



Dear Kindergarten Families,

Kindergarten is an exciting year full of growth and development for children. I am thrilled to have your child in my class this year, and I look forward to partnering with you on your kindergartner's education. My goal is for you to always know what we are working on in the classroom.

A student's success getting to college and career starts at birth and continues through key milestones, including kindergarten, third grade, fifth grade, and beyond. Kindergarten readiness is a key area of focus in the development of high-quality education. School districts in Illinois will begin reporting on 14 readiness measures of the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) for each kindergartner beginning in the fall of 2017.

KIDS is not a test. It's a tool teachers use to observe students, take notes, take photos, and collect work samples. Teachers learn the most about their students by watching them when they are doing school work, playing together or alone, and following their daily routines in the classroom.

KIDS will help me:

- Learn what each student is good at, what they like, and how they learn best.
- Develop individual and class learning goals.
- Use the information to improve my teaching.

I love getting to know each of my students, and I cannot wait to learn more about your child. One of my goals as a teacher is to help your child build a love of learning. To be able to do that, it is important for me to understand what your child knows and can do at the beginning of the year so I can support him or her in all areas of development—including literacy, math, social, and emotional development.

I will be able to share the information I collect with you so we can both support your child's growing and learning. You can learn more by visiting the KIDS Families Toolkit at www.isbe.net/KIDS.

I am always here if you have any questions. The best way to reach me is [[]].

Sincerely,

[[]]

Your child's kindergarten teacher