

Transition to Kindergarten Handbook

2025 - 2026



Bridgeview Elementary School
316 S 12th Street, LeClaire, IA 52753
(563) 332-0215
Attendance: (563) 332-0216

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Program Philosophy

Young students learn best in an engaging environment that allows them to explore interesting materials, interact with peers and develop skills through play. The role of the adult is to provide appropriate activities, model appropriate skills and behaviors and to support interactions between students. The Creative Curriculum® and Teaching Strategies GOLD skills for development provide the framework for the skills and activities presented in the T2K program.

Beliefs

- We believe that parents are a child's first teacher and should continue to participate in their child's education.
- We believe that support from siblings and extended family members will enhance the child's education.
- We believe opportunities for learning and developing skills occur at school, at home and in the community.
- We believe a strong partnership between home and school offers children increased opportunities to practice developing skills; to generalize skills across environments and to include skills for home and family settings in the educational program.

Pleasant Valley Student/Parent Handbook

Please refer to the Student/Parent Handbook, available through the district website at www.plesaval.org, for information about district policies and procedures including attendance policy and information regarding medications at school. The district wide Student/Parent Handbook is the primary handbook, and this T2K handbook simply offers supplementary information related to T2K.

Arrival/Dismissal

The T2K School Day is from 8:25 AM - 3:00 PM

- Arrival: Bridgeview Elementary doors open at 8:15; T2K students may enter through the front doors of the school between 8:15 and 8:25. If you must drop your child off prior to 8:15, beginning at 8:05 your child may either eat breakfast in the cafeteria or they may participate in Yak n' Trek from 8:05 - 8:15. If you plan to participate in breakfast for Yak n' Trek, please contact the teacher ahead of time so that we can communicate procedures and ensure appropriate supervision for your child.
- Dismissal: At 3:00, students will be dismissed at Door E2. You have two options: wait in the car line and, when you pull up to Door E2, a staff member will help your child walk to your vehicle, or you can park and walk up to Door E2 to pick up your child.
- Bussing: If your child is riding a school bus, please coordinate details of that with the classroom teacher in advance.

Communication

Communication between home and school is very important for your child's educational beginning.

- Teaching Strategies Family: Please have each adult/guardian in your home download this app. Once the teacher has added your information to the app, you will receive an invitation email from Teaching Strategies. This app is used to send weekly newsletters that will communicate lessons and activities each week. It also has a messaging feature so parents/guardians and teachers can communicate quickly and easily. Messages will be responded to between the hours of 7:30am - 3:30pm.
- Email: For communication longer than a simple text, you can email the T2K teacher at bakerbailie@pleasval.org
- Emails will get a response within one business day.
- Phone: You can call Bridgeview Elementary at (563) 332-0215 to reach the T2K teacher by phone. You can either leave a message with the building secretary or leave a voicemail and the teacher will return your call after school hours.

Early Release Days – 2025 - 2026

Early Release Days for the 25/26 School Year are the first and third Wednesdays of each month. On Early Release days, we will dismiss at 1:30 PM.

E-news Registration

The Pleasant Valley School District sends all non-confidential information in an electronic format (E-news) instead of paper. Confidential information and information that is specific to a student or groups of students will not be sent electronically. You can register for e-news through the district's web site - www.pleasval.org. Another great way to stay informed is by following Pleasant Valley Community School District on Facebook, as well as the Bridgeview Elementary PTA page.

Fees

There are no school fees for students in the T2K program. Hot lunch is available for \$2.60/day. Students may also bring a cold lunch from home. Milk is available to purchase with a cold lunch for 50¢. You can make these payments at www.pleasval.org or by contacting the Bridgeview Elementary Secretary Mrs. Brown.

Parent Teacher Conferences and Home Visits

- Parent/Teacher Conferences: Twice per year parents and teachers will meet to review a written report regarding your child's progress with strengths and areas for growth to be discussed. This will happen in November and in February/March in the T2K Classroom. In June, an end of year report will be mailed home.
- Home Visits: Participation in T2K includes home visits during the school year in which the teacher visits the child and family at their home to promote a home-school learning connection. These visits help the teacher learn more about the child as well as help the family learn more about the ways they can continue to be their child's first and best teacher right at home. These 30-45 minute visits are an opportunity for the child to demonstrate what they have been working on in class. These home visits typically happen as needed throughout the year as a supplement to the more formal parent teacher conferences. The teacher may initiate a home visit as needed or the parent may request one.

Supplies

Supplies for T2K such as paint, crayons, scissors, and glue are provided. Each child is asked to bring:

- Box of Kleenex for use in the classroom
- Backpack to carry papers back and forth to school (please write name on inside of backpack)
- Spare change of clothes to keep at school
- Water bottle with a closable spout
- Beach towel for rest time (note: larger blankets are difficult to store in the classroom; a beach towel or a blanket the same size as a beach towel is the best for our classroom).

*Water bottles and towels will be sent home at the end of each week for washing. Families will be responsible for bringing their towels and bottles back to school at the beginning of each week.

Pleasant Valley Spartan Safe Snack List

Pleasant Valley School District is making student health and wellness a top priority! Healthy school snacks support good nutrition and the development of lifelong healthy eating habits. **Food items entering the classroom must be chosen from this list and contain only one serving per student.** These carefully chosen items were inspired by [USDA Smart Snack Standards](https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/tools-schools-focusing-smart-snacks) for schools and will be enforced at the elementary level.

Fresh, Cupped, Dried Fruit Whole fresh fruit or individually packaged servings, 100% juice or light syrup preferred  	Fresh Vegetables Whole fresh veggies or individually packaged servings  	Mott's, Welch's, General Mills, Annie's Organic fruit snacks  
Applesauce Cup Squeezable Fruit Pouch No added sugar preferred (NOT brand specific)  	Yogurt Tube or Cup Danimals Fruit Smoothies  	All Pudding Cups*  
Reduced Fat String Cheese Any variety (NOT brand specific)  	Plain Rice Krispies Treats Whole grain preferred Annie's Organic Plain Crispy snack bars (GF)  	That's It, Pure Organic, Bear Fruit bars/snacks  
Boom Chicka Pop plain or cheddar, Skinny pop, Pirate Booty puffs, Lesser Evil snacks  	Pepperidge Farm Goldfish or Pretzels, Cheez-its Whole grain preferred  	Lays Baked Snacks  
Made Good Brand all products  	Nabisco, Kelloggs, or Keebler Grahams, Annie's Bunny Grahams  	Plain Water  

For more information about Smart Snacks in Schools visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/tools-schools-focusing-smart-snacks>

Please always check food labels as ingredients can change
Items may NOT contain nuts or be made in a facility that uses shared equipment*

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Q: Can my child bring a treat to share for their birthday?

A: Yes. You can send a snack from the Spartan Safe Snack list to share in class. Please only send one serving per student.

2. Q: How does this affect holiday parties?

A: There will be three classroom holiday parties each year: Halloween, Winter, and Valentine's Day. The room parent will coordinate a snack from the Spartan Safe Snack List for the classroom party.

3. Q: What about treats attached to Valentines?

A: No. Students may not attach any food items to Valentine cards.

4. Q: May I bring homemade treats from home to share at a classroom party?

A: No. All snacks that are to be shared with students for activities and celebrations at school must come from the Spartan Safe Snack List.

5. Q: What about pre-packaged treats from the store?

A: Party treats and snacks in the classroom must be listed on the Spartan Safe Snack List.

6. Q: May I still pack whatever I want in my child's sack lunch from home?

A: Yes. Packing a healthy school lunch is encouraged, but there are no restrictions as to what you choose to pack in your child's lunch brought from home. School food policies are put in place to protect and regulate what can be sold and shared with multiple students during the school day in the classroom.

7. Q: If my child brings an individual snack to school, does it need to be on the Spartan Safe Snack List?

A: Yes. In an effort to protect students with allergies all food entering the classroom for a snack or project must come from the Spartan Safe Snack List. Snacks eaten during the day are at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

8. Q: What about foods that the teacher uses in connection to students work and learning? (Ex: "green eggs and ham" on Dr. Seuss' birthday or hot chocolate for a Winter party) These items may not be on the Spartan Safe Snack List.

A: Teachers may choose to serve foods in the classroom that have connections to instructional themes and plans. Without exception, when a teacher serves food in the classroom that is *not* on the Spartan Safe Snack List, the foods will continue to be nut free and a note will be sent home prior to the event to provide parents opportunity to opt out of the food event.

9. Q: What about beverages?

A: Water is the beverage of choice at all occasions. Plain water is the only beverage allowed for class celebrations. Children are encouraged to bring and frequently refill a personal water bottle.

10. Q: Does the Safe Snack List apply to after school activities?

A: No. These guidelines are in place during regularly scheduled school hours.