

To the Parents of Children Who Will Be 5 Years Old On or Before September 1, 2024:

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The Bethel Public Schools is excited to begin planning for our 2024-2025 Kindergarten Families! Your child is about to take an exciting next step in his/her education. As your child's first teacher, you have taught your child many important skills. The Bethel Public Schools is looking forward to the beginning of a collaborative partnership between home and school in order to provide a successful transition for your family. Our program will welcome and orient both parents and incoming kindergarten students to our schools. The information below will help you begin to plan for registration as well as plan for the year ahead.

Questions	Answers/Information
When do I need to Register?	Bethel Public School's online registration for kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year is open!
	We strongly recommend that you complete the first step of the registration process, which is to create the parent portal account and complete all of the online enrollment forms, as soon as possible. Kindly read this entire set of directions as it contains a lot of important information.
	Children registering for kindergarten must turn 5 by September 1, 2024.
What is the registration	The registration process will begin by completing the online registration.
Process?	Registration is open!
	<ul> <li>Step 1         To access the site, go to our district website, www.bethel.k12.ct.us, scroll down, and click on the "Registration" link in the maroon circle half way down the page. Click on the link BPS Pre-Registration Form K-12. There you will fill out and submit a short form to begin the online process to formally register your child for kindergarten. Please be sure to choose the 2024-2025 school year.             </li> <li>Once the short form is approved, you will receive an email from PowerSchool Server with instructions to create the Parent Portal account and complete all of the online enrollment forms.</li> <li>At the completion of your online registration, an email will be sent to confirm that the parent portal account has been created AND all of the online enrollment forms have been filled out.</li> <li>This email will also outline the next steps in this process.</li> <li>Step 2         <ol> <li>At this time, we anticipate that in-person registration appointments will take place in March. (No registration appointments will be made until all of the online registration is complete.) An email will be sent with a link to schedule the appointment.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

## What do I need to bring to my in-person registration appointment?

This appointment will take approximately 15 minutes as long as all of the required paperwork is provided. If you do not have all of the paperwork at the time of the appointment, you will need to return at a later date/time with all of the documents to fully complete your registration process. Students do not need to attend this appointment with their parents. (More information to follow on this step of the process)

## **Please Note:**

If you do not have all the required documentation at your scheduled appointment, the registrar will be unable to complete the registration process and will need to reschedule your appointment.

To register your child for school, you will need several documents. These include:

- 1. Child's original birth certificate with a raised seal AND a copy.
- 2. Proof that the adult registering the child is the parent or legal guardian (name on birth certificate matches the parent's picture ID or court documents of legal custody if divorced or separated).
- 3. Proof of residency: **MUST** supply the following:
  - Homeowner Real Estate Tax Bill, Copy of Property Deed, Current Mortgage Statement, or Settlement Statement (new home-owners only) AND one (1) current utility bill (cable, electric, gas, telephone or cell phone showing the name and address). Please note we cannot accept water/sewer bills.

## • Rent/Lease -

- SIGNED Lease or Rental Agreement. Lease agreement must be unexpired and signed by lessor/lessee and dated. Landlord contact information must be provided <u>AND</u> two (2) current utility bills (see above) showing your name and address.
- Notarized Landlord Affidavit Form must be provided if there is no lease, you
  are renting month to month/weekly, or your lease is expired. Landlord contact
  information must be provided <u>AND</u> two (2) current utility bills (see above)
  showing your name and address.
- Section 8 Agreement with dates of tenancy <u>AND</u> two (2) current utility bills (see above) showing your name and address.
- If you do not own or rent but are living with a Bethel resident- two (2) notarized affidavits, Resident Parent/Legal Guardian & Residency Affidavit Forms (these forms are on school website). These affidavits must be accompanied by two (2) current utility bills (see above) with your name and the address on them. Additionally, one (1) current utility bill and tax bill from the Bethel property owner must also be presented with the owner's name and the address.

If you live in a household where all utilities are in someone else's name or utilities are included as part of your rental agreement, please **choose (2) two** of the acceptable residency documents that display your **Bethel address**: Valid driver's license or valid CT DMV photo identification (stickers **not** allowed); valid automobile registration; current homeowners/rental insurance or automobile insurance; current payroll stub; current bank or credit card statement; current letters from governmental agencies; or current court documents. Submission of a utility bill may still be required to prove that the residence is occupied.

4. Health Physical Form with current physical **and** immunizations for K-12 filled out and signed by your physician. If you have an appointment scheduled for the summer, bring in a copy of the most recent physical and immunizations.

NOTE: Motor vehicle tax bills and water/sewer bills are NOT acceptable for proof of residency.

Student meets Requirements for Homeless or Unaccompanied Youth Status (Social Worker/Liaison to be contacted)

Where can I learn more about the Bethel Public School's Kindergarten Program?	Parents/guardians of incoming kindergarteners will be invited to attend an informational Kindergarten Orientation session before school starts. At this session, you will be able to meet the principals and hear about our kindergarten program. Please stay tuned for a future date for this event.
Kindergarten Screenings	*More information will follow on this process.
<ul> <li>When will they take Place?</li> <li>How do I make an appointment?</li> </ul>	Parents/guardians will be contacted using the email provided during online registration to make a kindergarten screening appointment, which usually takes place in May.
	The 30 minute kindergarten screening helps us get to know your child as we prepare for the 2024-2025 school year.
	Typically, all screenings will take place at the Municipal Center.
When will I find out what school my child has been assigned to?	We anticipate that school placements will be communicated by mail in June.
What are the Kindergarten School Placement Procedures?	<ul> <li>Our district process for school placement is the following:         <ul> <li>If an incoming kindergartener has a sibling that currently attends Berry or Rockwell School, we place that student into that building.</li> <li>Both Berry and Rockwell Schools provide services for students requiring specialized instruction. These students will be placed accordingly.</li> <li>All other students are placed at either Berry or Rockwell alternating schools. (i.e. One student at Berry, the next student at Rockwell)</li> <li>At times we have to make modifications to this process based on enrollment patterns and/or class size.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Students who attend Circle of Friends, the district's preschool program which is housed at Berry School, are not guaranteed placement at Berry. Requests for any placements, at either Berry or Rockwell Schools, cannot be honored.</li> </ul>

If you have any questions about the process or need help, please contact Laurel McCollam, District Registrar at (203) 830-7355 or mccollaml@bethel.k12.ct.us.

Once again, we welcome you to our district and look forward to partnering with you in your child's education.

