reach graduation, is crucial.

Help your child have a smooth path to graduation by helping them stay on track all the way through school to graduation. This means making sure they are meeting standards at each grade level.

To read about what it takes to earn a diploma in Oregon, please visit www.skgradguide.com.



HOW IS MY CHILD DOING?

Ways to know:

1 Talk with the teacher

The best way to know how your child is doing in school is to have a conversation with the teacher. As your child progresses through school all the way to graduation, you will find that the relationships you build with your child's teachers are key to student success.

Here are some phrases you could use to help you have conversations with your child's teachers:

"I would like to tell you a little about my child."

Share information with the teacher about your child's habits, likes and dislikes, special interests or anything that will help the teacher know your child better.

"I would like to tell you about some things that are going on at home."

It can be helpful for the teacher to know if there's a significant change at home. The arrival of a new baby, the loss of a family member or special pet, illness, divorce or any significant occurrence can be shared with your child's teacher. Teachers will keep your personal information confidential, and it will help them better understand your child and his/her needs.

"How is my child doing socially and emotionally at school?"

It's important for parents to hear the teacher's perspective on how their child is getting along with others during the school day, and if they are happy and enjoying school.

"What can I do to help?"

Become a partner with your child's teacher by asking him/her for things you can do with your child at home to reinforce what they are teaching in the classroom.

2 Read progress updates

Parents can expect to receive feedback during the school year from the teacher. These progress updates will show how your child is doing in meeting learning targets and age-level expectations.



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HOW CAN I HELP AT HOME?

As a parent or guardian of a student, **you are the most influential person in your child's future success.**

Here are a few things you can do with your child at home to help set your student up for success.

- Read books with your child and demonstrate a love of learning.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude about school. Your child will model your attitude.
- Make sure your child attends school every day, unless he or she is sick.
- Talk with your child about what he or she did in school that day.
- Create a nurturing, responsive and caring home environment.
- Provide opportunities for exploration and meaningful play.

Sources: Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework

Produced by Community Relations and Communications Salem-Keizer Public Schools, an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

2016–17 DATES TO REMEMBER (Preschool)

Orientation, tuition-based programs	Sept. 7–9
First day of school, tuition-based	Sept. 12
Orientation, Head Start	Sept. 19
First day of school, Head Start	Sept. 20
Staff development day	Oct. 14*
Grading day	Nov. 4*
Veteran's Day holiday	Nov. 11*
Thanksgiving holiday	Nov. 21*–25*
Winter Break	Dec. 19*–Dec. 30*
New Year's Day holiday	Jan. 2*
Staff development day	Jan. 27*
Grading day	Mar. 10*
No school, tuition-based programs	Mar. 22*–24*
No school, Head Start	Mar. 20*–24*
Spring Break	Mar. 27*–31*
Staff development day	Apr. 28*
Head Start conferences - no school	Apr. 28,* May 8, 22*
Memorial Day holiday	May 29*
Last day of school, tuition-based	May 19
Last day of school, Head Start (subject to change if inclement weather or other closure)	June 14

*No school

Calendars may change. Confirm closure dates with your school.



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