



# Creating a Great Start, Together

Save the Date: April Kindergarten Roundup

The session will begin at 5:30pm





# Welcome!

## **Tonight's Agenda:**

- Welcome to Shakopee
- Meet Our Principals
- Kindergarten in Shakopee
- Preparing Your Saber
- Important Dates/Q & A



# Meet Our Principals

Five Schools. Endless Opportunities.





## Stephanie Baker



- 24th year in education
- Previously taught 5th and 6th grade
- Husband is a teacher as well
- 4 children and 1 granddaughter
- Love to read, walk my dog, Emmy and travel

# Eagle Creek Elementary

## ABC's of Eagle Creek

Theme

**654**

Students



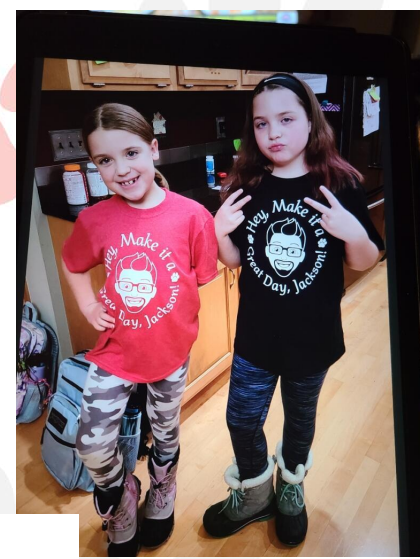


## Kevin Bjerken

- Former administrator at West Middle School & Pearson 6th Grade Center
- Previously taught grades 1, 2, 3, 5, middle school, graduate school and was an instructional coach to teachers preK - 12
- Tenth year in Shakopee







# Jackson Elementary

## Show your Jackson Pride!

# 761 Students





## Krysten Ellis

- In public education since 2007
- Worked in Special Education across all grade levels
- Shakopee Administrator since 2018
- Four children; 21, 18, 9 and 7 (2 in SPS)
- Husband works in education
- Enjoy watching kids' sports and activities
- Love working out, game nights and being outside





# Red Oak Elementary

“Bee all you can bee!”



507

Students



## Patrick Leonard

- Principal since 2007
- Started as a Social Worker at Sweeney Elementary in 1991
- Raised two boys - both Shakopee graduates
- Enjoys hunting, fishing, and watching sports.

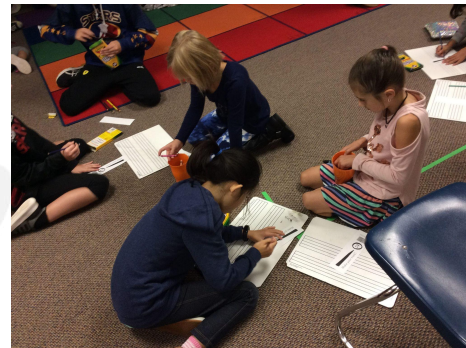


# Sun Path Elementary

## BE A SABER

Students

550







## Derek Bell

- Principal since 2012
- Taught elementary for 8 years
- 3 daughters: 7, 9 and 12
- Wife works in education
- Hobbies: Reading, golfing, running and spending time with family and friends



Twitter: @sweeneyelem

# Sweeney Elementary

“Be Kind, Work Hard, Show Your  
**PAWS!”**

School Theme



**641**

Students

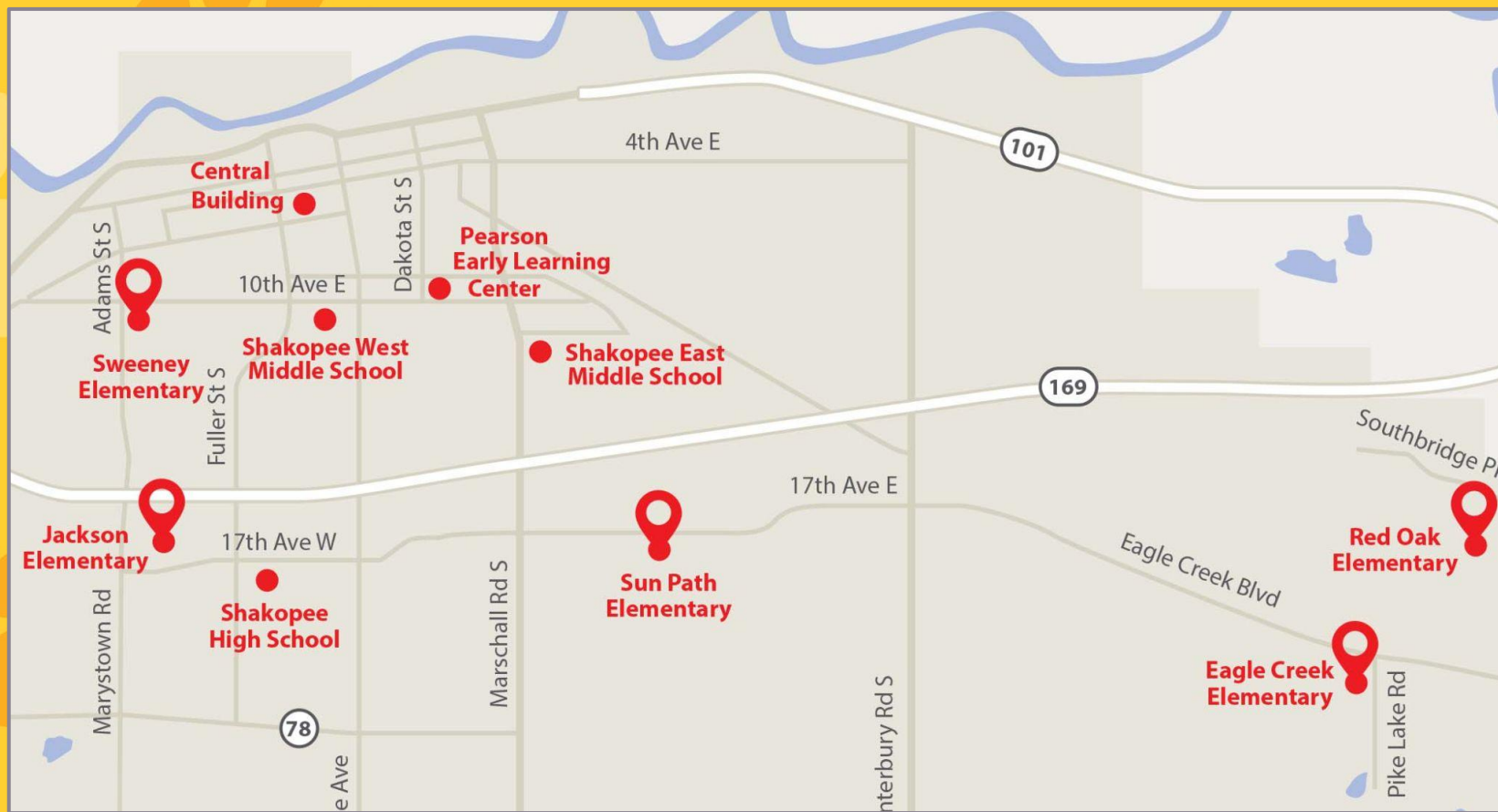






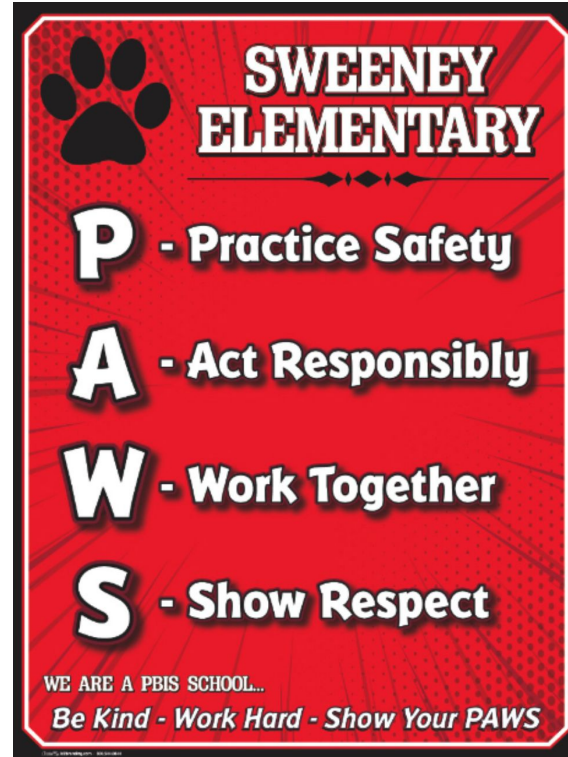
# **Our Buildings, Our Environment**

Kindergarten in Shakopee



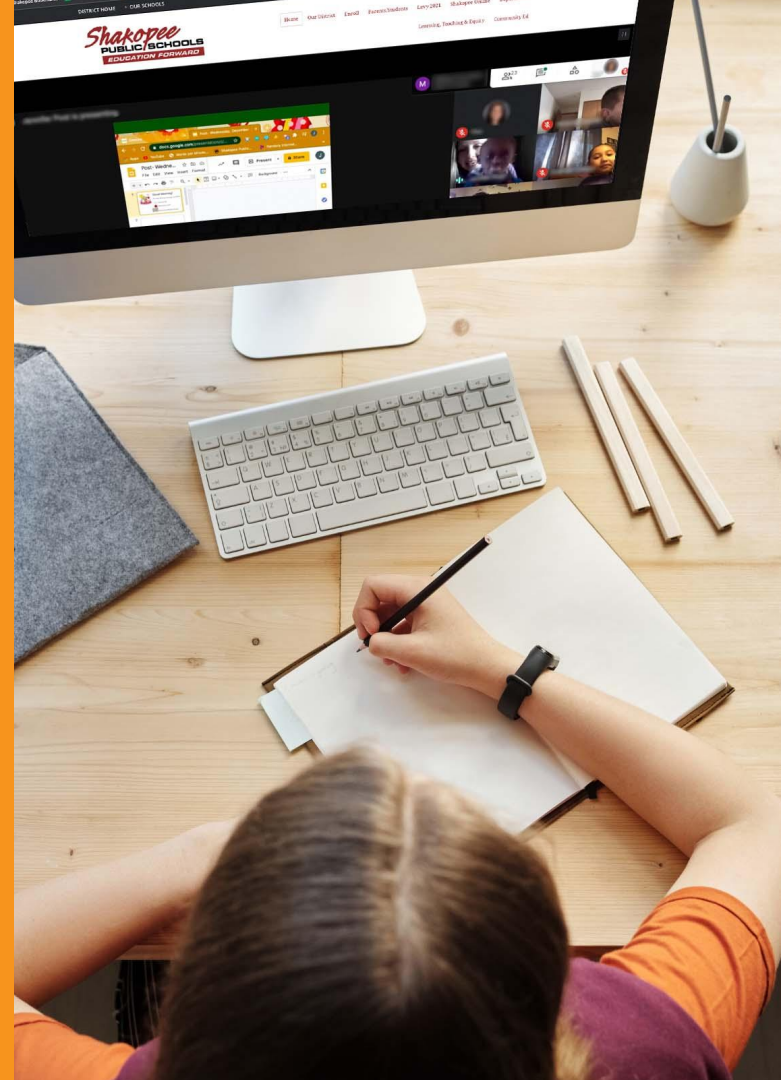
# Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

PBIS isn't a curriculum you purchase or something you learn during a one-day professional development training. It is a commitment to addressing student behavior through **systems change**. When it's implemented well, **students achieve improved social and academic outcomes**, schools experience **reduced exclusionary discipline practices**, and **school personnel feel more effective**.



SABER ► ONLINE

# Online Learning Opportunities to Support Today's Learners



# The Saber Online Experience



## **Differentiated approaches for various grade levels & student journeys**

The Saber Online Accredited Program provides year-long opportunities for students in grades K-8 and both full-time and part time online opportunities for those in grades 9-12 (based upon enrollment).

Saber Online will follow the Shakopee Public Schools annual calendar. Attendance will be taken daily and all students are expected to attend each period daily.







# **Teachers & Curriculum**

Kindergarten in Shakopee

# The Shakopee Difference

- Early writers curriculum & Young Scholars program
- Media, music, art and physical education specialists
- Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (STEM) programming & Project Lead the Way
- Expanded science curriculum
- Dedicated health services and special services team
- Free breakfast
- Safe & secure environment
- iPads & interactive technology
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Pearson Early Learning Center partnership (ramp up to readiness)
- Community Education integration



Engaged whole class learning with active and inclusive opportunities for creative learning together, maximizing academic and social growth.

Encourage productive academic conversations between students.  
Cultivate self-regulation and responsible independence in children.

# Developmental Designs

“**The Developmental Designs** approach brings everyday strategies for relationship building, social skill-building, safe community, cultural responsiveness, and intrinsic motivation to advisory, content area classes, and across the school, throughout the day.”

*Shakopee*  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EDUCATION FORWARD

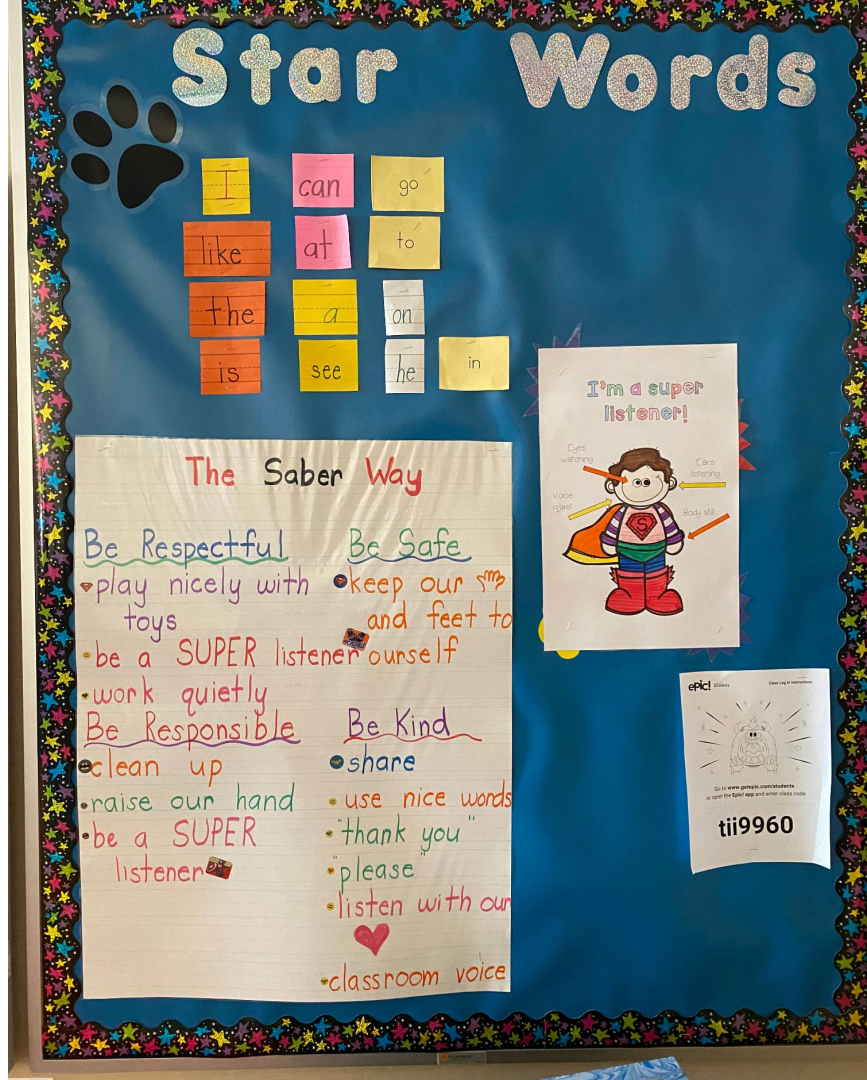
Equitable discipline.  
Increase the role of family engagement in student learning.

Maximize the collective intelligence and collaborative potential of the adult community.



# A day in the life of a Kindergarten Saber

- Breakfast
- Morning meeting (fun student shares!)
- Phonics
- Writing
- Small reading groups, 1:1 support
- Lunch & Recess
- Math
- Specialist
- Snack
- Theme
- Handwriting
- Centers
- Get ready to go home or YMCA after-care!







# **Support Team, Fueling your Saber**

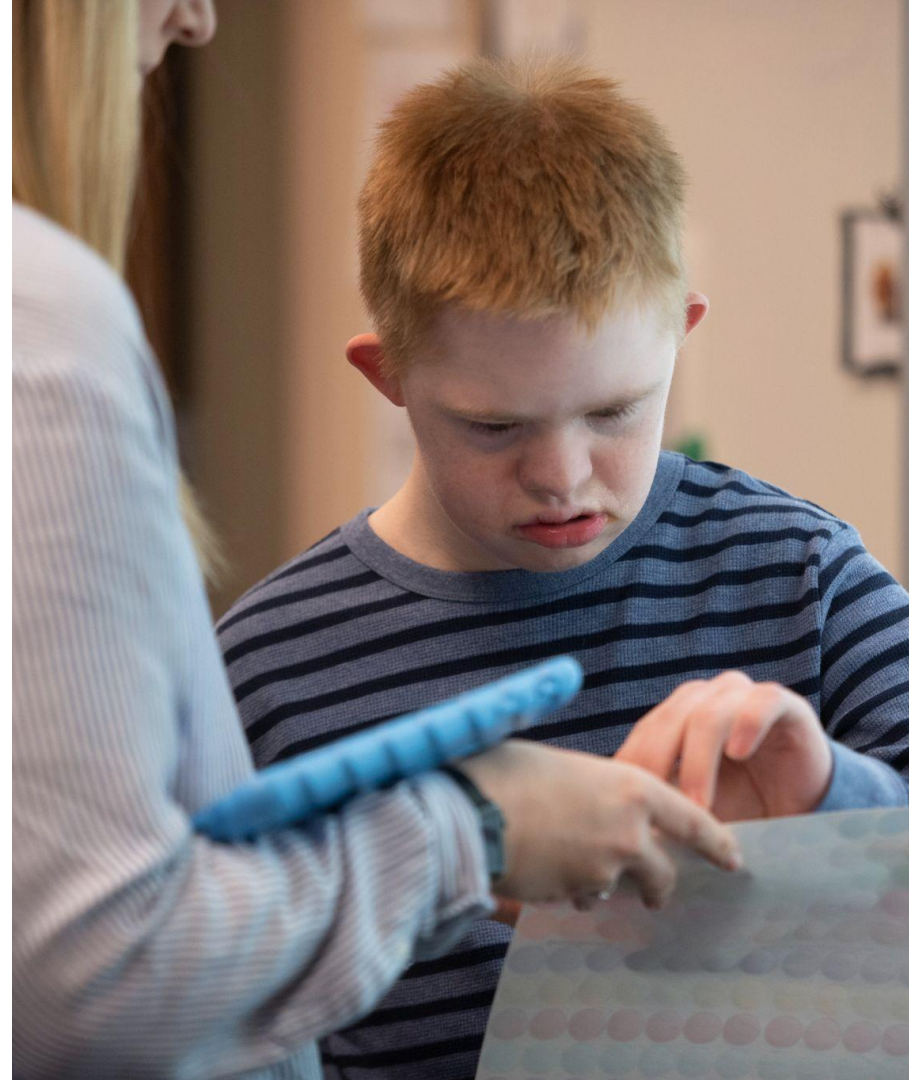
Kindergarten in Shakopee

# Supporting a Saber



# Special Education

- Create a collaborative learning community that promotes the development of each learner's unique potential in an encouraging and respectful environment.
- A wide range of service delivery models are offered including home-based services for infants and toddlers and school-based services within the school district.
- Mini-GLOmies student opportunity



# Food Services

- Committed to providing healthy meals for all our students
- Work with local farmers to provide fresh, straight-from-the-farm fruits and vegetables
- Dedicated to finding the cleanest labels possible because good nutrition helps our students learn better
- Our Kindergarteners receive free breakfast!
- Free and reduced meals



# Social Workers

- Provide ALL students with a comprehensive school counseling program.
- Each elementary school has a full-time School Social Worker.
- School Social workers provide support to both our students and their families.
- Social workers are essential in getting students and families connected with needed resources both within and outside of the school.





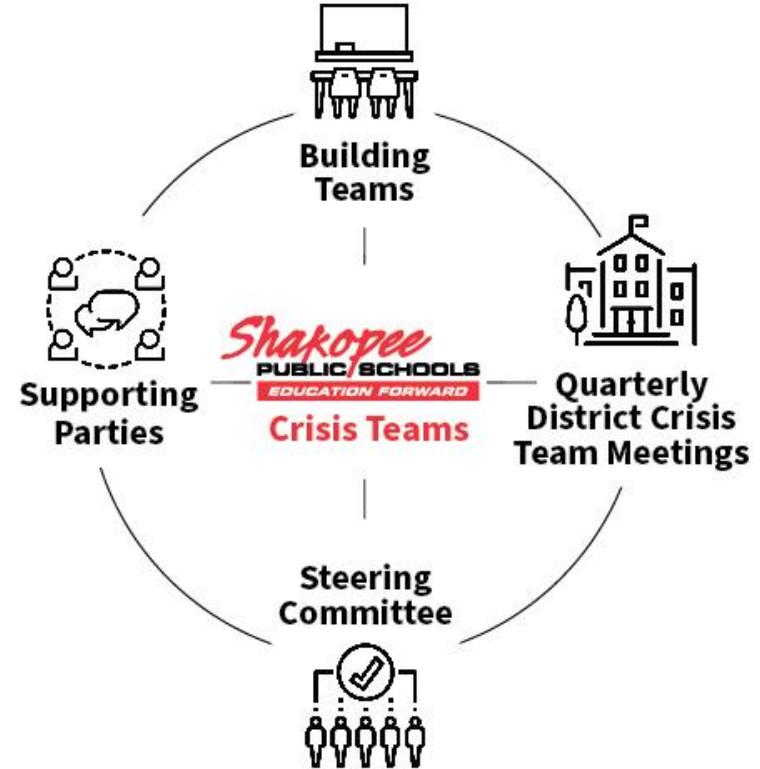
# Cultural Liaisons/Family Support

- Assist parents who are new to the United States or who are not fully proficient in English to enroll students, meet school staff, understand grading systems school.
- Support conferences, events and general school communication.
- Currently have support for Russian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese students and their families.



# Health & Safety

- Dedicated health assistants & licensed school nurses
- Raptor security & screening
  - Volunteer/visitor management
- Close relationship with Shakopee PD & Fire including onsite student activities and support
  - School Resource Officers

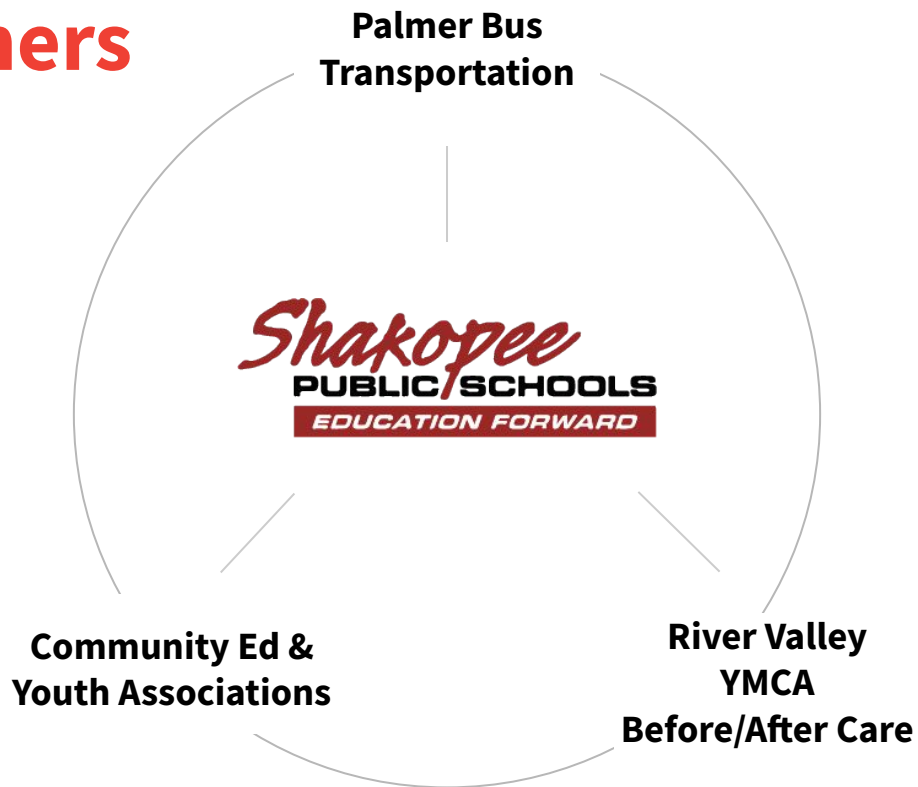




# **Partners for Success**

Kindergarten in Shakopee

# Our Partners





# Transportation



- Elementary students in grades K-5 who live 0.5 miles or more from their assigned school are eligible for transportation.
- Routes for all grades are available for viewing on the Parent Portal through Infinite Campus two weeks prior to school starting.
- Student kinder backpack IDs and staff support during drop-off/dismissal

***PalmerBus***  
SERVICE  
INC.





# River Valley YMCA Before/After Care



- Partner with the River Valley YMCA (YMCA) in providing high quality care to students in grades K-5, five days a week onsite at each elementary school.
- Before School Care: 6:15 a.m. – School Start
- After School Care: School End – 6:15 p.m.
- School release day care and full day care is also offered.





# Community Ed & Youth Associations



- Available to all district families with many programs and classes offered at our elementary schools.
- Catalog of classes and activities is mailed to every district household three times each year.
- Aligned with Shakopee's Academic Design Team and the "Six C's" initiative for curriculum development and direction.
- Lots of great opportunities for new Kinder students and families!

# Support & Engagement



Connect & Assess

Conferences

Seesaw

Bldg newsletters

PTOs



# **Preparing your Saber for Shakopee**

Goals & Processes



# Early Childhood Screenings

- Trained professionals determine if a child's development is on track:
  - Language
  - Motor skills
  - Problem-solving skills
- Information is gathered on child's social and emotional development as well as health history
- Vision and hearing checked by school nurse
- **Required** prior to starting Kindergarten (can start as early as 3)
- Free and held at Pearson Early Learning Center
- Available throughout the year on weekdays
- Interpreters are available



# Social & Emotional Development Goal Checklist



## ✓ **Self-care**

- Independently getting dressed and putting on shoes/boots
- Responsible for own belongings
- Use bathroom independently

## ✓ **Making friends**

- Using appropriate words to solve problems
- Sharing and being polite when playing
- Knowing what it feels like to have feelings hurt and usually not wanting to hurt others

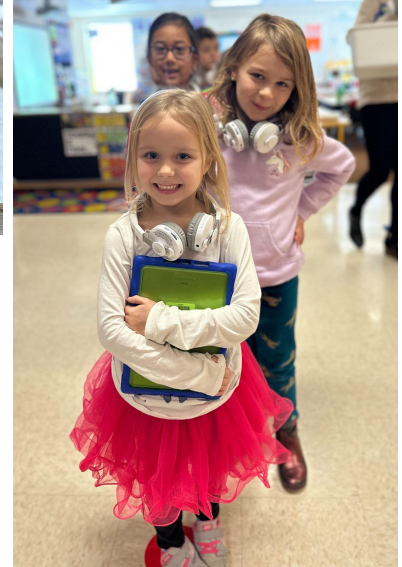
## ✓ **Persistence**

- Not giving up, even when challenged
- Usually finishing projects
- Showing signs of focus and ignoring distractions when mind is set on a task

## ✓ **Asking for help & following rules**

- Follow multi-step instructions and ask for help when needed
- Knowing there are rules at home and at school
- Asking permission before doing something
- Ask for help
- Staying with the group

# Learning, Developing Relationships and Having Fun!





# **Important Dates & Tools**

Upcoming Activities and Events



# Important Dates

## Kindergarten Round-up

**April 18, 2023**

5:30 - 7 pm

*Jackson, Sweeney & Eagle  
Creek Elementary Schools*

**April 20, 2023**

5:30 - 7 pm

*Sun Path & Red Oak  
Elementary Schools*

*Registration should be  
completed by April 30,  
2023*

## FREE Saber Kinder Camp

**Will be offered at all five  
schools during the  
summer!**

Stay tuned for more  
information on  
dates/times!

## Connect & Assess Days

**September 5 & 6, 2023**

Information is mailed in  
early August on exact day,  
teacher assignments and  
more! Bus assignments  
are available two-weeks  
prior.

## 1st Day of School

**September 7, 2023**



# Enroll Today

*We are pleased to offer the following enrollment options for children that will be age 5 by September 1, 2023.*



## Screening

Visit [\*\*bit.ly/SSPScreening\*\*](https://bit.ly/SSPScreening) to schedule your child's screening or stop by on your way out!

## Online

Visit [\*\*bit.ly/SPSKinderEnroll\*\*](https://bit.ly/SPSKinderEnroll) to enroll your child(ren) in Kindergarten or stop by a booth on your way out!

## Paper

Grab an application packet on your way out!

