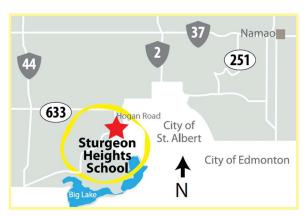
### Your child can grow with us

Located within the City of St. Albert, Sturgeon Heights School serves students and families throughout Sturgeon County and adjacent urban communities. In addition to our reputation for excellent academic success, our school provides cross-graded activities designed to build relationships between all students, where older students support the development of younger students.

### We're easy to find

Sturgeon Heights School is conveniently located in St. Albert on Hogan Road, immediately south of secondary highway 633. We provide bussing for Sturgeon County families from various daycares in St. Albert to our school.



Phone: 780-459-3990 Email: sheights@sturgeon.ab.ca Web: www.sturgeonheights.ca



**Sturgeon Heights School** 50 Hogan Road. St. Albert, AB, T8N 3X7



# Kindergarten Reggio Emilia Inspired Education



**STURGEON HEIGHTS SCHOOL** 

2017 - 2018 New Registrant Information Booklet



# Kindergarten

## Our early childhood philosophy

All children will bloom in a safe, positive and supportive educational environment. Our programming is influenced by Reggio Emilia philosophy which emphasizes cooperation, parents as partners, the environment as a teacher, documentation, and teachers as guides and nurturers. Children are curious and inquisitive about their world and we strive to create learning spaces that foster interaction and exploration.

### We support you and your child

Early childhood is a significant period in human development; when independence, initiative, decision-making, creativity, learning ability, relating to others and feelings of self-worth all begin. Staying connected is critical during this development and each of our classes share a visual journal of this growth with parents through the SeeSaw platform. Parents can also expect a variety of other forms of communication such as direct conversation, email, and newsletters to name a few we use.

"The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery." Mark van Doren.

### Our kindergarten classroom

The classroom is a team effort involving children, teachers and parents. Our kindergarten classes have a family feeling where the entire group cares for others and the room. We consider parents to be strong partners in their child's success and welcome parent participation in the classroom. Also, we create classrooms that are fun learning spaces with an activity centered approach.

### **Transportation**

Bus transportation is available for Sturgeon County residents. Those enrolled in alternating, full day classes may pursue transportation both to and from school. However, there is no transportation available in the middle of the day, so those students enrolled in half day programs will not be able to receive transportation at the end of the morning or the beginning of the afternoon. For current costs and further details, please contact Sherri Davidson at our central office directly at 780-939-4341.

It is very important to let your kindergarten teacher know how your child will be arriving and leaving our school. Please share which bus they are on, or if you will be driving or walking them to school. If someone other than the child's parent comes to pick up a child, or you are picking up your child who normally rides on the bus, please check in at the school office and let your child's teacher know before leaving with your child.

### Keep us up to date

It is important that we keep the information in our files as up to date as possible. Please inform our front office and your child's teacher of any changes including addresses, phone numbers, email contact, child-care arrangements, work phone numbers or any individuals who are permitted to pick up your child from school.

### **Kindergarten Enrichment Program (KEP)**

We offer an optional enrichment program available to children who qualify for additional funding as Gifted and Talented. To qualify, children are screened by a registered psychologist. Children attending KEP will come to school for an additional two afternoons per week and will have a total program of at least 675 hours. There is an additional cost for KEP. Please speak to our principal for more information.

#### Learning areas

Our kindergarten program follows the guidelines of Alberta Education. The curriculum is organized in seven themes with learner expectations in the following areas:



### Learning skills

- Literacy and numeracy skills are taught in a positive, safe, enthusiastic environment.
- Specific learner outcomes brought out through teacher provocations and student discoveries.
- Children are provided opportunities to learn about and practice specified learner outcomes individually and at centers.
- Children develop an awareness of their unique individuality and worth.
- Positive play activities provide opportunities for your child to develop a solid foundation of first-hand experiences and basic knowledge upon which to build and grow.
- A sense of self and community is explored and permeates the entire day.

## **Program Overview**

### Entrance age and program hours



Your child must be five years old on or before March 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to meet the age requirements for enrollment in Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year.

Each year our kindergarten classes will meet together for at least 475 hours of instruction over the year.

#### **Arrangement of classes**

We anticipate offering four kindergarten classes. One half-day morning class, one half-day afternoon class and two alternating, full day classes. One on Monday/Wednesday and the other on Tuesday/Thursday with the extra day being on occasional Fridays. The schedule for which Fridays will be provided when the school year begins. This arrangement may change with enrollment.



#### **Times**



- 8:30am Morning classes begin 11:20am - Morning classes end
- 12:20pm Afternoon classes begin 3:10pm – Afternoon classes end

Full day runs from 8:30am - 3:10pm

# **Getting Started**

## Parent partnership

Our program is a partnership between home and school so parent involvement is an integral part. This might include serving on committees, visiting our classrooms, attending parent/teacher conferences, school events or volunteering. We encourage parents to come to our classrooms to volunteer when you can and especially for special events or field trips. The children enjoy having you in our classes and we are grateful for the help!



For the safety of our children, **Sturgeon School Division requires all volunteers to provide the school with a current criminal record check**. For more information, please contact the school office.

### First day of school



The first day of school is an exciting experience for children, parents and teachers. Our school uses a staggered entrance to help lower anxiety and ensure the best opportunity explore the classroom and meet new friends. With staggered entrance, children will come and meet the teacher and a few new friends in a small group setting. Full classes, with all children attending, will begin the following week. Staggered entry dates will be established for the first week of September, and you may expect a phone call from the school prior to the end of this school year in June.

### Field trips and special events

Field trips in kindergarten are an important way to bring the curriculum to life and help make memorable experiences. Students will experience several in-school presentations and a few trips off school grounds too!

### Attendance

It is vital that we are made aware of any times your child will be absent from school. Please inform the school office ahead of time when you know, and as soon as you can in the event of an unforeseen illness. This can be done by phoning 780-459-3990 or through email at <u>shsabsences@sturgeon.ab.ca</u> If you are calling outside our office hours, please leave a message on our answering machine.

### **Kindergarten costs**

There are a few costs which we charge up front for students in kindergarten. Our field trip cost is \$100.00 which covers in-school and away from school trips. We also charge \$20.00 for crafts and materials for the year. If you are a Sturgeon County resident and require bus transportation there may be a cost involved for that too.

Our Kindergarten Enrichment Program or KEP has an additional cost of \$65.00 for field trips and materials specific for that additional time.



### We are a Nut and Scent Free School