

# WELCOME

*Bienvenidos*

*Soo dhawow*

*Chào mừng*

Hillcrest

COMMUNITY SCHOOL



*Artful Learning*

## Kindergarten 2024-2025

[bit.ly/HC-kinder-24](https://bit.ly/HC-kinder-24)

For the presentation

# Introductions

Don Gramenz - Principal

Lisa Froemming - Secretary

Bianca Boomer - Kindergarten Teacher

Trista Hansen - Kindergarten Teacher

Amy Gonzalez - Kindergarten Teacher

Beth McCoy - 4th Grade Teacher & Arts Integrationist

Patsy Straus - Health Services RN

Julie Smith - Licensed School Nurse

Miranda Nesbitt - Parent & PTSA President

John Polson - Kids' SAFARI

Kari Kelley Porter - Early Childhood





**Bianca Boomer**



**Amy Gonzalez**



**Trista Hansen**

## Mission

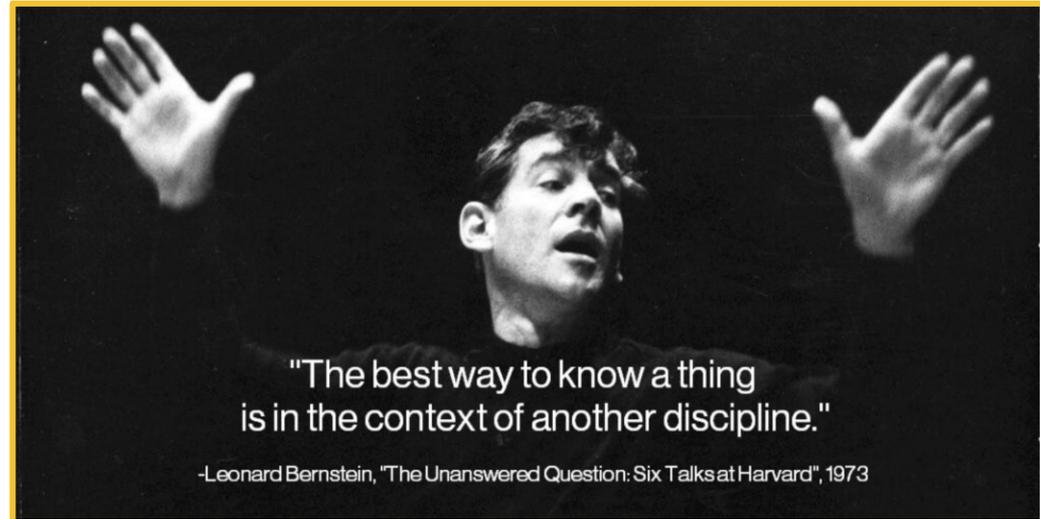
Hillcrest is more than a school. We are a joyful community of learners. Together through the arts, we inspire, challenge and empower.



## What is Artful Learning?

Artful Learning is a transformational learning model that empowers educators to use the arts to awaken and sustain the love of learning for all students.

- Minnesota State Standards
- Conceptual Units
- Significant Question
- Masterwork
- Original Creation



### Relationships - Charles Schulz

- How do my actions affect and create relationships?
- Students will learn that their actions affect and create relationships with people and things around them and the relationships they make will have a lasting impact on their lives.
- Our masterwork is Charles Schulz's Peanuts Gang. We have fun comparing our staff to the characters of the Peanuts Gang.



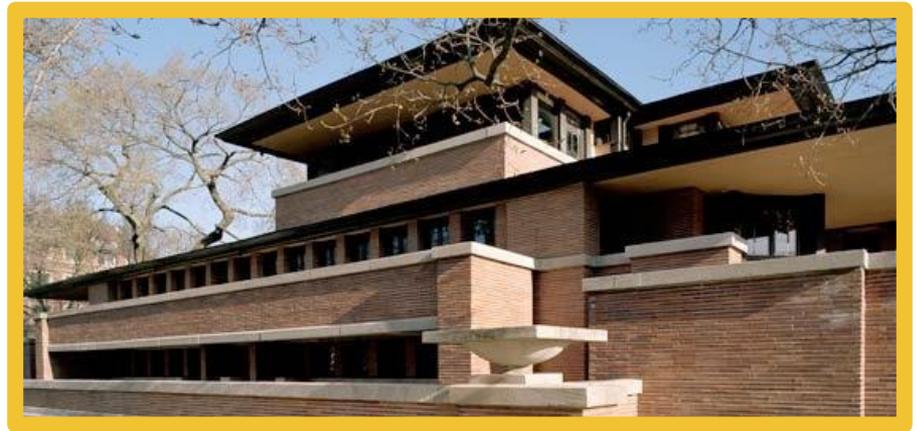
## Diversity - Snowflake Bentley

- How do our uniquenesses create the diversity around us?
- Students will examine snowflakes the way Wilson “Snowflake” Bentley observed and photographed them in nature.
- Students love taking snowflake pictures using a Proscope microscope camera to see the intricate designs.



## Patterns in Our World - Frank Lloyd Wright

- Where are there patterns in my world and why are they important?
- Students have fun learning about about Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House in Chicago.
- The highlight of this unit is designing and creating our own Lego House with blueprints and showing patterns in the construction.





Ready for  
kindergarten!

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Artful Learning™

# Kinder-ready Checklist

Families and caregivers can help children get ready for kindergarten by helping them practice these skills and milestones:

## Independent Skills

- Practice using bathroom independently with door closed
- Practice zippers, tying shoes, buttons

## Academic Skills

- Understand letters, sounds and numbers
- Count to 10
- Recognize colors
- Recognize basic shapes
- Positive about school and kindergarten
- Practice writing letters and numbers
- Practice writing name
- Practice using a scissors
- Read with your child for at least 15 minutes daily

# Kindergarteners learn...

## Literacy and Reading

- How to recognize letters and sounds and write letters for letter sounds
- How to recognize and produce rhyming words
- How to identify the beginning, middle and ending sounds of words
- 45 frequently used words
- How to draw, write and narrate a story
- How to spell words phonetically
- How to ask and answer questions about a reading

## Math

- Read, write and show numbers
- How to create, complete and extend patterns
- How to count forwards and backwards
- How to find one more or one less than a number
- Basic Addition and Subtraction

## Health

- How to identify healthy behaviors
- Listening skills

# Kindergarteners learn...

## Social Studies

- How to demonstrate civic skills in a classroom
- Identify examples of rules in the school community and explain why they exist
- Distinguish between individual needs and wants
- Compare and contrast traditions in a family with those of other families

## Science

- Weather and the sun - study of the seasons
- Push/Pull - objects in motion
- Plants and Animals - Observe and compare plant and animal habitats

## Life Skills

- How to use time effectively
- How to follow directions
- How to show respect to self, staff and peers
- How to work cooperatively with others
- How to work independently

# A Typical Kindergarten Day

## Hillcrest School Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 3:50 p.m.

- Morning meeting
- Reading groups/Literacy stations
- Lunch and recess
- Calendar
- Math
- Thematics time: Artful Learning, science, social studies, health
- Word Study (phonics)/ and Writing
- Read aloud
- Specialists: gym, art, music
- Rest and quiet time
- Snack
- Choice time
- Second Recess/Energy Break
- Get ready to go home



## Get involved - Sponsored Activities & Fundraisers

- All School Directory
- Art Adventure
- Art Night
- Book Fairs
- Fall Fun Run
- Grade Level Musicals
- Kindergarten Round-up
- Math Night
- Monthly Meetings
- Olympic Day
- Scholastic Book Fairs
- School Yearbook
- Spring Carnival
- Square-1 Art
- Winter Skating Party - Bloomington Ice Garden

## PTSA Executive Board

- **Email** - [hillcrestpts@gmail.com](mailto:hillcrestpts@gmail.com)
- **President** - Miranda Nesbitt
- **Treasurer** - Alison Blessing
- **Secretary** - Alissa Babcock
- **Teacher Reps** - Bianca Boomer/Kathy Schneider
- **Principal** - Don Gramenz

## Do you want to join & co-lead the PTSA Executive Board 2024-25?

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary

# Kids' SAFARI - Before and After School Care

**Before (6:30 - 9:20 a.m ) & After (3:50 - 6:00 p.m.) School Care**

**Kids' SAFARI** is our before-and after-school care program for children in kindergarten through grade 5, offering enrichment opportunities and creative learning experiences designed to increase social interaction and lead children to discover friendship, independence and confidence.

Kids' SAFARI is fee-based and available at all Bloomington Elementary schools. Kids' SAFARI accepts all students residing in or attending an Elementary school in Bloomington.

Registration for Summer SAFARI is Monday, March 11th at 8:00 a.m.: Full day programming 6:30-6:00 p.m. Dates for summer: Wednesday, June 5th - Friday, August 16th

Registration for 2024-2025 school year opens Monday, April 8th at 8:00 a.m.

Rates: AM \$13.00    PM \$12.00    Full Day \$25.00    Non School Day Rate \$47.00 a day

## **Hillcrest Contact: John Polson**

- Phone: 952-681-5307 Email: [jpolson@isd271.org](mailto:jpolson@isd271.org)
- Register at <https://bloomington.ce.eleyo.com/child-care/1/kids-safari>

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# Safety, Childcare & Transportation

## Safety and Security

The safety and well-being of your child is our top priority. Our schools all have secure, monitored, single-point entry during the school day. Students are not allowed to leave during the school day unless signed out by an authorized adult. All visitors must sign in at the school's main office and wear a visitor badge.

## Busing & Transportation

We provide transportation to resident elementary students (K-5) who live in the school's attendance area and live at least half a mile from school.

Students living in the walk area – less than half a mile for elementary – may be eligible for busing through our pay-to-ride program.

## Contact Information

- Phone: **952-681-6300**; Email: [transportation@isd271.org](mailto:transportation@isd271.org)



# Kindergarten Registration - Early Childhood Screening

Schedule your in person screening: [bit.ly/ec-screening](https://bit.ly/ec-screening)

- Kari Kelley Porter

## Kindergarten registration items required before school starts

- Complete Early Childhood Screening if not already screened.
  - If screened in another district please provide a copy.
  - Contact Information
    - Phone: **952-681-6203**; Email: **ecscreening@isd271.org**

# Kindergarten Registration - Health

## Health Records

- Send copies of immunization records
  - State law requires: 5 DPT, 4 Polio, 2 MMR, 3 Hepatitis B and 2 Varicella shots or the date of chickenpox disease.
- Provide a copy of child's birth certificate
- Forms for student medications, treatment, and health concerns.
- A minimum of one emergency contact and their phone number
- [BPS Health Services and Forms](#)

Please send the required documents by email, mail or drop off in person to our school office.

## Hillcrest Contact

- Patsy Straus - Health Services RN
  - Phone: 952.681.5308; Email: pstraus@isd271.org
- Julie Smith - Licensed School Nurse
  - Phone: 952.681.6197; Email: jsmith@isd271.org

# Kindergarten Immunizations

- Bloomington Public Schools received a grant from Bloomington Public Health this year to provide **free** school required immunizations to all students.
- Nurses from Homeland Health are here tonight to give any school required immunizations to your child if you are interested. Siblings can get vaccinated too!
- Please stop by the nurse table in the lobby to see if your child needs any of the required vaccinations. We are able to look up vaccination records in the MIIIC system (Minnesota Immunization Information Connection).
- If your child will not be receiving the school required immunizations for health or other reasons, please stop by the nurse table to pick up an exemption form.
- Free immunizations are also available at Bloomington Public Health (952-563-8900) and Pond Health Commons (952-681-6277).

# Follow us on social media

Facebook [@HillcrestProud](#)

Instagram [@hillcrestcommunityschool/](#)

Hawk Talk Podcast <https://anchor.fm/hillcrest-community-school>

Bloomington Public Schools Kindergarten [Bloomington Public Schools Kindergarten Webpage](#)

Is your child currently in preschool? We still have space available for BPS Preschool for 4s. Enroll here: [bit.ly/bps-prek-23](https://bit.ly/bps-prek-23)



# Questions?

If you have further questions please contact us

**Don Gramenz - Principal**

Email: [dgramenz@isd271.org](mailto:dgramenz@isd271.org)

**Lisa Froemming - Secretary**

Phone: 952-681-5300

Email: [lfroemming@isd271.org](mailto:lfroemming@isd271.org)

## Sign up for your Kindergarten Assessment

Please sign up for your child to take the Bloomington Kindergarten Assessment on May 7, 14, or 15. Please click on the QR code to sign up. Or,

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094CAEAA22A5FE3-47462450-early>



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