

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

Welcome to the beginning of an exciting adventure, the start of your child's formal education. We at Big Hollow are pleased to be part of this process. In Kindergarten your child will develop relationships, independence, confidence and the behaviors that will ensure their future success in school.

Kindergarten is an important part of your child's educational program. We have given a great deal of thought to what is the best educational experience for children of this age. Daily activities reflect careful planning and are based on a commitment to provide a program which is age-appropriate, and which challenges children to grow emotionally, socially, and academically.

Working together we can make school a great experience for your child. We will work hard to keep you aware of how your child is doing at school. We will send home newsletters weekly, issue report cards four times a year and arrange parent teacher conferences. We look forward to working with you and your child in the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,
Kindergarten Teachers

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Big Hollow District #38 Kindergarten Parents

1. Do I have the option for my child to attend either Full Day or Half Day Kindergarten.

- Yes, a Half Day Morning Kindergarten program option is available, however parents will need to provide mid-day transportation.

2. What is required for my child to start Kindergarten?

- Birth Certificate - A child must be 5 years old on or before September 1 to attend Kindergarten during the school year which he/she is registering. Parents must present an original birth certificate that has the county seal. The school will make a copy and return the original.
- Proof of Residency - Parents must show proof of residency in the Big Hollow School District 38, as designated on the Residency Verification Form in the online registration packet.
- A physical dated within one year of the start of school, with all required immunizations. Specific information and an Illinois physical form are included in the registration packet.
- A dental exam dated within 18 months of May 15 of the Kindergarten year. Dental exam record is provided in registration packet.
- A vision exam dated before October 15 of the Kindergarten year. Proof of exam must be provided by doctor.

3. When will I learn my child's teacher?

- In August you will receive notification about your child's teacher. Please be aware that requests for specific teachers are not accepted. **New this year:** Parents will have access to this information in Skyward.

4. What happens to my child when he/she gets off the school bus?

- When your child arrives at school a monitor will get the children off the bus and walk them into the school. Once in the school, the children will go to their designated table in the cafeteria with their class. There will be monitors in the cafeteria to monitor the children.

5. What happens to my child if he/she is a drop-off at school?

- If you will be bringing your child to school, he/she will enter the building through the front doors of the school. There will be a monitor outside of the school waiting for children who are getting dropped-off in the drop-off lane. The children will then go into the cafeteria.
- You will need to sign-in your child at the office if he/she arrives late to school.

6. Will my child need a snack?

- Yes, children will need to bring a snack from home each day. Your child's teacher will give you more information about snack options in their classroom.

7. Will my child have a lunch time?

- Yes, Kindergarten will have a lunch time. They will have the opportunity to purchase milk and/or hot lunch. More information will be provided by our Warrior Cafe.

8. What happens the first day of school?

- When children arrive at school, all the students are escorted to the gym. They will be seated with their class and classroom teacher. There will be a short assembly. The students are then escorted by their teacher to their classroom.

9. Can we visit the classroom before school starts?

- Before school starts there will be a Meet and Greet. You and your child will be able to come to the school, meet their teacher and drop-off school supplies. We ask that you do not label your child's school supplies. Kindergarten teachers request that you help sort your child's supplies into the appropriate bins during the Meet and Greet.
- Parking will be available in the front and back of the school. The Meet and Greet day and time will be posted on the school website: www.bighollow.us.

10. What about busing?

- In August a letter will be mailed home with busing information. Please note that all students at Big Hollow District #38 are eligible for busing. The School District uses its own buses and employees. If you have any questions regarding busing, please contact the District Office Transportation Coordinator at 847.740.1490.

11. What if my child has a special medical concern?

- A student Medical Information form is included in the registration packet. If you need to discuss a medical situation in further detail, please contact the School Health Office at the building your child will be attending to make an appointment.

12. Is there before-and-after-school care?

- For the 2017-2018 school year, A Child's Place is renting space at Big Hollow Elementary. Parents needing childcare would need to contact local organizations with questions regarding their specific programs and to make the necessary arrangements.

13. How secure is the building?

- All exterior doors are locked during the school day. Visitors will be allowed access through our door security system.
- All visitors are required to check in at the main office. Each visitor will be required to provide state issued identification and state the purpose of their visit. The district utilizes software which searches sex offender databases before visitors are allowed in the buildings.