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## A Day In School Readiness Preschool Program Will - Trojan Preschool Classes Look A Little Different

By: Laura Lempe, **Preschool Teacher** 

Have you ever wondered what we do during each day? We do so many things in the short three hours we have together. This is what I do with my senior preschool classes.

When the children arrive they hang up their outerwear and backpacks then answer the Question of The Day (QOD). The question has either a yes or no answer. After hearing the question they write their name under their answer. Following the QOD they go to their seats and practice either writing their name or

writing the alphabet.

When they've completed either one and have told us the letters they can pick a table activity. Our table activities are typically STEM materials. These are hands-on materials used for creating, building, and using the imagination. Next we meet in circle time to begin our time together.

some breathing exercises and read the note on the board. The note is from me and tells the group what is planned for the day. Then they each have to find and identify a letter on



Preschool is not just about learning the alphabet and writing your name. Friendships that can last a lifetime are started in preschool. Learning to work together and get along is a skill that will last forever.

We sing, greet our friends, do



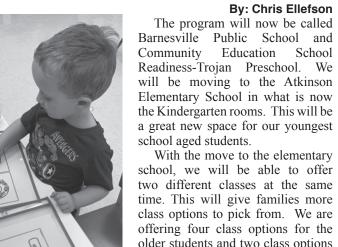
Practicing and recognizing letters and numbers is an important skill that is learned in preschool.

Following circle time we head to center time and small group. Centers include; building, dramatic play (house, Target, Starbucks, hospital, dentist, birthday party, etc), art, manipulatives, books, and discovery (math and science exploration).

While the children are playing in centers I will call a couple of them over to do a literacy, math, or art activity. We then gather together in circle time for a phonics or theme activity until snack is ready. After snack there are a number of different activities we do - a science experiment, playing a game, music and movement, a math, literacy, or sensory activity.

We end our time together by writing in our journals. I use journal time to work on fine motor development. They write, draw pictures, or cut and glue into the journal. I love journals because it shows how each child has grown throughout the school year.

Each day is different because there are so many different temperaments. I make sure to take into account how each child is doing that day. If they seem to have a lot of energy I skip the more focused work for movement and sensory activities. No two days are ever the same.



The program will now be called Barnesville Public School and Community Education School Readiness-Trojan Preschool. We will be moving to the Atkinson Elementary School in what is now the Kindergarten rooms. This will be a great new space for our youngest With the move to the elementary

school, we will be able to offer two different classes at the same time. This will give families more class options to pick from. We are offering four class options for the older students and two class options for the younger students.

Senior Preschool students should be four or five years of age by September 1, 2021 and be planning to attend Kindergarten in the fall of 2022. The Junior Preschool students should be three years of age by September 1, 2021 and be planning to attend kindergarten in the fall of 2023. All students should be toilet trained by the time class starts in September. All students need to go through the Early Childhood Screening process. If they have not yet, they can do the screening in May when we hold our screening days.

The Class options for the Senior Preschool kids include the following four options. Senior Preschool I that will meet four days per week on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Senior Preschool II will be three days per week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Senior Preschool III will be two days per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Preschool IV will be two days per week on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:00-3:00

The class options for the Junior Preschool kids include the following two options. Junior Preschool I will be two days per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Junior Preschool II will be two days per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

All of the preschool classes are open to residents of ISD #146 and then if there are openings we would open spots up to families that plan to open enroll to Barnesville.



Preschool classes are offered through Barnesville Community Education. There are two different levels offered, Junior Preschool and Senior Preschool.

Registration for next year's School Readiness Trojan Preschool will take place on Monday, March online at https://www. locallevelevents.com/events/org/ barnesville-schools start at 6:00 p.m. Parents must complete the full registration form on this website and submit a registration fee of \$30. Parents that do not want to register online, can bring their completed paper registration form into the Community Education Office starting on Tuesday, March 30 along with the \$30 registration fee. The deadline to register will be April 6th for either option. This will give us time to get the classes figured out for the next year and mail out information to families.

A registration packet was mailed to all families with students that will be three and four years old by September 1 as well as some five year olds that we are aware are attending

preschool. If you did not receive a packet, please either contact the Community Education office at 354-2638 or cellefson@barnesville. k12.mn.us or you can go to the school website at www.barnesville. k12.mn.us and find the Community Education link where you will find the 2021-22 School Readiness-Trojan Preschool Registration Packet and the Registration Form.

The preschool teacher will be Laura Lempe who will be in her second year in this position. The preschool program runs through the Barnesville Community Education program.

The registration packet includes the prices of each class option, the starting date, the number of class days for each class option and other basic information about the classes. Please contact the Community Education office at 354-2638 with questions.

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