



**ONLINE
ENROLLMENT
AVAILABLE
NOW!!!**

Dear Parents:

You are invited to participate in *Altoona 4K All Aboard*, our collaborative, community-based four year old kindergarten program, for the 2018-19 school year. *Altoona 4K All Aboard* is an enriched, play-based preschool program designed for all children who live in the Altoona School District and who will be four years old by September 1, 2018. Four year old children who have been accepted for open enrollment will also be eligible to participate.

The 2018-19 *Altoona 4K All Aboard* program will be offered at four community sites:

- *Little Star Daycare, 2245 Hayden Avenue (A.M. and P.M. classes)
- *Western Dairyland Head Start, Altoona Early Education Center (A.M. and P.M. classes)
- *St. Mary's Elementary School, 1828 Lynn Avenue (A.M. and P.M. classes)
- *The Little School House of Altoona, 2328 North Hillcrest Parkway (A.M. and P.M. classes)

Enclosed is a sheet with brief descriptions of our 4K sites, a brochure with information about the 4K program, and a sheet with 4K site contact information.

We are now enrolling all students online!

Please visit our website at www.altoona.k12.wi.us to complete the necessary paperwork. If you do not have access to a computer, we will have some available at the elementary school.

In addition to enrolling online, we require the following forms:

- Original Birth Certificate (we verify the information and return it to you)
- Proof of Residency – (mortgage documents or utility bill with your name and address on it)
- Immunization form (only required if your child received their vaccinations from a different state)
- Other important documents if applicable (IEP, court documentation, etc.)

Please bring the above listed forms to the Altoona Elementary School Office, located at 157 Bartlett Avenue, between the hours of 7:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., before Friday, May 19th to complete the enrollment process.

We encourage you to take advantage of *Altoona 4K All Aboard*. If you have questions, please contact Laura Trachsel, Altoona 4K Coordinator, at: ltrachsel@altoona.k12.wi.us.

Please pass this information on to others who may not have received it. We want all Altoona families with four year olds to be aware of this exciting opportunity!

Sincerely,

Laura Trachsel

Laura Trachsel, Altoona 4K Coordinator



If my child attends 4K at a faith-based site, will they receive faith-based instruction?

Faith-based instruction will be provided to children outside of the 4K programming hours at the discretion of the site.

Will my child need a physical before they can start?

Pre-school/4K child care partner sites do require a physical. The immunizations that are required by the State of Wisconsin s252.04 for Pre K (2yrs through 4years) are:

4 DTP/DTaP/DT, 3 Polio, 3 HepB, 1 MMR and 1 Varicella (Chickenpox) if the child has not had the disease.

In addition, it is a good health practice to have an annual dental exam for children.



The 4K program is offered at various pre-school/childcare partner sites in Altoona. To find out what pre-school/childcare sites offer 4K or for more information, contact the 4K Coordinator, Laura Trachsel at ltrachsel@altoona.k12.wi.us, or check the School District of Altoona website, www.altoona.k12.wi.us.



Altoona 4-Year-Old Kindergarten Program

Vision

All of Altoona's young children and their families deserve ongoing opportunities to reach their optimum potential.

Mission

4K is a community partnership committed to supporting and nurturing the social and educational growth and development of Altoona children and their families by providing quality learning experiences.



The School District of Altoona does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability. The School District of Altoona has complaint procedures that allow residents or aggrieved persons to file a written complaint with Alan McCutcheon, SPED and Pupil Services Administrator, 1903 Bartlett Avenue, Altoona WI 54720, (715)839-6224. The complaint procedure requires the District to acknowledge the complaint within 45 days and to issue a determination within 90 days, unless the parties otherwise agree in writing.

4K Programming



Frequently Asked Questions:

The School District of Altoona's 4K curriculum is based on the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards. Altoona uses the "Creative Curriculum" as a guide to foster growth in health and physical development, social and emotional development, language and communication, cognitive and general knowledge, and self help skills.

Children learn through:

- * Dramatic play
- * Block play
- * Art and sensory experiences
- * Literature
- * Discovery
- * Music and movement



What are the requirements for children who wish to enroll in 4K?

Children must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of the enrollment year. He or she must reside in the School District of Altoona boundaries or have applied and been accepted for Open Enrollment.

The 4K program is intended for children turning 4 years of age from September 1 through the previous September 2. Families requesting to delay 5K entrance and enroll their 5K eligible child in 4K should contact the Altoona Elementary building principal at 715-839-6050 before April 30th of the school year prior to enrollment.

Is the 4K programming the same at all sites?

A DPI certified early childhood educator teaches each of the 4K classes and depending on numbers of children enrolled, each classroom may have a paraprofessional to assist the teacher and children. Each site utilizes the same curriculum.

What are the 4K class teacher/student ratios?

The teacher/student ratio in all 4K classes is 1:10 unless an exception is made by the School District Administrative Council.

Where will my child attend 4K?

If a child is currently enrolled in a pre-school/childcare partner site, then the child will have priority to attend 4K at that site. As much as possible, parent site preferences will be honored. After all pre-schools/childcare partner sites are filled the district will add a school-based site only if needed.

Is transportation available for the program?

Yes. A child will be transported directly to and/or from the 4K session in the morning or afternoon. For example, a child can ride the bus directly to the 7:30 am session of 4K. However, if the child attends the childcare setting at 6:30 am and the 4K session starts at 7:30 am, then transportation is the responsibility of the family.

When dropping a child off, the bus driver must see a parent or other responsible adult (this person must be listed on the "persons authorized to receive the child" part of the registration form) before letting the child off the bus. If an authorized person is not present then the child will be brought to Little Star Day Care and parents will be responsible for any childcare services provided.



Altoona 4K *All Aboard* Program Sites

Little Star Daycare

2245 Hayden Avenue
Krystina Schumacher, Director
715-832-1513
krystina.littlestar@gmail.com

St. Mary's Elementary School

1828 Lynn Avenue
Carisa Smiskey, Principal
715-830-2278
csmiskey@regiscatholicschools.com

Western Dairyland Head Start

Altoona Early Education Center
Debbie Davis, Center Manager
715-832-5543
ddavis@altoona.k12.wi.us

Little School House of Altoona

2328 North Hillcrest Parkway
Christine Redetzke, Director
715-214-6609
littleschoolhousealtoona@gmail.com

Brief Descriptions of the Altoona 4K *All Aboard* Sites

All Sites:

- employ WI Department of Public Instruction licensed teachers
- utilize the same curricula: The Creative Curriculum for Preschool, a widely used, research-based curriculum which includes all developmental areas, Second Step, a curriculum which teaches social-emotional, friendship and problem-solving skills, and Handwriting without Tears
- monitor children's progress with the Teaching Strategies GOLD online assessment
- screen children's literacy skills with PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening)-PreK
- communicate with parents via newsletters, notes, and two parent-teacher conferences/year

Little Star Daycare

Little Star is located in Bethlehem Lutheran Church. This is our ninth year of partnering with the Altoona 4K *All Aboard* Program. Our curriculum follows the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards, and provides hands-on activities in language arts, math, science, and social studies. We encourage children's individual curiosity and positive social-emotional development in all aspects of our program. Little Star is a licensed child care facility, and child care is available both before and after the 4K program.

The Altoona Early Education Center (Head Start)

The Altoona Early Education Center is a very unique center that involves collaboration between Head Start, a federally funded program, and the Altoona School District's Early Childhood Special Education Program. Our site employs three licensed teachers, as well as two well-qualified assistant teachers. We utilize practices that support each child's strengths and allow children to learn through play and active exploration of their environment. Our staff provides the children with age-appropriate learning activities in all the areas of development including math, science, language, literacy, nutrition, and the arts. In addition, Head Start offers comprehensive services in the areas of dental care, health care, family services, and parent engagement. We ensure that your child develops school readiness skills through curriculum that follows Head Start Performance Standards, the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards, and Day Care Licensing Regulations. We are a five star YoungStar Program. Eligibility requirements must be met prior to placement.

St. Mary's Elementary School

St. Mary's is a very special place for children to learn and grow. Our 4K program's approach to learning includes hands-on curiosity, engagement and persistence, invention and imagination. We follow the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards as well as providing an optional faith-based education. In addition, the core curriculum includes language arts, mathematics, social studies and science, both inside the classroom, and on our new age-appropriate playground, which is used as an extension of the curriculum. As with all the students enrolled at St. Mary's, our focus is on the individual child. Our program emphasizes spiritual, social and emotional, health and physical, language and communication development. It is our belief at St. Mary's that each child is a precious gift entrusted to us. The partnership between the school and family benefits each student's growth and development. At St. Mary's, our teachers provide the foundation for a lifelong love of learning.

The Little School House of Altoona

The Little School House is a state licensed and insured child care center. Our director is DPI certified with a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and 9 years of experience teaching 4K. Our 4K program promotes learning and development through the use of hands-on curriculum in language arts, math, science, art, and social studies. Our experienced staff work hard to teach children all they need to know to be successful in future educational experiences. Your child will establish friendships, learn respect for themselves and others, and thrive using our large, grassy playground with padded track while at the Little School House. We offer full time child care for those who need additional care before and after 4K.



Altoona Elementary



Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Dear Parent:

Please be aware that one dose of DTaP vaccine is required after the 4th birthday. For children who are "up to date" with their preschool DTaP series this will be final (5th) dose that is recommended to ensure prolonged protection, primarily against pertussis also known as whooping cough. For children who are not "up to date" this dose may be the 3rd or 4th in the series and no further doses are required. Because of a 4-day grace period, DTaP vaccine received 4 days or less before the 4th birthday is also acceptable.

The date (month, day, and year) of each immunization must be entered on the Student Immunization Record that is available from your child's school and should be submitted to the school your child will attend.

Waivers are available for religious, health, and personal conviction reasons. However, in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease, students with waivers may be excluded from school until the outbreak subsides.

You are encouraged to have your child immunized well in advance of school opening to avoid the late summer rush at immunization clinics. For immunizations, contact your doctor, clinic, HMO or nearest public health department

Beginning October 1, 2012, local health departments will no longer be able to administer state supplied vaccine to children that have private insurance which includes coverage for immunizations. You are encouraged to check your health insurance policy to determine if it covers immunizations and if so, you should seek those services from your physician or clinic.

You may view your child's immunization record from your computer on the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR). The WIR is a secure computerized data system that tracks immunizations given to people. The internet address is <http://dhfsWIR.org>. To obtain the dates of your child's immunizations, type in your child's name, social security or Medicaid number. In order to access your child's record their social security number must be in the system. If it is not, contact your medical provider and ask that the number be put into the WIR so that you can access your child's immunization record. Address information about your child is not provided.

If you would like further information on immunization, please see the following websites: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/>, <http://www.immunize.org/> and <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/index.htm>