

Blanche Sims Elementary



Kindergarten

Introductions

Ken

Principal Ken Nuss

Stephanie Winter- Kindergarten Teacher

Amanda Geyer - Kindergarten Teacher

Eliza Kincaid- Kindergarten Teacher

Ann Smolinski-Kindergarten Interventionist

Blanche Sims Staff



Blanche Sims is a neighborhood school

Ken

Lake Orion
Nursing
Home

Lake Orion
Fire
Department

Lake Orion
Police
Department

Downtown
Parades

Access to
Downtown



Blanche Sims Elementary Purpose Statement:

Ken

To ensure the highest level of success for every child.





In 2007 Blanche Sims earned the Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Award

Blanche Sims has celebrated 74 years of Educational Excellence!



Blanche Sims Information

8:15 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Some students are considered walkers, those students living beyond the walking zone are bused.



What makes Blanche Sims Unique?

Ken

- ▶ Respect Circle
- ▶ Intervention Time
- ▶ Resources
- ▶ Lake Orion Police Department
- ▶ Enrichment Opportunities
- ▶ Volunteering
- ▶ Positivity Project
- ▶ Mindset Stances



Enrichment Opportunities

Ken

- Legos
- Chess
- Robotics
- Doll
- Fitness
- Math
- Book Club
- Mad Science
- Remote Car
- Running
- Yoga
- Kahoot
- Trivia
- Art
- Etc.....



Kindergarten Options

Ken

1) All Day Every Day Kindergarten

- Public Acts 198 and 199 of 2012 state that children must be 5 on or before September 1st to be eligible for kindergarten.



2) Developmental Kindergarten

- For students that turn 5 between July 1–December 1. DK students will then attend Kindergarten the next year.

3) Pre-K program then Kindergarten the next year.



The Importance of Everyday Attendance

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!

Ken

School attendance, beginning in kindergarten, is a major factor in school success!

Why Attending School Every Day is So Important:

- Better Academic Performance
- More Work Options & Higher Earning Potential Later in Life
- More Positive Relationships/Friends
- More Developed Life Skills
- Happier Child!

Poor Attendance as Early as Kindergarten Leads to:

- A Pattern of Missing School and Work Throughout Career
- Being Behind Peers in Academics and Social Skills
- Increased Likelihood of Behavior Issues While in School and with the Law After School Age
- Less Opportunities
- Less Earning Potential

What kind of life do you want for your child? It all starts with coming to school every day!

If you demonstrate that school is important to you, it will be important to your child!

Set a good example from the beginning!

Developmental Kindergarten (DK)

- ▶ Your child must be age eligible for DK, which means, turn 5 years old between July 1, 2024, and December 1, 2024
- ▶ Parents interested in DK **must** have their child go through a mandatory screening
- ▶ Here is the link to sign your child up for the DK screening May 3, 2024, or scan the QR code: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4AAAAC2BA1F94-4585514development>
- ▶ Screening will take place at the Early Childhood Center (corner of Joslyn Road and Clarkston Road)
- ▶ The screening will consider social/emotional and a small amount of academics
- ▶ A district committee will meet to determine eligibility for each student going into DK
- ▶ Parents will be notified of placement in DK, along with building location no later than the week of June 3, 2024

Toilet/Potty Trained

- ▶ It is LOCS district policy that your child be toilet/potty trained before the first day of school when attending developmental kindergarten or kindergarten.
- ▶ Your child should be able to use the restroom and clean themselves without adult support.
- ▶ Your child should be able to button/unbutton, zip/unzip their pants without adult support.
- ▶ Your child should not be wearing a “pull-up” to school, this is not being fully toilet trained.
- ▶ If your child has consistent issues with having bathroom accidents, you may be called to come and clean up your child before he/she can return to back to class.
- ▶ District staff will not assist a student with toileting unless directed to do so by a student’s IEP or Section 504 Plan.

Lake Orion Developmental Kindergarten will provide children:

- ▶ a modified curriculum, taught at a pace dependent on individual readiness
- ▶ teacher-directed, child-initiated learning
- ▶ additional time to mature both physically and emotionally
- ▶ an opportunity to gain an understanding of the world around them.
- ▶ Transportation will NOT be provided for the Developmental Kindergarten program

For DK questions contact Kerri Anderson at kerri.anderson@lok12.org

Is my child ready?

Ken



Lake Orion Community School's Philosophy

Screening on May 7 for all incoming
Kindergarteners @ Sims



Kindergarten Readiness

Stephanie

- ▶ Provide frequent opportunities for your child to socialize with other children.
- ▶ Your child should be able to separate from you without crying and distress. Going to school should be enjoyable.
- ▶ Your child should be able to sit and listen for about ten minutes. Practice by reading stories at home or listening to them on cd or Ipad.
- ▶ Provide experience with coloring and drawing. Encourage your child to use crayons, pencils, scissors, and glue. Keep those little hands busy!
- ▶ Help your child learn to write his/her first name. Frequent practice is best, a few minutes at a time.
- ▶ Practice interactive reading with your child. When you read a story together, ask you child questions about the pictures, to predict what will happen and guess how the story will end.
- ▶ Work with your child on upper and lower case letters and sounds.
- ▶ Toilet Training



ACADEMIC CONCEPTS Continued

Stephanie

- ▶ Can rote count to 20
- ▶ Can identify letters of the alphabet and match letter sounds
- ▶ Is able to trace and/or write letters and numbers
- ▶ Is able to recognize words that rhyme
- ▶ Is able to ask questions as well as answer questions
- ▶ Can follow 2 to 3 step directions
- ▶ Can listen to a story and be able to retell parts of the story
- ▶ Shows an interest in books
- ▶ Can count objects to 5 and can match one-to-one correspondence



SOCIAL SETTINGS

- ▶ Shows evidence of self-control
- ▶ Has respect for the rights and property of others
- ▶ Can work independently
- ▶ Is able to listen attentively
- ▶ Can participate in group activities and is able to socialize successfully with other children

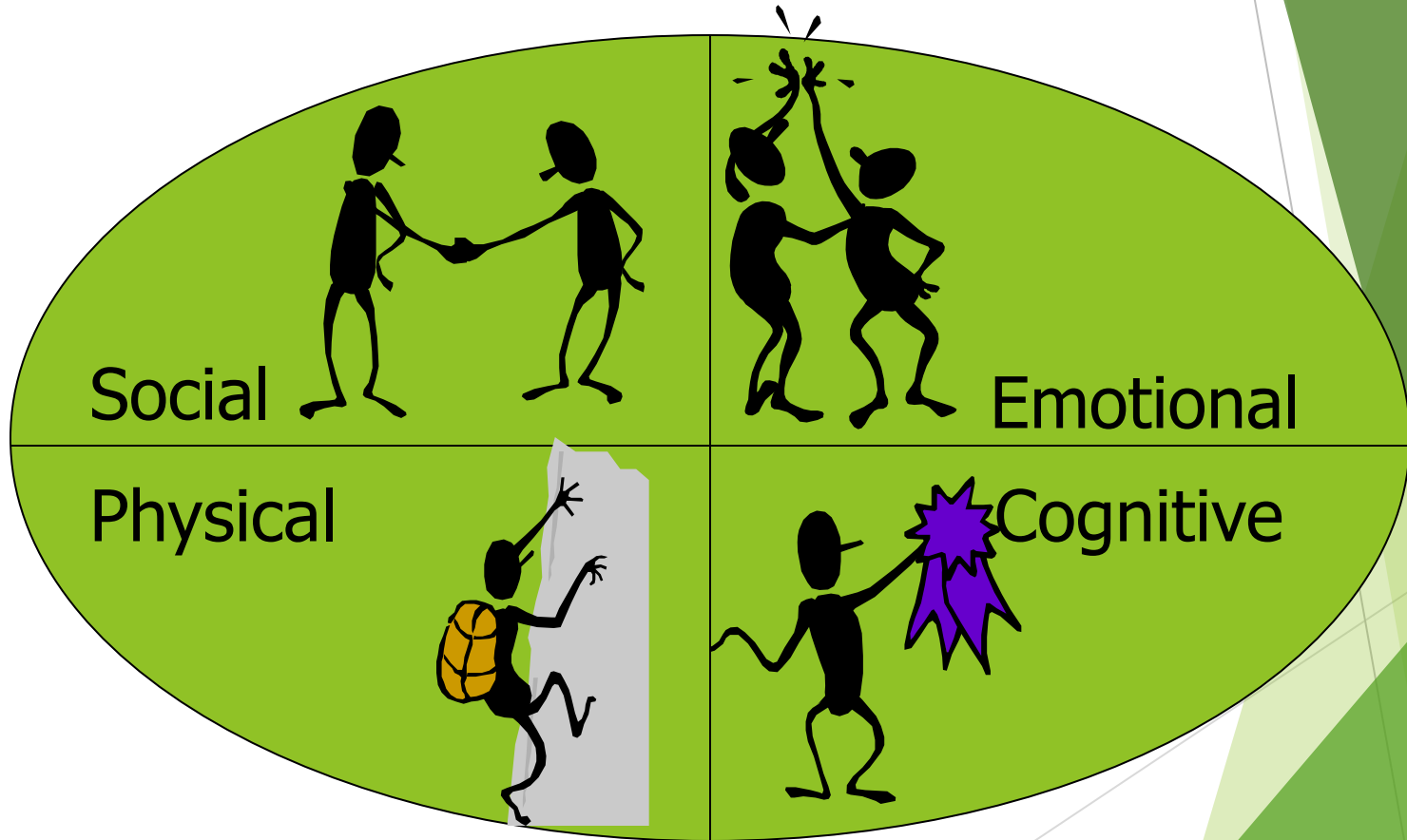


Interventionist

- ▶ Assess all students and Analyze data to provide targeted instruction that meets the needs of all students (based on 5 areas of reading: phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension)
- ▶ Collaborate with Kindergarten classroom teachers daily
- ▶ Instruction is delivered in small groups (pull out) and/or within classroom
- ▶ Monitor the progress of students within my groups every two weeks to determine student achievement
- ▶ Use research-based interventions/strategies when working with students on a daily basis

The Balanced Child

Amanda





Kindergarten Schedule

8:50-9:00	Morning work
Calendar 9:00-9:20	Morning Meeting
9:15-10:00 RW	WW
10:00-10:15 Letter study/Shared Reading	Letter study/ shared reading
10:15-10:30 Snack	Snack/Recess
10:30-11:10 WW	RW
11:10-11:55	Specials
12:00-12:40	Heggerty/Phonics Lesson
12:44-1:34	LUNCH
1:40-2:00 rest	rest
2:00-2:30 Science/SS SEL Block	Math
Read Aloud 2:30-2:40	Read Aloud
Science 2:40-3:00	SEL/Science
Free Choice 3:00-3:30	Free Choice
Pack up 3:30-3:45	PACK UP Afternoon Meeting
3:50	DISMISSAL

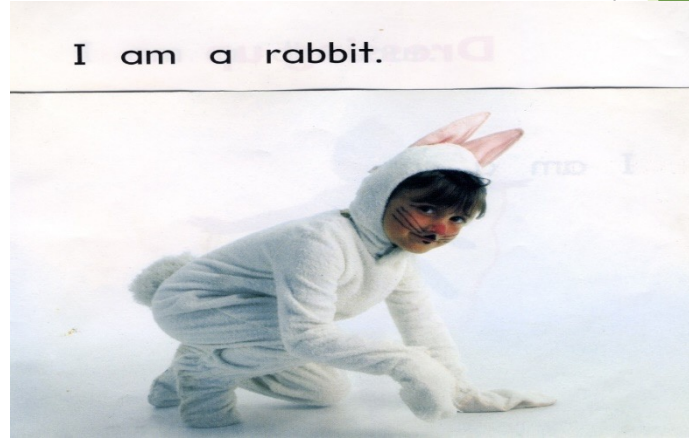
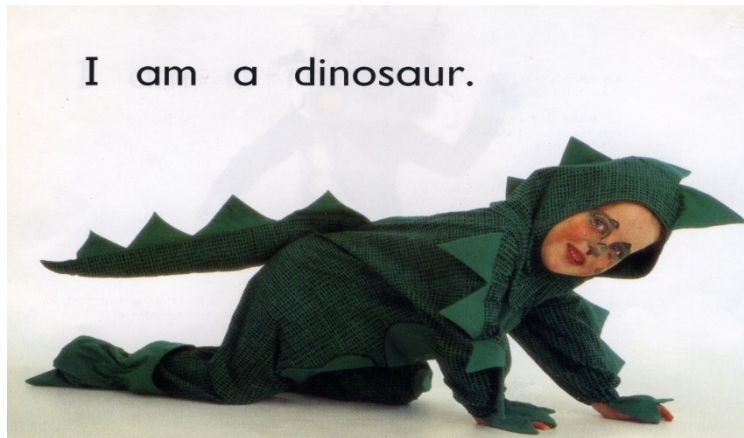
The following are also a priority, but will be embedded throughout the day:

- Social/Emotional development
- Oral Language
- Assessment
- Differentiated Instruction
- Movement
- Hands on/Exploratory

Reader's Workshop

Amanda

- Individualized
- Just Right Books
- 111 Kindergarten Sight words





- Text is longer without patterns
- More sight words
- Uses many strategies to solve unknown words

Writer's Workshop

- Individualized

I like to write in Kindergarten.



I ilke to rit
in kindergon.



Math Curriculum - Bridges

- ▶ **Building Mathematical Thinkers**

Inquiry-based and student-centered, Bridges focuses on developing mathematical reasoning

- ▶ **Rich Learning Experiences**

- ▶ **Visual Models Deepen Understanding**

- ▶ **Active Learning**

In a Bridges classroom, students gather evidence, explain their results, and develop respect for others' opinions. Teachers encourage students to employ multiple strategies when solving problems. They foster student initiative by providing opportunities to work in pairs, discuss in small groups, or share with the whole class. As a result, students develop positive math identities while building problem-solving skills, conceptual understanding, and procedural fluency.

Snack & Lunch

Eliza

- ▶ Healthy morning snack
Provided by parent
- ▶ Breakfast and Lunch
- ▶ Free/Reduced Applications



How can I be involved?

- ▶ Frequent communication with your child's teacher
- ▶ Show interest in your child's day
- ▶ Volunteer in your child's classroom or offer at-home support.
- ▶ Join our Blanche Sims PTO
- ▶ READ, READ, READ with your child.



LOCS Parent University

- Workshops for Parents
- Look for notices of schedule for events



Spring Screening

Ken

- ▶ Sign up for a screening appointment after registration using SignUpGenius link.
- ▶ On May 7 you and your child will come to Blanche Sims for approximately 45 minutes.
- ▶ We will do some preliminary assessments, while parents will fill out a questionnaire about their child.
- ▶ This information will allow us to evenly balance the classrooms and plan our curriculum accordingly.
- ▶ Times beginning 9:15 (45-minute slots)

Enrollment Information

Open and Online

<https://www.lakeorionschools.org/departments/central-enrollment/new-student-enrollment>



Thank you for coming!

Please feel free to walk through Kindergarten room F111.

The staff will be available to answer questions.

