

10. If my child is not assigned to my first choice school, will assignment to my 2nd or 3rd choice school be automatic?

Yes. However, the parent of any child not assigned to a 1st choice school will be contacted personally about kindergarten placement. If your child is not assigned to a first choice school, your child's name is placed on a wait list for that school. Because kindergarten is only a one-year placement, there is no appeals process.

11. Where will kindergarten programs be located?

At this time, the half-day kindergarten program will be located at the Roosevelt School only. Each elementary school will house full-day programs.

12. Will children in the half-day program get the same curriculum as children in the all-day program?

Both our half-day and our full-day kindergarten programs are aligned with the Massachusetts curriculum frameworks. Children in the all-day program will experience additional enrichment and extension activities.

13. What are the times my child will be in school?

- Full-day from 8:15 am-2:20 pm
- Half-day from: 8:30 am-11:00 am
- Half-day from: 11:55 am-2:30 pm

(Children in the half-day program switch sessions on the 90th day of school, which is typically the end of January.)

14. Will children be able to see their classrooms and meet their teachers?

Yes, children will get to see their classrooms and meet with their teachers before school begins in September.

15. How many children will be in my child's class?

There may be 20-24 children assigned to full-day classrooms taught by 1 teacher and at least 1 grant-funded paraprofessional. Our half-day classrooms house between 15-21 children.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

You may have some questions that are pertinent to your particular situation. Please ask these of the administrator present at registration, or call the Superintendent's office.



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MELROSE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION

Frequently Asked Questions
2010-2011



Hoover School – 37 Glendower Road
Horace Mann School – 40 Damon Avenue
Lincoln School – 80 West Wyoming Street
Roosevelt School – 253 Vinton Street
Winthrop School – 162 First Street

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Where and when will Kindergarten registration take place?

Kindergarten registration will take place at the **Melrose Veterans Memorial Middle School** on:

- Feb. 8th from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
And

At the **Parent Information Center - Central Administration Offices**:

- Feb. 10th from 8:30 a.m.- Noon
- Feb. 11th from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

2. Can I register my child other than during Registration Week?

Yes. However, registering during Registration Week is important to making the process run as smoothly as possible. Registrations received after February 11th will result in assignments being made on a space available basis.

3. What types of kindergarten programs are offered by the Melrose Public Schools (MPS)?

The MPS offers both a half-day kindergarten program as well as a fee-based full-day program.

4. For what school should I register my child?

If registering your child for the full-day program, you will need to make 3 school choices. The half-day program will be available at the Roosevelt School only. Every effort will be made to place your child in your first choice school.

5. When will I know what school my child will attend?

We are hopeful that budget decisions will be made that will allow us to assign children to a school by March 30th. You will be notified of your child's school assignment by mail.

6. Will siblings be split between/among schools?

Siblings will not be split *unless* the kindergarten program desired is *not available* in a certain school.

7. What is the fee structure for the full-day kindergarten program?

There is a \$25 non-refundable registration fee due at the time of registration. Registrations for the full-day program will not be accepted without this registration fee. Currently, the tuition for the full-day program will be \$2,500. We will notify you of any change in a timely manner. You can pay in full or on an installment plan of 4 equal payments.

Payment can be made using personal checks, bank checks or money orders made payable to the Melrose Public Schools. New this year – online payment option - details will be included in your school assignment letter.

Your child may be eligible for free or reduced tuition. However, all tuition will be charged at the full rate of \$2500 until such time you submit your 2009 tax returns for review and receive notification of the free/reduced rate and payment schedule from the Melrose Public School's Business Office.

8. What do I have to do to satisfy the sliding fee scale requirement?

In order to satisfy this requirement, you must submit your 2009 tax return. If there is a particular family situation that you think makes you eligible for a reduced fee, please see one of the school administrators who will be present at registration or contact the Business Manager at 781-979-2290.

9. What criteria are used to determine student placement?

The following are the prioritized criteria used in kindergarten student placement:

- Timeliness of registration
- Need for program or facility
- Presence of siblings in the school as of September of the child's first grade year
- Proximity to school