

ISD 199 Inver Grove Heights Little Spartans Preschool FAMILY HANDBOOK 2023-2024

Welcome to ISD 199 Little Spartans Preschool!
www.ighEarlyLearning.org
(651) 306-7503 / Email: Preschool@isd199.org



IGH Community Preschool has achieved the
highest *four star* rating from Parent Aware.



IGH Early Learning



IGH PRESCHOOL 2023-2024

Early Learning Center & Early Learning Office* 651-306-7503

**This is the main office for all district preschool classes - Hours Mon-Fri 7:30-3:30*

Address: 3203 68th St E, Inver Grove Heights MN 55076 (connected to Hilltop, Door 2) / Email: Preschool@isd199.org

Early Learning Program Coordinator, Lora Lambert	651-306-7861
Administrative Assistant, Bridgett Johnson	651-306-7503
Coach/Assistant Coordinator, Melissa Hendrickson	651-306-7864
English Learner Coach/Parent Support, Patricia Nix	651-306-7862
Social Worker, Ann Sahr-Woltman	651-306-7506



Early Learning Center - 3203 68th St E, IGH 55076

3's Preschool Teacher, Morgan Lunders 651-306-7524

Email: LundersM@isd199.org

Early Childhood Special Education Teachers 651-306-7525

Dawn Banks, Email: BanksD@isd199.org

Melissa Berning, Email: BerningM@isd199.org

Marina Kojic-Zepackic, Email: KojiczepackicM@isd199.org



Hilltop Elementary Preschool - 3201 68th St E, IGH 55076

Preschool Teacher Alex Moore (AM & PM Room E14). . 651-306-7446

Email: MooreA@isd199.org

Preschool Teacher Ashley Thiel (AM Room E11). 651-306-7445

Email: ThielA@isd199.org

Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, Melissa Berning

651-306-7315 Email: BerningM@isd199.org



Pine Bend Elementary - 9875 Inver Grove Trail, IGH 55076

Preschool Teacher Emily Guptill (All day class) 651-306-7761

Email: GuptillE@isd199.org

Preschool Teacher Erin Miller (AM class) 651-306-7762

Email: MillerE@isd199.org



Salem Hills Elementary - 5899 Babcock Trail, IGH 55077

Preschool Teacher Stephanie Olson 651-306-7317

Email: OlsonST@isd199.org

Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, Marisa Peterson . . .

651-306-7525 Email: PetersonMA@isd199.org

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

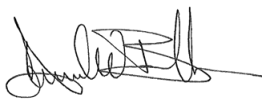
Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year. Our mission is “Inspire. Innovate. Excel. A Community Commitment.” We are proud of the strong and supportive ISD 199 school community, and we are committed to providing the best experience possible for our students.

This commitment is evident in our district’s strategic plan, which includes our mission, vision, core values, and strategic directions. The vision emphasizes an inclusive, respectful, safe, and caring environment; a culture of high expectations; whole student development; personalized learning; and an involved and invested community and district. This vision, along with our core values of courage, excellence, inclusion, innovation, and teamwork, are reflected in our student expectations and serve as a foundation for a positive, safe, and successful student learning environment.

As a community, we will work together to provide an environment with opportunities to support student learning and growth as a foundation for their future success

Sincerely,



Dave Bernhardson



Dave Bernhardson
Superintendent

District Office
2990 80th Street East
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
Phone: 651-306-7800
Fax: 651-306-7295
BernhardsonD@isd199.org

Mission

Inspire. Innovate. Excel.
A Community Commitment.

Vision 2020

- Inclusive, respectful, safe, and caring environment
- A culture of high expectations
- Whole student development
- Personalized learning
- Involved and invested community and district

Core Values

Courage *Advocating for what is important and acting with integrity*

Excellence *Inspiring, engaging, and challenging ourselves and others*

Inclusion *Building caring and authentic relationships*

Innovation *Using flexibility and creativity to meet challenges and needs*

Teamwork *Sharing responsibility, accountability, and accomplishments*

Strategic Directions

- A) A culture of racial equity
- B) Career and college readiness with core life skills
- C) Effective teams and partnerships

Mission and vision statements approved by ISD 199 School Board on August 17, 2020

Stay Informed

Infinite Campus Parent Portal

The Infinite Campus Parent Portal gives parents and guardians access to accurate, current, and confidential information about their student, including attendance and grades. Visit www.isd199.org/parents/campus to access the portal and for more information.

199 Reporter

The 199 Reporter is a quarterly publication that is mailed to every district family and resident within the Inver Grove Heights Schools boundaries. This newsletter includes announcements from the district and stories about our students and staff.

Inspire 199 e-Newsletter

Families and community members are invited to subscribe to the Inspire 199 e-Newsletter. The e-newsletter includes districtwide information and important announcements in an email at the end of each month. Visit tinyurl.com/inspire199 to sign up.

www.isd199.org

Check our district website, www.isd199.org, for everything from district and school current events to school closure announcements.

LITTLE SPARTANS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

PRESCHOOL

District 199 Little Spartans Preschool is a school readiness program. Children who are age 3 on Sept 1st attend class at the Early Learning Center. Four-year-old classes are at Hilltop, Pine Bend, and Salem Hills Elementary Schools. The office for all preschool programs is in the Early Learning Center. We have a variety of classroom settings, including collaborative settings with Early Childhood Special Education.

VISION

To be a place where each family is welcome and each child is engaged in meaningful and joyful learning that leads to success in school and life.

PHILOSOPHY

Children learn best when they have positive relationships with adults in and out of the classroom and when they can engage in opportunities to discover, explore, experience and reflect in a playful environment. A partnership with families is critical for optimal school success.

CORE VALUES

In addition to ISD 199 core values, Little Spartans Preschool has adopted expectations for ethical conduct based on the position statement from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), found at www.naeyc.org.

We have made a commitment to:

- *Appreciate childhood as a unique and valuable stage of the human life cycle*
- *Base our work on knowledge of how children develop and learn*
- *Appreciate and support the bond between the child and family*
- *Recognize that children are best understood and supported in the context of family, culture, community, and society*
- *Respect the dignity, worth, and uniqueness of each individual (child, family member, and colleague)*
- *Respect diversity in children, families, and colleagues*
- *Recognize that children and adults achieve their full potential in the context of relationships that are based on trust and respect*

ACADEMIC SKILLS

Children learn through playful, hands-on classroom experiences. Opportunities to experience, explore and practice are carefully planned with intentional guidance from caring, knowledgeable teachers. Curriculum aligns with the Minnesota State Standards and promotes skill development in all areas needed for Kindergarten. Research-based curriculum is used, including FrogStreet 2020 and Conscious Discipline. Teachers measure individual child progress in our comprehensive online assessment tool, Teaching Strategies Gold.

PROGRAM BASICS

PRESCHOOL TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Little Spartans 4-year-old Preschool:

Hilltop Elementary

3201 68th St E

AM Class 7:50-10:30

PM Class 11:45-2:30

Pine Bend Elementary

9875 Inver Grove Trl

AM Class 7:50-10:30

All Day Class 7:50-2:30

Salem Hills

5889 Babcock Trail

AM Class 7:50-10:30

PM Class 11:45-2:30

Little Spartans 3-year-old Preschool:

IGH Early Learning Center

3203 68th St E (Next to Hilltop, Door 2)

AM Classes 8:15-10:45

PM Classes 11:45-2:15

PRESCHOOL CALENDARS

Every family will be given a preschool class calendar. Please note that there are some differences between the preschool calendar and the K-12 calendar. Preschool has more days off for conferences, and there is NO preschool on district Early Release Days. Class calendars can be found by going to the webpage

www.ighEarlyLearning.org >Preschool >Enrolled PK Family Info

https://www.isd199.org/schools/early-learning/preschool/enrolled_families

RATIO OF ADULTS TO CHILDREN IN THE CLASSROOM

IGH Preschool follows state guidelines.

3-year old classes: 1 adult for every 8 children. Maximum of 16 children/class.

4-year olds: 1 adult for every 10 children. Maximum of 20 children/class.

ABSENTEE NOTIFICATIONS

If your child will not be in school, contact your child's teacher, stating the reason for the absence. You may leave a phone message on the voicemail (24 hrs), send an email, or use SeeSaw. Telephone numbers and emails are listed on the inside cover of this book.

Students who are absent for 15 consecutive days will be dropped from the program. Consideration for documented health conditions is given.

CUSTODY ISSUES

In the event that a court ordered legal custody situation develops where a parent, or parents, are not allowed to pick up your child/ children without your consent, notify the office and provide a copy of your legal custody papers. The school **must** have appropriate copies of the court papers. **Without such information, the school will assume joint legal custody and joint physical custody.**

WITHDRAWING FROM THE PROGRAM

Parents/Guardians are required to give at least two weeks of notice before withdrawing from preschool.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Early Childhood Screening must be completed within 90 days of starting preschool. Appointments fill up fast, so book early. Screenings are at the IGH Early Learning Center. To schedule, *Call* 651-306-7520 or *Book Online* at www.ighEarlyLearning.org - Go to Quick Links, bottom right. (*En Español: 651-306-3644*)

PROGRAM POLICIES

DISCIPLINE POLICY

One of the central developmental tasks of early childhood is to develop self-regulation and social competence. This ability is one of the most important factors in later school success. In our program, developmentally appropriate child guidance procedures are used to assist children in developing the social and emotional skills they need to be successful in their interactions with others and to understand social rules and expectations.

In Little Spartans Preschool, we have established program-wide expectations that guide the behavior of children and staff. We encourage families to also apply these expectations when guiding their child's interactions with others in the home and community. Our program-wide expectations are:

- Be Safe
- Be Helpful
- Be Kind

Teachers in our classrooms use a variety of developmentally appropriate child guidance procedures to encourage appropriate behavior and assist children in learning the rules and expectations of the classroom. These methods include: positive encouragement, redirection, setting boundaries, teaching rules for appropriate behavior, and logical consequences. Corporal punishment (i.e., spanking) is not used in our program, nor is it allowed.

An important focus of our program is the instruction of social emotional skills. Your child's teacher will be actively engaged in helping your child learn how to express emotions appropriately, identify emotions in others, develop friendship skills, use problem solving to resolve conflicts, and use language to express their needs and concerns.

If there seems to be a change in a child's behavior or your child has behavior that is causing a concern, program staff will communicate and strategize with you concerning behavioral issues and their possible cause, considering all of the factors that impact your child and family. If needed, your family will be asked to collaborate with the program in developing a behavior support plan for implementation in the classroom. Some children might also have intensive behavioral or learning difficulties that indicate referrals for more specialized services or supports might be needed.

LATE PICK UP POLICY

Parents or other authorized adults are responsible for picking up your child from preschool and the bus stop on time. If no one is at the bus stop to pick up your child, or you are 10 minutes late picking up from school and we haven't heard from you, we will call you & your emergency contacts. If no one can be reached, after 60 minutes the police and/or social services will be called.

Keep your contact information up to date!!

Two late pick ups from the bus will result in loss of bus transportation. Three late pick ups of any kind require a meeting with the Coordinator to problem solve and review options for continuation in the program.

TIP: Program the phone numbers of your child's classroom (inside cover), and the Early Learning Office (651) 306-7503 into your cell phone so you will recognize the school phone number if we are trying to call you. It will also make it easier to find school phone numbers if you need to contact us.

IGH PRESCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDING

Little Spartans Preschool is governed by the policies and procedures of the Inver Grove Heights School District. The program is funded by tuition fees and subsidized by School District (ISD 199) and Minnesota Department of Education School Readiness and Voluntary PreK funds. Additional funding is provided through the State of Minnesota's Pathways II scholarship program. As a 4-Star rated program, IGH preschool can also accept Pathways I scholarships.

PAYING TUITION

Tuition is paid in nine equal installments, September through May.

Invoices are billed on the 20th of the prior month, and due on the 10th. (Example: An invoice for September tuition will be sent August 20. Payment is due on September 10.) If your payment is not received by the 10th of each month, a \$10 late fee will be charged to your account.

Log in to your TriDistrict Community Education Account to pay tuition.

<https://tridistrict.thatscommunityed.com/account/sign/in>

Auto-pay can be set up on your account. Payments can also be made at the Early Learning Office with cash, a credit card, or check payable to ISD 199 Preschool. For help, or to pay over the phone, call 651-306-7503.

If you are not able to make payments, contact the Early Learning Office or the Program Coordinator right away to discuss options before your account is overdue. (651) 306-7861

TUITION REFUNDS AND CREDITS

Refunds or credits are not given for emergency school closing days or days when children are absent due to illness, vacations, etc.

FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid is limited and we work to support as many qualifying families as possible. Families receiving financial aid must turn in all required paperwork before the child can attend class. This includes a Student Benefit Application and any paperwork sent out by the office. If you need help, call us at (651)306-7503. Good attendance is required to maintain financial assistance.

SCHOOL CENSUS INFORMATION

Funding for Early Childhood Programs is based on the number of children birth to kindergarten who are listed in the school census. Being on the census also ensures you get information about programs, catalogs, and registration. Help keep the census information up to date by notifying us of additional children or any changes in address. Call Bridgett at 651-306-7503.

PERMISSION TO PHOTOGRAPH

Photographs and videos taken at school may be submitted to newspapers, used on District Web sites and/or appear in other district print and electronic publications. Parents/guardians give or deny consent to use these photos and/or videos at the time of registration. If you wish to change your approval at any time, please submit a written request to the preschool office.

PICK UP / DROP OFF AND BUSSING INFORMATION

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Detailed drop off and pick up procedures will be explained by your child's teacher at the beginning of the school year. Parents are expected to stay with their child until they are met by the classroom staff.

If you are dropping off a child late, take them into the school office so they can be signed in. Preschool children must never be dropped off at the curb without an adult to walk them inside the building.

If you are picking up your child early for any reason, please stop in the office to sign them out. On occasion, there will be substitute teachers in your child's classroom. Be prepared to show ID at all times.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

For those of you who have busing, staff members will meet children at the bus when they arrive at school and take them to the bus at the end of each school day. *Parents or daycare providers are responsible for walking preschool children to the bus when they leave home and meeting the bus when children arrive home.* Please be ready for the bus 5-10 minutes before the scheduled time.

Preschool students ride the bus with K-5 students on the early morning and late afternoon routes. We request that preschool students sit at the front of the bus. Older siblings may sit with them.

Each preschool bus rider will be given a tag that should be kept on their backpack at all times.

Riding the School Bus is a Privilege

Transportation safety guidelines are established to help ensure the safest ride possible for your student on the school bus. Riding the school bus is a privilege. Each student has a right to a safe, non-coercive environment on the school bus while riding to and from school. Each student, preschool through grade 12, has the responsibility to follow the direction of the driver and established safety guidelines. Failure to do so adversely affects the safety of all other passengers and will result in action being taken. This action may include but is not limited to assigned seats and/or suspension of riding privileges.

The school bus driver has sole responsibility for the safety of his or her passengers and the condition of his or her vehicle. With this, the driver is given the authority and responsibility to enforce the safety guidelines as established by Inver Grove Heights Schools and Safeway Bus Company. Each driver is required to maintain a Commercial Driver's License and receives training in driving skills, student management, and emergency procedures.

CHANGES IN BUSING

If an address changes during the school year, because of a move or new daycare, notify your child's teacher or the Early Learning Office right away and we will submit a change request to the transportation department. *Bus drivers are not able to change routes without notice from our office.* Please allow at least five business days for a new schedule. Changes requested in August and September may take longer.

POLICY FOR PRESCHOOL STUDENTS WHEN NO ONE IS AT THE BUS STOP AT DROP OFF TIME

For children who attend morning preschool & are dropped off at mid-day: When an adult is not at home to meet the child's bus, the driver will finish the route and make a second attempt to drop off. If no one is home at the second attempt, for AM classes, your child will be returned to the school they attend.

*If your child is on the late afternoon bus, if there is time, they will make a second drop off attempt. If no one is home, OR the driver is unable to make a second drop off attempt, the child will be returned to the **Early Learning Center** connected to Hilltop Elementary School, Door 2. If this happens more than once, bus transportation will be cancelled. See Late Pick Up Policy on page 5.*

'MY STOP' APP FOR ISD 199 BUS RIDERS

This app shows parents & daycare providers the location of their child's bus in real time. Late bus alerts let families know when busses are running behind. More info [here](#).

SAFETY

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Each year we ask parents/guardians to provide emergency information if we must contact someone in an emergency or illness.

Please be sure the numbers you give us allow us to reach a person, not an answering machine or voicemail. *For the safety of your child, emergency information MUST be kept up to date.*

MANDATED REPORTERS

Preschool and district staff are mandated to report suspected child abuse and neglect.

FIRE, TORNADO, AND LOCK DOWN DRILLS

Children and staff will participate in fire, tornado, and lockdown drills. Evacuation and safety information is posted in each preschool room.

We realize these drills have the potential to be scary for young children. Information is always shared at a developmentally appropriate level. Teachers use calm leadership as they help prepare children ahead of time so they know what to expect.

SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

When school is closed due to temperatures or dangerous wind chill, every attempt will be made to make and communicate the decision by 6:30 PM the night before. When school is closed due to snow and hazardous road conditions, every attempt will be made to make and communicate the decision by 5:30 AM the morning of the cancellation.

→ If schools have a late start, all preschool classes are canceled.

On days when winter weather conditions are extremely bad – or getting worse as the day progresses-- parents may choose to keep their preschool child at home or pick them up early, even if the district does not close school. Please notify the teacher of your decision.

Any time there is a school closure or delay, the district will place an outbound call to families. For this reason, it is important to always have your contact information updated in Infinite Campus. Families can also find information about school closings on:

- district website: www.isd199.org
- district information hotline: 651-306-7875
- district social media accounts: www.facebook.com/isd199 & www.twitter.com/isd199
- local radio and TV news affiliates, including WCCO Radio – 830 AM, WCCO Channel 4, KSTP Channel 5 and 45, KMSP Channel 9, and KARE Channel 11

OUTDOOR RECESS

Preschool classes enjoy outside playtime whenever possible. Please make sure they are dressed for the weather. During winter they should have boots, snowpants, jacket, hat, and mittens. If you need help finding winter clothing, we have extras and may have donations that can be shared. Ask your teacher or the Early Learning Social Worker 651-306-7506.

Teachers will provide more information on their outdoor schedule.

HEALTH

HEALTH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

School health services join the efforts of parents/guardians and the community to protect and maintain the health of school children. Facilities are provided in each school for first aid and the immediate care of a child who is ill. Parents'/guardians' telephone numbers or alternate numbers are called if the student should not remain in school. **Please inform the school if phone numbers change during the year or update your information in Infinite Campus.**

Students may not be in school with:

1. Communicable diseases, such as Covid 19, strep throat, chicken pox, etc.
2. Temperature over 100° orally should not return to school until they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
3. Pink eye with thick white or yellow drainage and/or eye pain.
4. Rash or open sores that may be disease-related or the cause is unknown
5. Vomiting, diarrhea, or severe abdominal pain. Students should not return to preschool until they have been free of symptoms for 24 hours.
6. New cough, or worsening cough or shortness of breath.
7. Injury that needs medical care.

A child should remain out of school until his or her temperature has been below 100° for 24 hours **without medication** (such as Tylenol). An elevated temperature indicates that the child's body is working to eliminate the reason for the elevated temperature; the child may still be contagious to other children. If you have been to your physician or clinic for a strep test, please ask when the child may return to school. A child should be on medication (oral antibiotics or eye drops for eye infection) for 24 hours before returning to school.

When a student is ill or injured, health office personnel will:

1. Call the parent or guardian as listed on the emergency card and ask him or her to arrange transportation and care for the student.
2. If a parent or guardian is not available, the alternate person(s) designated on the emergency card will be called to provide transportation and care for the student until the parent can be contacted.
3. No student will be allowed to walk home or be taken home without the permission of an adult who is responsible for the student.
4. If an injury or illness requires any restrictions or adaptations at school, please have the physician write instructions to be followed at school.

In an extreme emergency, an ambulance will be called and your child will be taken to the nearest hospital. (This will be billed to the parent or guardian).

HEALTH CONDITIONS

If your child has a health condition that needs to be monitored in school, a health action plan should be completed by your child's primary health care provider and a copy given to the teacher or school office. It is highly recommended that you request a signed health plan from your provider before school starts.

Be sure health concerns are listed on your child's emergency form and speak with your child's teacher. This includes any allergies.

MEDICATIONS

Whenever possible, the parent or guardian should make arrangements to administer medications at home. District policy regarding dispensing medication must be followed.

- If medication is needed during school hours, the school must have written parent/guardian permission and written physician orders on the Procedure for Dispensing Medicine before school staff can give medication.
- Medication must be in the original prescription bottle.
- Medication must be accompanied by specific instructions about when and how it should be given.
- This requirement includes over the counter medications and sunscreen.

INSURANCE

The School District does not carry accident or health insurance for students. Parents/guardians are responsible for insurance and health coverage for their children, including transportation for medical care in the event of an emergency.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Every child attending IGH Little Spartans Preschool must have an immunization record that is compliant with Minnesota's School Immunization Law. This record must be turned in to the Early Learning office before the first day of school. Immunization Records can be dropped off, Faxed to 651-306-7521 OR Emailed Preschool@isd199.org. Students who have not complied with this rule will be excluded from preschool until the required immunizations are received.

CLASSROOM ROUTINES

BACKPACKS

Each child should have a backpack labeled with their name. Please make sure your child's backpack is large enough to fit a sheet of paper. This will help keep his/her belongings in one place and provide a safe way for the school to send important communications, artwork, and newsletters home with your child. Please check the backpack for messages.

DRESSING FOR PRESCHOOL

Our motto is "Dress for Mess". Children should be comfortably dressed for play. If your child wears a dress or skirt, please send your child with shorts underneath. Because children work with paint and other messy materials, they should wear clothes that can be laundered easily. Children enjoy themselves more if they can experiment and play without fear of soiling their clothes.

Tennis shoes with rubber soles are preferred for their comfort and safety, as well as use on the gym floors. We recommend you do not send your child in open-toed sandals. Flip-flops are not allowed. Accidents do happen, so we ask that you send a complete change of clothing to keep in your child's backpack or cubby. (Label each item.)

TOILETING

Children attending preschool must be able to independently use the bathroom without the use of a pull-up or diaper. Children with an IEP or medical condition may be exempt from this requirement.

Wearing clothes that are easy for the child to pull up and down helps them to be more successful.

SNACKS

If your child's class has snack time, parents are asked to provide them. The teacher will send out a schedule, snack ideas, and more information. All snacks must be store-bought and peanut/nut free.

SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST

Breakfast will be provided free for preschool classes at Hilltop, Pine Bend, and Salem hills.

Children who attend an afternoon or all day class will have the option to order a school lunch, or bring a lunch from home. Students eating a school meal will be offered an entrée, fruits, vegetables, and milk daily.

Educational Benefit applications are available on the ISD 199 Food Service webpage under District Departments. Paper copies are available at all school offices. You may apply for Educational Benefits at any time during the school year if employment status, income, or household size changes would make you eligible for these benefits. This application is required for any child who is receiving financial assistance, regardless of whether the child eats meals at school.

If your child cannot eat a certain food for health reasons, please provide a written notice from your physician and discuss this issue with your child's teacher. If they are eating school lunch, food substitutes will be provided. Little Spartans Preschool will work with you to ensure other snacks are safe.

If your child does not eat a certain food for religious or cultural reasons, please let the teacher know, or notify the Early Learning Office. A doctor's signature is not needed when foods are not eaten for religious reasons. A substitute food is not required to be provided, but we will work with you.

BIRTHDAYS

We are happy to help celebrate children's birthdays! Please talk to your child's teacher ahead of time for suggestions. All snacks must be store bought and *peanut/nut free*.

Birthday party invitations may be put in classmates' cubbies at school, but the staff is not allowed to give out addresses for parents to mail invitations. If you have invitations, please give them to the teacher to hand out so it can be done quietly without hurting anyone's feelings!

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

The opportunity for open communication is an important ingredient of meaningful home-school relationships. Two-way communication is essential, and one opportunity for such communication is during parent/teacher conferences.

Conferences with families are scheduled three times a year.

- Family Meet & Greet - Sept 5, 6, & 7
- Fall Conferences - Oct 16, 17, & 18
- Winter Conferences - Feb 8 & 9

Progress Reports will be sent home in winter and spring.

STAY CONNECTED

Families are respected and celebrated in IGH Preschool and we recognize your role as your child's first and most important teacher. Family involvement and connection with school is an important part of what makes a program strong and children successful. Preschool Connections:

- **Seesaw** is an app for iOS and Android devices that is used for communication between teachers and families. Teachers will send home information on how to set it up and log in. It is a quick way to send messages. Teachers can also send you photos of your child in class.
- **Early Learning Website** www.ighEarlyLearning.org: On the home page you will find contact information, quick links to schedule screenings and pay invoices, and an early learning calendar. On the left of the home page click 'preschool' and then '*enrolled PK families info*' to find copies of letters sent home, class calendars, and current information.
- **Teacher newsletters** will be sent throughout the year.
- **FACEBOOK** - Find us on FACEBOOK IGH Early Learning.
- **Early Learning Advisory Council** - Consider joining the Early Learning Advisory Council or volunteering to help with the fundraiser and/or events

EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) supports all ISD 199 early childhood programs. Members get the latest program updates and make recommendations that guide early learning decision making and program development.

The group advocates for early education in the community, at the legislature and with other families. Each fall, ELAC holds a Gertens fundraiser to support community events such as the IGH Community Baby Shower (Saturday, Sep 30), and to help fund staff professional development and the purchase of supplemental learning materials for students.

Meetings are held once a month at the Early Learning Center on Mondays, 6-7:30 pm. Child care is provided. Dates: 9/18, 10/9, 11/13, 12/11, 1/8, 2/12, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13. You are welcome to come as a member or visitor.

For more information on the Advisory Council:

www.ighEarlyLearning.org > Advisory Council

Phone: 651-306-7861 Email: InverGroveELAC@gmail.com

FEEDBACK, IDEAS, AND SUGGESTIONS

A preschool program evaluation will be sent to all participants in the spring. Your feedback is important to us. If you have a problem or concern in the classroom, whenever possible, discuss it first with the classroom teacher. You can also contact the Early Childhood Program Coordinator at (651) 306-7861 or Preschool@isd199.org. We always appreciate hearing about your family's experience in Little Spartans Preschool.

HAVE A GREAT PRESCHOOL YEAR!

We Wish You Well