



## Welcome to Kindergarten in the West Linn-Wilsonville School District!

We are so excited to get to know you and your child!

*In order to help your child be the most prepared they can be for Kindergarten, we want to make sure they are prepared for an important part of their school day - using the restroom!*

### Here is what you need to know about toileting in Kindergarten:

- Our district expectation for children coming into kindergarten is that students are able to independently use the toilet (including wiping/hand washing)\*\*
- Children will be given opportunities built into their daily routine to use the toilet when kindergarten begins. The first days of school, all teachers do tours of the bathrooms and teach bathroom expectations and routines.
- If a child needs reminders/encouragement to use the bathroom, please let their teacher know.
- We understand that children could have the occasional accident at school. This is very typical for kindergarten! For this reason, **please include a change of clothes to remain in your child's backpack.**

### Why is it important for my child to be independent with toileting skills?

- Children who know how to look after their self-care needs are proud of themselves.
- Independence with toileting provides children with a sense of mastery, control, and confidence.
- Students are better able to concentrate/focus on academic and social learning when they are not worried about managing toileting needs.
- Staying in the classroom with quick restroom transitions maximizes classroom instruction time.
- Independence with toileting promotes positive peer relationships.

### A few other important things to know about toileting in Kindergarten:

- The "boys" bathrooms have urinals along with traditional toilets. Does your child have experience using a urinal (and know urinal etiquette)? If not, that is a great thing to practice this summer!
- Some toilets flush automatically - if your child has not experienced this, it is an important thing to talk about.

\*\*If you need more information about toileting, or have a child with unique needs for support, please contact Karina Archibald, Bilingual Secretary, at 503-673-7140. She will take some basic information and have the appropriate staff member get back to you.

Even the **smallest** amount of **independence** can make the **biggest difference**

