

## What is Alternative Kindergarten?

Alternative Kindergarten is a full day program that gives a child the opportunity to grow another year before Kindergarten.

Children must be five by September 15th and a screener will be given to determine eligibility.

A year of AK is followed by a year of Kindergarten.

Students attending AK would be considered as being retained in Kindergarten.



### For More Information:

Parents who are interested in AK can meet with their neighborhood school counselor or principal for additional information or call (319) 558-2247.

Parents must enroll their child in Kindergarten before registering their child for a screening.

## Top 10 Questions to Ask Yourself About Your Child:

- Does my child like to play with other children?
- Does my child initiate conversations with others?
- Is my child willing to share materials?
- Is my child afraid of new situations and environments?
- Can my child easily accept “no” for an answer?
- Can my child keep his or her hands to self?
- Does my child show an interest in learning letters and numbers?
- Can my child sit attentively when being read to?
- Does my child show good self-control?
- Does my child have preschool experience?

**If you answered “No” to some of the questions, you may want to get information on Alternative Kindergarten**

### Alternative Kindergarten Program Sites

Location 2022-2023	Feeder Schools 2022-2023
Maple Grove	Cedar River Academy, Cleveland, Grant, Harrison, Hoover, Madison, Maple Grove, Van Buren and West Willow
Kenwood	Arthur, Erskine, Garfield, Grant Wood, Johnson (JSA), and Kenwood (KLA)
Viola Gibson	Hiawatha, Nixon, Pierce, Viola Gibson and Wright

Parents will be notified as to placement and location decisions prior to the end of the school year.



## **Alternative Kindergarten**

**In the**

**Cedar Rapids  
Community Schools**

## **Informational Brochure**

2022-2023 School Year



## What is the AK Philosophy?

- AK provides for varying rates of growth and development and respects children's internal timetable.
- All children can learn and succeed.
- Different levels of ability are expected, valued, and accepted.
- AK respects the child's individual development by offering a variety of opportunities to enhance the development of the whole child.
- The AK program provides a balance of both teacher-directed and child-selected activities, active and quiet activities, and large group, small group and individual activities.
- AK provides a curriculum strong in social skills, teaching children to develop and maintain meaningful relationships.
- Positive guidance with firm, consistent procedures for behavior helps children develop self-control and learn to take responsibility for their actions.
- Teachers and student work together to gather data, plan instruction, take action, evaluate learning and continue to improve.

## Alternative Kindergarten Expectations

### **I can...**

#### **Literacy Foundational Skills**

- Identify and say rhyming words
- Say the letter sounds
- Write letters for sounds in words
- Show how a book works
- Point to words as I read
- Retell parts of a story
- Use new words and phrases I have learned
- Use writing in a variety of ways

\*These are a sample of the kindergarten literacy expectations. Alternative Kindergarten students will follow all kindergarten literacy standards.

#### **Physical Development**

- Cut curves, corners, and shapes
- Draw a self-portrait.
- Write my first name.



#### **Non Discrimination Policy**

It is the policy of the Cedar Rapids Community School District not to discriminate in educational programs and/or activities on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, gender identity, socioeconomic status, national origin, religion, disability, age (except for permitting/prohibiting students to engage in certain activities) or genetic information and in employment opportunities on the basis of age, race, creed, color, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability or genetic information. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact Justin Blietz, Director of Culture & Climate Secondary Education (JBlietz@crschools.us), and/or Linda Noggle, Executive Director of Talent Management, (LNoggle@crschools.us), Educational Leadership and Support Center, 2500 Edgewood Rd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA, (319) 558-2000.

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#### **Math**

- Name 10 colors (red, yellow, blue, green, orange, purple, black, white, brown, pink).
- Name 4 shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle).
- Name numbers 0-20.
- Count to 50.
- Count 15 objects.
- Make a pattern.
- Sort objects 2 ways.

#### **Student Behavioral Expectations**

- Strive for high quality products and outcome. (Personal Best)
- Listen attentively and speak appropriately. (Active Listening)
- Show tolerance and regard for people, property, and ideas. (Respect)
- Follow directions and procedures, and be dependable. (Responsibility)
- Be truthful, reliable, and choose to do the right thing. (Trustworthiness)