

MGNS Enrollment: Frequently Asked Questions

1. *What classes will be offered in the 2018-19 school year?*

Classes will be the same as the 2017-18 school year:

Starfish: 8:45-11:45 AM on M/Tu/W
Penguins: 8:45-11:45 AM on Th/F
Seahorses: 12:45-3:45 PM on Tu/Th
Dolphins 4K: 8:40-11:45 AM on Tu/W/Th/F
Manatees 4K: 12:40-3:45 PM on Tu/W/Th/F

Lunch Bunch will be offered from 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM on Tuesday through Friday for an additional fee. Information about fees and a form to sign up for Lunch Bunch will both be available in May.

We are also actively considering an early drop-off program. (Thank you to all of you who provided feedback about that!) We will also have information about that in May as well.

2. *How old does my child need to be to enroll in preschool?*

NEW THIS YEAR! Our preschool classes are now open to any children who will be 3 years old by December 1, 2018. **UNCHANGED!** Children still need to be fully potty trained by the start of school.

3. *Is there a registration fee when you apply?*

Yes, each family is required to attach a \$75.00 registration fee to apply. This fee is non-refundable. NOTE: This fee is exempted for families enrolling in the 4K program through MMSD.

4. *When can I register my child?*

Current families can register beginning at 8:00 AM on Monday, February 5. New and alumni families can register beginning at 8:00 AM on Monday, February 12. Alumni families receive preference for class choice on that day.

To be considered, all applications must be complete, meaning they include all signatures and all initials, and have the appropriate registration fee attached.

On the above enrollment dates, we take applications on a first-come, first-serve basis. (We do serve coffee!!!) After those dates, you may submit your application in the mail, or drop it in the office.

5. *What is the order of enrollment preference?*

- 1st: MGNS 2017-18 board members
- 2nd: Current co-op families (enrolled in preschool or toddler time in the 2017-18 school year)
- 3rd: Alumni families (those who have had a family member enrolled in a previous year)
- 4th: New families to MGNS

6. *Who is eligible for the MMSD 4K program?*

MMSD will enroll any student in their community-based programs who is 4 years old by September 1, and lives within the Madison Metropolitan School District.

Students from surrounding communities may also choose MGNS for their 4k experience by applying for open enrollment into the MMSD. This is an easy process! And we will help if you need it!

There is no tuition for those students residing within MMSD or open enrolling into MMSD. However, MMSD will charge a materials fee and MGNS will charge a field trip fee, and families are expected to cover both of those costs.

7. *What is the process to register for the MMSD 4K program at MGNS?*

It is a two-step process:

- First, apply in your choice of class with MGNS on the appropriate February enrollment date.
- Then, complete the online and in-person enrollment process with MMSD. (We will outline that process fully in a follow-up letter once your MGNS application is complete.)

8. *Is it possible for a student to attend MGNS five mornings a week?*

Yes! A family can sign up for both the Starfish and the Penguin class, and come to school Monday through Friday mornings. Please note that the child would be part of two different classes with two different sets of teachers, but it works! You will also need to do helping parent duties in two classes.

9. *We would love for our child to come to MGNS for 4K, but we live outside the MMSD boundaries (i.e. in Cottage Grove, Monona, McFarland, Sun Prairie, etc.). Can we still attend MGNS for 4K?*

Yes!! Through the process of open enrollment, you can apply to the Madison Metropolitan School District for the 2018-19 school year and attend MGNS as a MMSD student for free. The open enrollment period for the 2018-19 school year is February 5 through April 27, 2018.

The open enrollment process is relatively simple, and Sue can walk you through it. In addition, we have had several current 4k parents who have been through the process and can answer questions. We have packets of information about open enrollment in our office, and we encourage all our MGNS families to investigate it!

DPI website for open enrollment is <http://oe.dpi.wi.gov/>

If you are a current MGNS parent, we will hold your spot in our 4K classes until you hear about your open enrollment application.

10. I love your program and want to enroll my child, but I might need financial support with the cost of tuition. What are my options?

MGNS participates in the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy program, and that program will cover a portion of tuition for eligible families. To find out if your family qualifies, and for more information, visit: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/wishares>.

If your family is not eligible for WI Shares, then the City of Madison offers assistance for tuition for fully accredited child care programs, like ours. For more information, visit:

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/commserv/CommunityTAP.html>

Another option, if you or your spouse is a full-time student in any UW program, is to apply with the Child Care Tuition Assistance Program (CCTAP). For more information, visit:

<https://ocfr.wisc.edu/financial-assistance/uw-madison-students/child-care-tuition-assistance-program-cctap/>

Our school also has a need-based scholarship program; ask Sue for an application.

11. What about Toddler Time? We want to be sure we get into that fabulous program!

Applications for the 2018-19 Toddler Time program will be available for current MGNS families on March 5th. Applications will be open to new families on March 15th.

Do you have another question we didn't answer here?

~ Call us at (608) 222-4633!

~ Or email Sue Carr at suecmgns@gmail.com!

~ Or stop in at the school!

We want to help you with this process!