



OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS
Community Ed

Early Childhood & Family Education

August 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On behalf of Osseo Area Schools (EC&FE) program, I am writing you with an update on our program and school year planning for the 2020-2021 school year. Although this is a year unlike any other, I am excited to share our plan with you and believe you'll find things that interest you and your child(ren)!

As you may have heard, on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 the school board unanimously approved the superintendent's recommendation to start the school year in the hybrid model. This decision launched our work to safely deliver EC&FE programming and learning opportunities to our youngest learners and their families. The program we're offering you follows the latest guidance from: Osseo Area Schools, Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As of today, Thursday, August 6, 2020 here are some updates:

ECFE Parent and Child class:

We are finalizing our ECFE parent and child course offerings to provide education and support to both children and parents, while tending to the health and safety of our youngest learners, their families, and our staff.

Here are a few highlights:

- ECFE classes for parents and infants 12 months and younger will be delivered entirely online, September 2020 to January 2021.
- New! A wide variety of parent-only topic specific classes will be delivered entirely online, September 2020 to January 2021 for parents with children birth to age 8.
- New! The Nature Play Area at Arbor View Early Childhood Center in partnership with the City of Maple Grove's Park Board is currently under construction and is anticipated to open in a few weeks. A small selection of in-person classes will be offered in this space. We are looking forward to this exciting, brand new opportunity for outdoor learning and exploration for our youngest learners and families in our community!
- A small selection of ECFE classes for parent and 1-2s, parents and 2-3s, parents and birth to 5 will be offered in-person at Arbor View and Willow Lane Early Childhood Center. To accommodate social distancing guidelines, classes will operate at 50% capacity and will be limited to one adult per family. Adults will be required to wear masks while in school buildings. Parent education time will bring two smaller classes together to develop a typical group for discussion and will allow for social distancing. Courses will be initially offered September-October. At a future date, as determined by the school district learning guidelines, future in-person classes will be planned and promoted.

What to expect: The week of August 10th-14th:

- An electronic version of the EC&FE brochure will be made available on our program website osseoec.org and a postcard will be mailed to families in the district. Registration will open online at osseo.ce.eleyo.com.
- A lottery for all ECFE parent and child classes will be held Wednesday, August 19, 2020.
- We will keep families updated via Smore e-newsletters, and our program social media pages.

Arbor View | 9401 Fernbrook Lane N., Maple Grove, MN 55369 | PH: 763.391.8777 | FX: 763.391.8762

Willow Lane | 7020 Perry Ave. N., Brooklyn Center, MN 55429 | PH: 763.585.7330 | FX: 763.585.7303

- Our office staff are working remotely and available to answer questions. Office staff are available Monday through Friday 8am-4pm to answer your questions at 763-391-8777 or by email at ecfe@district279.org.

Preschool and PreK classes:

Preschool, Preschool with Parent Connection and PreK classes will be delivered under the hybrid model at the beginning of the school year. We are coordinating our programs with each elementary site and Arbor View and Willow Lane to accommodate “A” and “B” student schedules, and PreK transportation for eligible students. All planning and coordination keeps the health and safety of our youngest learners, their families and our staff as a priority.

Under the hybrid model, here are a few highlights:

- Class registrations are being processed and continue to be accepted. We still have openings in our program!
- Parents/guardians should expect their child’s weekly class schedule for Preschool or PreK to be modified to include days during the week that are in school and days that are distance learning at home. Ex: A Tuesday-Thursday class will have “A group” of students attend in person at school on Tuesday and distance learning at home on Thursday. The “B group” of students will be at home distance learning on Tuesdays and on Thursdays attend in person at school.
- Monthly tuition will be adjusted accordingly to reflect a reduced rate for days of distance learning.
- Program teacher/parent/child orientations will be delivered remotely via Google Meet or by phone prior to the beginning of the school year.
- Seesaw app will be used to facilitate distance learning and communication between home and school.

What to expect: The week of August 17th-21st and the week of August 24th-28th

- Parent/guardians will receive an update on class schedules and teacher/parent/child orientations and beginning of school year details.

Moving forward:

While we are entering the school year under the guidelines of a hybrid learning model, we want families to be aware that we may need to adjust at any time as directed by Superintendent Cory McIntyre of Osseo Area Schools. Likewise, we will continue to monitor and adjust programming according to guidelines received from the CDC, MDE, MDH, and Osseo Area Schools. I ask for your continued trust as we continue to process the guidelines and adjust the program.

On behalf of all our staff, we look forward to welcoming you to our EC&FE programs in September!

Questions? Call 763-391-8777 or email ecfe@district279.org.

Warmly,



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