

Fred C. Underhill School

Incoming Kindergarten Parent Information Night



April 7, 2026

The background is white with various colorful decorative elements. In the top-left corner, there is a green semi-circle, a pink musical note, a purple circle, and a blue spiral. In the top-right corner, there is a blue wavy shape, a green circle, and a pink circle. In the bottom-left corner, there is an orange semi-circle and a purple musical note. In the bottom-right corner, there is a red wavy shape and a purple squiggly line. In the center, the word "Welcome" is written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

Welcome

Agenda

- Introductions
- Tour
- School Information
- Mission
- Class Size
- Kindergarten Typical Day
- Play-Based Learning
- Reading and Math
- Work Study Practices
- Other Programs
- School Guidance
- Registration
- Other School Information
- Ready for Success
- Things You Can Do At Home
- Important Dates

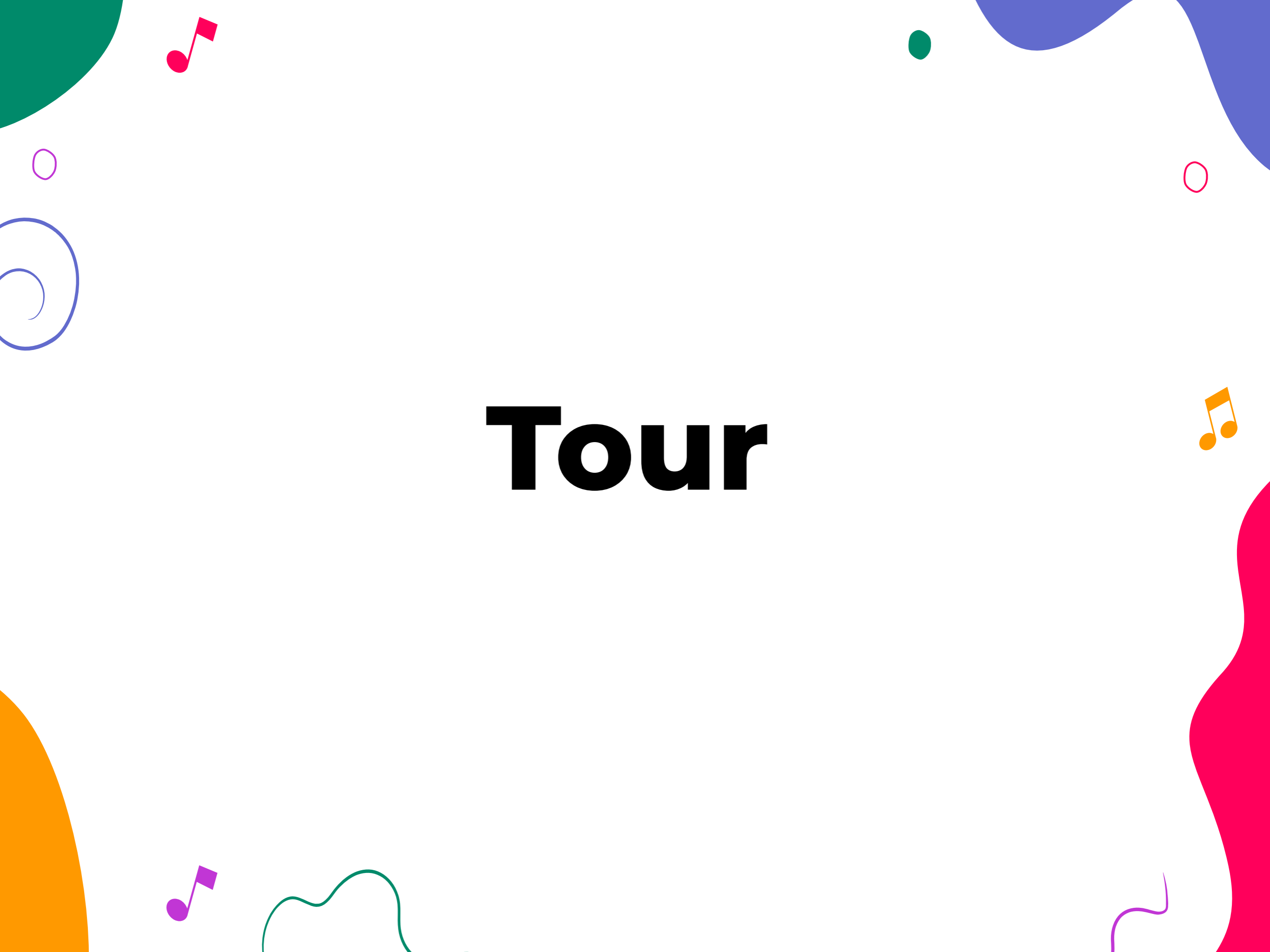


Introductions

- Ben Loi, Principal
- Jen Colantuoni, Assistant Principal
- Judy Penland and Amy Martel, Administrative Assistants
- Kindergarten Teachers
- Fred the Bear



Tour



School Information

- Original Construction: 1958
- Starting Point for Hooksett Schools
- Preschool-Grade 2: 426 students
- 90 Staff Members
- Multi-use Facility for School & Community
- Community Partnerships





Be Like FRED

Friendly Responsible Every Day



Mission

Our Mission is to develop well-rounded, confident and responsible individuals who strive to achieve their full potential. We will do this by providing a welcoming, happy, safe, and supportive learning environment in which everyone collaborates and all achievements are celebrated.



Class Sizes


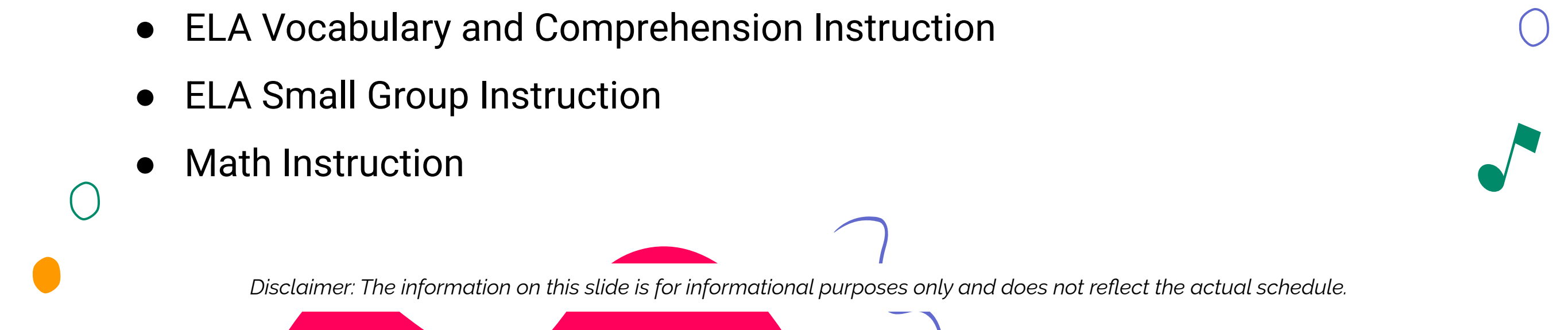
Four Year Average

- 126 Kindergarten Students
- 7 Classes, 7 Teachers, & 7 Classroom Assistants
- Average Class Size - 18 Students
- Ratio of 1:9 (1 Staff member to 9 Students)
 - 1 Teacher and 1 Kindergarten Classroom Aide





Kindergarten Typical Day

- 
- Morning Activities
 - Guided Play
 - Snack
 - ELA Phonics Instruction
 - ELA Decodable Text Routine
 - Unified Arts (Art, Music, Physical Education, Library Media)
 - Lunch and Recess
 - Quiet Time
 - Handwriting & Writing Instruction
 - ELA Vocabulary and Comprehension Instruction
 - ELA Small Group Instruction
 - Math Instruction
- 

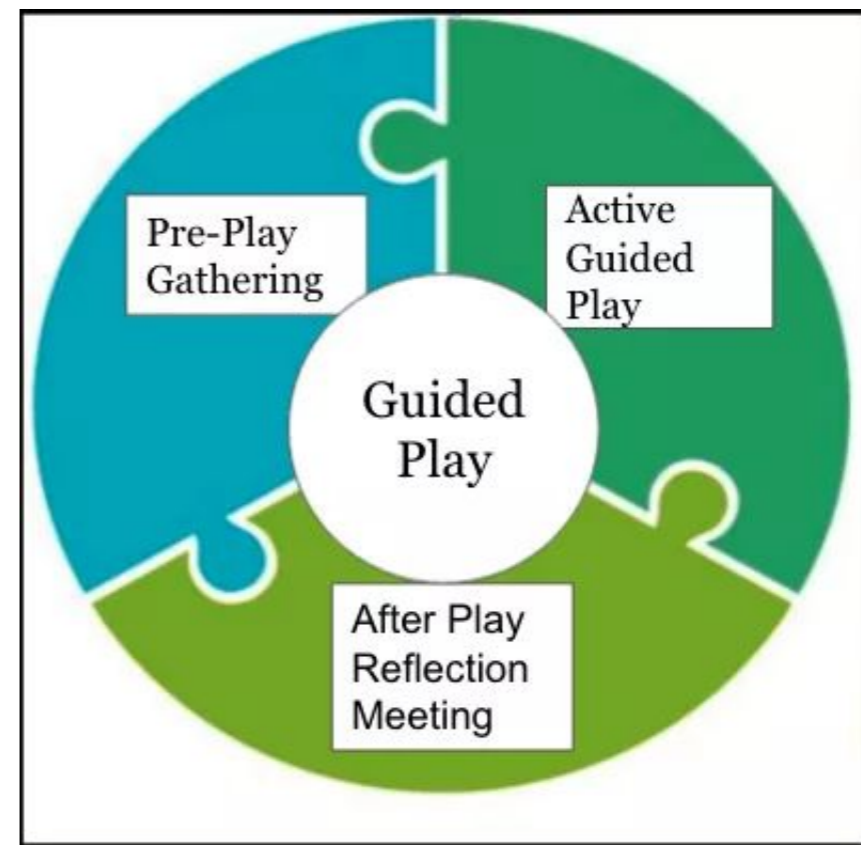
Disclaimer: The information on this slide is for informational purposes only and does not reflect the actual schedule.

Play-Based Learning

NH House Bill 1499

Guided play in classrooms is structured around three essential components:

- Pre-Play Gathering
- Active Guided Play
- After Play Reflection Meeting



What is Guided Play?

During guided play, adults intentionally guide a child's play to support their learning goals, rather than directing their actions or taking over the play. It combines child-led exploration and play with adult scaffolding to facilitate learning in a natural, meaningful way.

Guided play emphasizes the child's autonomy and initiative in deciding what and how to play.

Staff offer gentle guidance and support to steer the child's play toward specific learning objectives.

Staff provide support and guidance at the right time and level to help children reach their learning goals without stifling their creativity or autonomy.



Reading/ELA Competencies

- Names all uppercase and lowercase letters and their sounds.
- Recognizes rhyming words.
- Blends and segments sounds in words.
- Reads grade level high frequency words by sight.
- Reads grade level text.
- Makes meaning of literary and informational text.
- Composes writing to share opinions, information and personal narratives.
- Applies grade level phonics in writing.
- Gathers information and recalls experiences to answer questions.



Math Competencies

- Reads numerals from 0-20.
- Counts to 100.
- Writes numerals 0-20.
- Counts to tell the number of objects.
- Compares two numerals between 1-10.
- Uses strategies to add and subtract within 10.
- Compares length, weight and height.
- Identifies and describes shapes.
- Puts shapes together to make a new shape.



Work Study Practices

Students are supported in their development of these work study practices.

- Communication
- Self-advocacy
- Participation
- Work completion
- Perseverance
- Original and Flexible Thinking
- Collaboration
- Listening
- Responsibility
- Effort
- Time Management
- Independence





Other Programs

- **Unified Arts**
 - Art
 - Music
 - Physical Education/Health
 - Library/Media
- Advanced Learner Programs (ALPs)
- Literacy Support
- Special Education Program
- Title 1 Interventions

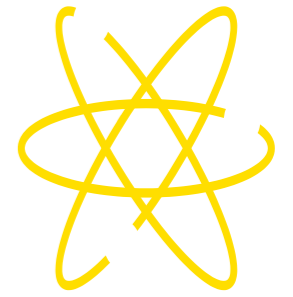


School Guidance & Counseling

- Identifying Feelings
- Cause and Effect
- Self-Regulation
- Collaboration
- Friendship
- Social Awareness
- Anti-Bullying
- Mindfulness
- Appreciating Differences
- Multiple-Intelligences
- Growth Mindset
- Community



Registration





Select a District Website

Search...

OUR DISTRICT

STUDENTS & FAMILIES

FACULTY & STAFF

HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL BOARD

Student Registration: Upcoming School Year (2026-2027)

New Students Enrolling for the 2026-2027 School Year

School Year Dates: August 31, 2026 – June 16, 2027

This option is for students who are **NEW to the Hooksett School District** (i.e., students who have never been enrolled in a Hooksett school) and are enrolling for the 2026-2027 school year.

To begin the registration process, please follow these steps:

1. Visit the [PowerSchool New Student 2026-2027 Registration Form](#) by clicking here
2. **Create a PowerSchool Registration Account** or log in to your existing account.
3. **Select "Add Student"** and enter the necessary information for your new student.
4. Fill out the form details and information for your student
5. Be prepared to submit the following required documents either via the online form or in person at your enrolling school's front office:

BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



What is Needed for Your Child to Start School

- ❑ Hooksett School District's Policy JFAA: Parents must "fully complete the school district's registration process"
- ❑ Completed online forms in Powerschool. Visit <https://hooksett.sau15.net/upcoming-school-year/>
- ❑ Birth Certificate
- ❑ **2 Proofs of Residency - Must be a Hooksett resident**
 1. **First Proof:** A Mortgage Statement, Rental/Lease Agreement, or Deed with the parent or legal guardians listed as the owners, lessee, or purchaser.

AND

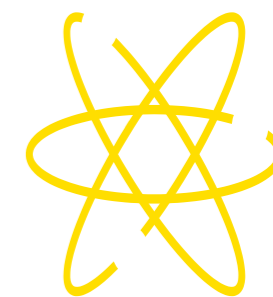
2. **Second Proof:** A Utility Bill (water, oil, gas, electric, phone, cable, or internet) with the same address on it. A cell phone bill will not be accepted.
- ❑ Physical Exam - On or before August 31st for the start of the new school year.
 - ❑ Immunization Record - State Law Requirement

Entrance Age

Hooksett School District Policy JEB

A student, who is a Hooksett resident, entering the first grade at the Hooksett elementary schools must be six years of age on or before September 30th. A child entering kindergarten must be five years of age on or before September 30th.





Other School Information



- Pick Up Patrol is an absence/dismissal program.
- In August, you will get a notification telling you to look for an email from Pick Up Patrol to set up your account.
- You can set up your default dismissal plans, input plan changes and absences.
- Access it through your phone, tablet, or computer.
- Safe, efficient, and no cost to parents.



Transportation

- The Hooksett School District provides bus transportation to and from school for all students.
- Bus routes will be published in August (tentative).
- The Bus Company offers a free GPS bus tracking app called FirstView.
- The app allows you to set a daily schedule and you can set a radius for when you would like to receive notifications.
- Information about the app will be sent prior to the start of the school year.



Before and After School Care

- The New Morning School Age program is located on site.
- They provide before and after school care for Kindergarten to 5th Grade.
- Website: <https://www.newmorningschools.com/schoolage>
- See flyer for some more information

The community also has other before and after school care options:

- Mary Go Round
- Tic Tac Tots
- Brighter Future
- Bright Beginnings
- Hooksett's Best Daycare
- Above and Beyond Childcare
- Places You'll Grow
- Granite State Gymnastics
- Miss Stephanie's



School Nutrition Program

- The School Nutrition program offers breakfast and lunch options.
 - Daily offerings include one or more of the following: Munchable Plates, Yogurt Plates, Assorted Sandwiches.
 - A complete meal includes an Entrée, Fruit, Veggie, and Choice of Milk.
- Students may also purchase snack milk.
- Free and reduced price meal applications may be processed at any time during the school year.
- Current Prices:
 - Breakfast: \$2.50
 - Lunch: \$3.90
- Parents can use My SchoolBucks to make payments online. Setup information will be sent prior to the start of the school year.
- Website: <https://hooksett.sau15.net/nutrition-services/>
- Contact: Eleni Gagnon, Nutrition Services Director
 - egagnon@sau15.net



Communications

- The district uses a notification program, Bright Arrow, to share information regarding school closures, delays, events, topics, or emergency situations.
- We highly recommend that parents select both email and text notifications when they register.
- We also use the website, Facebook, and Class Dojo to provide information to families.
- Principal's Updates are sent via email, Class Dojo, and Facebook.
- Please make sure to notify the office if any of your contact information changes or if you are not receiving notifications.



Ready For Success

- Ready for Success is a program offered by the district to help incoming kindergartners develop their confidence and basic skills before starting in the fall.
- Two 2-week sessions: July 6-16 and July 20-July 30
- Monday - Thursday -- 9:00-11:00am
- Parents must provide transportation.
- Students will need a backpack, a snack, and a drink.
- Students practice routines, how to get around the school, fine motor skills, social skills, and pre-academic skills.
- This program is offered at no cost to parents.
- Invitations will be sent via email on April 8th. The deadline for submission is on April 17, 2026. Notifications will be sent on April 20, 2026.
- Students must be fully registered to participate in this program.
- It will be filled first come, first served. There will be 12 seats for each session.



Things You Can Do at Home

- Check out the handouts in your packet for helpful information.
- Read to your child and talk to your child about what you've read.
- Practice letters, sounds and numbers in fun ways.
- Listen to songs with word/number play and sounds.
- Use a breadth of vocabulary in everyday conversations.
- Encourage physical activity.
- Engage in activities that require attention like puzzles, playdough, painting or coloring, cutting and pasting.
- Play games that require turn taking.
- Participate in the Public Library's programs for children.
- Practice using public restrooms, buttoning, and zipping.



We're Here for You!

- **Health/Medical Questions**
 - April Fraser, School Nurse
- **Social Support Questions**
 - Carly Wentzell, School Counselor
- **Educational Questions**
 - Classroom Teachers
 - Literacy Support Staff
 - Special Education Staff
- **All of the Above and More**
 - Ben Loi, Principal
 - Jen Colantuoni, Assistant Principal
 - Judy Penland, Administrative Assistant
 - Amy Martel, Administrative Assistant



Follow Us

Website

<http://underhill.sau15.net>

Follow Us On

[facebook.com/hoeksettfcu](https://www.facebook.com/hoeksettfcu)



Important Dates*

- April 8 - Ready for Success Invites Go Out
- April 17 - Ready for Success Sign-up Ends
- April 20 - Ready for Success Selection and Waitlist Notifications Go Out
- August 2026
 - Class Assignments Announced
 - Bus Stops Published
 - Welcome Back Messages
- August 27 - Meet Your Teacher - 1:30-3:30 PM
- August 31 - First Day of School - K-8

**Dates are tentative and subject to change.*

Hooksett School District 2026-2027 School Year Calendar
Visit <https://bit.ly/hsd-2026-27-calendar>



Ready for Success Contact Form

Visit <https://bit.ly/rfs-parent-contact-list-2026>



Questions

