



Welcome to Kindergarten!



2022-23

Kindergarten is a proven way to set your child on the path to academic success! Parents have common questions about achievement and instruction as students move through each grade. This guide will point you to answers to help your student reach graduation.

What is my child learning?

State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year.

Learning to read and write

Characteristics of kindergarten readers:

- Shows an interest in books
- Responds to printed words
- Knows sounds and letters
- Begins to use reading strategies
- Develops reading strategies



View a sample of kindergarten **reading and writing** at grade level

Math foundations

Characteristics of kindergarten mathematics:

- Knows number names and count sequence up to 20
- Counts to tell the number of objects
- Compares numbers
- Represents addition and subtraction within 10
- Works with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations for place value
- Classifies, creates, analyzes and compares shapes



View a sample of kindergarten **math** at grade level

What does it take to graduate?

It may seem strange to think about high school graduation when your child is in elementary school; but, it's important to set the goal early.

Elementary school is the time when students form a foundation of skills and knowledge they will build on year after year.

The best way to set your student up to reach graduation is to make sure they are meeting standards every year. Now is the time to start.

How is my child doing?

Staying engaged in your child's education is critical.

For many students, having their families be active members in their education can help keep them on track to graduate.

These are a few ways parents or guardians can stay involved in knowing how their child is doing in their classes and help their child receive the support needed to succeed.

1

Progress reports

Parents of elementary students receive three progress reports (report cards) each year. Salem-Keizer's elementary schools use a **proficiency grading system**, which means grades reflect the student's progress toward mastering a standard.

Grades are reported on a scale of one to four. A score of three means the student meets grade level standards, or is proficient.

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Talk with your child's teacher

A conversation with the teacher is a great way to find out about student progress. Email or through the ParentSquare app is the fastest way to get in touch with teachers. Teachers may also be available for phone conversations after school.

Remember—it's important to attend parent-teacher conferences!

Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet one-on-one with your child's teacher.

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Ongoing assessments

In kindergarten through second grade, teachers **continually evaluate** student work to gauge progress toward standards. This is called "ongoing assessment."

Older students (grades 3–8 and 11) take annual state tests in reading, writing and math. Grades 5, 8 and 11 also take annual tests in science. These tests provide the Oregon Department of Education with information on how well schools are helping students reach state standards.

Teachers in higher grades use state test information, ongoing assessment and other measures to help them gauge student learning. In future grades, parents can also use state test scores as one way to know how their children are doing in class.

How can I help at home?

As a parent or guardian, you are the most influential person in your child's future success.

There are many things you can do to help set your child up for success in school.

Tips to prepare your child for graduation at home

- Demonstrate a positive attitude about school. Your children will model your attitude.
- Know about the academic concepts your child is learning (*reverse side*).
- Have a comfortable place set up for schoolwork and minimize distractions (*turn off the TV and video games*).
- Make sure there are supplies like paper and pencils. Contact your school for support if needed.
- Read nonfiction books with your child, and talk about what's happening in the books.
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- Talk with your child about different careers people have, and what skills are needed.
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Your child is making strides toward high school graduation!

Parents have common questions about achievement and instruction as students move through each grade. This guide will point you to answers to help your student reach graduation.

What is my child learning?

State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year.

Learning to read and write

Characteristics of first grade readers:

- Recognizes the features of a sentence (*Ex. first words, capitalization*)
- Recognizes the spelling and sounds of two letters that represent one sound
- Reads one-syllable words
- Reads grade-level words with irregular spelling
- Uses strategies to read multisyllabic words
- Talks about and answers questions about a text



View a sample of first grade reading & writing at grade level

Math foundations

Characteristics of first grade mathematics:

- Represents and solves addition and subtraction problems using various strategies
- Adds and subtracts within 20
- Uses place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract
- Measures lengths directly and indirectly
- Tells and writes time in hours and half-hours
- Represents and interprets data to solve problems
- Reasons with shapes and their attributes



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What is my child learning?

State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year.

Learning to read and write

Characteristics of second grade readers:

- Distinguishes long/short sounds in one syllable words
- Knows spelling sounds used together to make words
- Decodes regularly spelled two syllable words with common prefixes and suffixes and grade appropriate irregularly spelled words
- Retells stories and identifies the main topic, central message, lesson or moral using key details from text
- Compare and contrasts texts of similar topics or different versions
- Uses context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary



View a sample of second grade **reading & writing** at grade level

Math foundations

Characteristics of second grade mathematics:

- Represents and solves addition and subtraction problems within 100
- Works with equal groups to gain foundations for multiplication
- Understands place value within 1,000 and uses this to add and subtract within 1,000
- Measures and estimates lengths in standard units
- Solves addition and subtraction problems involving length, money and time
- Represents and interprets data on graphs (using measurement)
- Reasons with shapes and their attributes



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What is my child learning?

State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year.

Learning to read and write

Characteristics of third grade readers:

- Determines main ideas of nonfiction texts
 - Retells the central message, lesson, moral and main idea of a text
 - Uses context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary
 - Uses strategies to read multisyllabic words with common Latin suffixes and unknown words
- Asks and answers questions about the texts they read using appropriate terminology



View a sample of third grade **reading & writing** at grade level

Math foundations

Characteristics of third grade mathematics:

- Represents and solves addition and subtraction problems within 100
- Solves problems involving the four operations
- Uses place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic to 100
- Develops an understanding of fractions as numbers and represents them on number lines
- Solves problems in measurement, time, liquid volume, mass and using graphs
- Understands concepts of area and perimeter
- Reasons with shapes and their attributes (focus on quadrilaterals)



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What is my child learning?

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Learning to read and write

Characteristics of fourth grade readers:

- Knows and applies all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns and understands prefixes and suffixes in and out of context
- Reads unfamiliar multisyllabic words
- Uses context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary
- Uses evidence to explain the main idea, theme, characters, setting and main event of a text
- Summarizes the text using the main idea and supporting details
- Compares and contrasts point of view



View a sample of fourth grade **reading & writing** at grade level

Math foundations

Characteristics of fourth grade mathematics:

- Uses the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems
- Gains familiarity with factors and multiples
- Uses place value and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic
- Extends understanding of fraction equivalence and ordering
- Adds and subtracts fractions, multiplies fractions and whole numbers
- Understands decimal notation for fractions and compares fractions
- Solves problems using conversions within one measurement system
- Draws, measures, classifies and identifies lines and angles



View a sample of fourth grade **math** at grade level

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What is my child learning?

State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year.

Learning to read and write

Characteristics of fifth grade readers:

- Uses combined knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns and understand prefixes and suffixes to accurately read unfamiliar multisyllabic words in context and out of context
- Uses context to confirm or self correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary
- Determines two or more main ideas in a text or theme of a story using key details
- Using specific details, compares and contrasts two or more characters, settings or events
- Integrates information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about a subject knowledgeably



View a sample of fifth grade **reading & writing** at grade level

Math foundations

Characteristics of fifth grade mathematics:

- Writes and interprets numerical expressions using symbols
- Understands place value relationships through thousandths
- Performs operations with multi-digit whole numbers to decimals in the hundredths
- Adds, subtracts, multiplies and divides fractions and/or whole numbers
- Converts measurements with a given system to solve multistep problems
- Understands concepts of volume and relates volume to multiplication and addition
- Graphs points on the coordinate plane to solve real-world and mathematical problems
- Classifies two-dimensional figures into categories based on their properties



View a sample of fifth grade **math** at grade level

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Believe it or not, your child is halfway to high school graduation!

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English Language Arts (ELA)

(includes reading, writing, language, speaking and listening)

- Quote evidence that supports what the student thinks a text is saying both directly and indirectly.
- Determine a theme or central idea from particular details and provide an objective summary.
- Write arguments to support opinions and include clear reasons.

Social Sciences

Study focuses on the ancient civilizations of the Western Hemisphere and includes the exploration of:

- What is civilization?
- How do physical and human characteristics of places and regions relate to identities and cultures?
- What remains of ancient civilizations and cultures exist today?

Science

- Plan an investigation to determine the relationships among the energy, matter, mass and change of kinetic energy.
- Develop and use a model to describe how unequal heating and rotation of the Earth cause patterns of atmospheric and oceanic circulation that determine regional climates.
- Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells. Develop and use a model to describe the function of a cell and the ways the parts of cells contribute to its function.

Mathematics

- Understand ratio concepts and use that understanding to solve math problems.
- Develop an understanding of how math phrases can be written as algebraic expressions. For example, "A number plus one equals five," becomes, " $X + 1 = 5$."
- Understand positive and negative numbers.

What does it take to graduate?

It may seem strange to think about high school graduation now; but, middle school is when students begin forming thoughts and feelings about their future after high school. The best way to set your student up to reach graduation is to make sure they are regularly attending school and meeting standards every year.

Here are the things graduates need to accomplish in order to receive their diplomas:

1. Earned a total of 24 high school credits.

English, **4 credits**
Math, **3 credits**
Science, **3 credits**

Social Studies, **3 credits**
P.E., **1 credit**
Health, **1 credit**

Second Language,
Arts or Career-Tech, **3 credits**
Other electives, **6 credits**

2. Completed career-planning activities.

*** The Oregon Department of Education has suspended the Essential Skills graduation requirement until 2024.*

**Some students may need extra time or support to achieve high school graduation requirements. Schools are prepared to support students' unique learning needs.

For information on diploma options, please contact your student's counselor.

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Progress reports

Families get official reporting on grades every nine weeks. Parents are encouraged to check-in regularly with their child on class progress and guardians can access up-to-date grading information through ParentVUE. Final semester grades are sent home at the end of each semester—midyear (late in January) and at the end of the school year (June). Salem-Keizer middle schools currently use a letter grade scale (A to F).



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ParentVUE

salkeiz.k12.or.us/parentvue-studentvue/

Parents can find their student's current grades, class schedule, attendance and assignment information through this online tool. Attendance information is updated daily. Please contact your school for assistance with activating your ParentVUE account.



State tests

Every year, Oregon students in grades 3–8 and 11 grade take state tests in reading, writing and math. Grades 5, 8 and 11 also take annual tests in science. The tests measure students' knowledge of state standards and give the Oregon Department of Education feedback about how schools are doing. The state test for English language arts and math is called the Oregon Statewide Assessment. Students take the test in the spring, and results are sent home around the end of summer.

Ahead of statewide assessments, students will benefit from **encouragement and practice**. After students have had more experience with the test, families may choose to look at state test results as one way to gauge their student's progress toward mastering state standards.

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Tips to prepare your child for graduation at home

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- Know about the academic concepts your child is learning in school (*reverse side*).
- Have a comfortable place set up for homework, and make sure there are enough supplies like paper and pencils. Contact your school for support, if needed.
- Encourage your student to read every day.
- Encourage writing at home. Write together, and include details.
- Talk with your student about going to college and about different trade or career opportunities.
- Help your student build study habits by reviewing due dates for homework and project schedules.
- Check your child's online learning platform for homework and messages sent from school.
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State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year.

Science

- Develop and use a model to describe how the total number of atoms does not change in a chemical reaction and thus mass is conserved.
- Develop a model to describe how chemical reactions form new molecules that support growth, and/or releases energy as food matter that moves through an organism.
- Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.
- Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.

Social Sciences

Study focuses on the formation of contemporary cultures and societies of the Eastern Hemisphere and includes the exploration of:

- What is culture, and how is culture formed?
- What forces impact/change culture?
- How do groups become marginalized?

Mathematics

- Understand proportions and use them to solve real-world math problems.
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide positive and negative numbers.
- Solve real-life math problems using algebra equations.

English Language Arts (ELA)

(Writing standards)

- Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations or other information and examples.
- Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- Provide a concluding statement or section that follows and supports the information or explanation presented.

What does it take to graduate?

It may seem strange to think about high school graduation now; but, middle school is when students begin forming thoughts and feelings about their future after high school. The best way to set your student up to reach graduation is to make sure they are regularly attending school and meeting standards every year.

Here are the things graduates need to accomplish in order to receive their diplomas:

1. Earned a total of 24 high school credits.

English, **4 credits**
Math, **3 credits**
Science, **3 credits**

Social Studies, **3 credits**
P.E., **1 credit**
Health, **1 credit**

Second Language,
Arts or Career-Tech, **3 credits**
Other electives, **6 credits**

2. Completed career-planning activities.

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Progress reports

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State tests

Every year, Oregon students in grades 3–8 and 11 grade take state tests in reading, writing and math. Grades 5, 8 and 11 also take annual tests in science. The tests measure students' knowledge of state standards and give the Oregon Department of Education feedback about how schools are doing. The state test for English language arts and math is called the Oregon Statewide Assessment. Students take the test in the spring, and results are sent home around the end of summer.

Ahead of statewide assessments, students will benefit from **encouragement and practice**. After students have had more experience with the test, families may choose to look at state test results as one way to gauge their student's progress toward mastering state standards.

How can I help at home?

As a parent or guardian, you are the most influential person in your child's future success.

There are many things you can do to help set your child up for success in school.

Tips to prepare your child for graduation at home

- Demonstrate a positive attitude about school. Your children will model your attitude.
- Know about the academic concepts your child is learning in school (*reverse side*).
- Understand graduation requirements (*reverse side*).
- Talk with your student about going on to college and about different trade or career opportunities.
- Contact your student's counselor to learn about scholarship resources and college application deadlines.
- Help your student build and maintain study habits by reviewing homework assignment due dates and schedules.
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Believe it or not, your child is halfway to high school graduation!

Parents have common questions about achievement and instruction as students move up each grade. This guide will point you to answers as you help your student reach graduation!

What is my child learning?

State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do by the end of the school year.

English Language Arts (ELA)

(includes reading, writing, language, speaking and listening)

- Quote evidence that most strongly supports what a text is saying both directly and indirectly.
- Determine a theme or central idea; analyze the development over the course of the text, including its relationship to characters, setting and plot; provide an objective summary.
- Write arguments to support claims with logical reasons and credible evidence, acknowledging and distinguishing the claim from alternate or opposing claims.

Science

- Plan an investigation to provide evidence that the change in an object's motion depends on the sum of the forces on the object and its mass.
- Develop and use a model of the earth-sun-moon system to describe the cyclic patterns of lunar phases, eclipses of the sun and moon, and seasons.
- Develop and use a model to describe why mutations to genes on chromosomes may affect proteins and may result in harmful, beneficial or neutral effects.

Social Sciences

- Study focuses on the foundation of the United States of America and includes the exploration of:
 - What are the foundational values of the U.S.?
 - How do values influence society and vice versa?
 - How does the government respond to pressures and shifting values?

Mathematics

- Solve linear equations and pairs of linear equations. For example, $y = 2x - 2$ and $y = -x + 7$.
- Use functions to illustrate relationships between numbers. A function describes what happens to a number (input) to produce an outcome (output). In $f(x) = x^2$, the input is squared to get the output.
- Understand and use the Pythagorean Theorem ($a^2 + b^2 = c^2$).

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Graduation is almost here!

Families are still needed to help their child on their path to graduation during this final stretch. Families have common questions about achievement and instruction as students move through each grade. This guide will point you to answers to help your student reach graduation!

What is my child learning?

State standards describe what Oregon students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

High school standards aren't always tied to one specific grade.

Mathematics

Unlike earlier grades, high school math and science standards are organized around a concept instead of a grade level.

- Creating and solving equations with two or more variables.
- Explore various types of functions and their characteristics.
- Explore concepts of similarity, congruence and trigonometry.

Science

- Use math to support the claim that atoms and mass are conserved during a chemical reaction.
- Using math, show how factors such as resources, climate, competition, etc., affect the number of living things ecosystems can support
- Illustrate the lifespan of the sun and how energy is transferred from the sun's core to the Earth.

Social Sciences

- Evaluate a historical source for point of view and historical context.
- Explain the responsibilities of citizens (e.g., vote, pay taxes).
- Explain the function of the stock market.

English Language Arts (ELA)

High school ELA standards may sound similar to previous grades' standards. The difference is that students continue to deepen skills by reading increasingly complex texts (both literature and informational) and refining writing skills.

- Cite strong evidence from a text to support analysis of what the text says, both explicitly and implied, and where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- Write informative/explanatory texts to describe complex ideas and information clearly and accurately.
- Conduct research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject.

What does it take to graduate?

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High school is the time to focus on meeting graduation requirements. It's important for students to stay on track in high school. **If students fall behind in high school, it's difficult to catch up—there's little time to spare in a high school schedule.**

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Community Transition Programs are specifically designed to meet the needs of adult students with disabilities who have completed high school with a Modified or Extended Diploma or Certificate of Attainment.

What is my child learning?

Instruction is based on a student's individual goals, and may include postsecondary or vocational education, integrated and/or supported employment, independent living and community participation.

Daily Living Skills

- Managing personal finances
- Caring for personal needs
- Managing a household
- Choosing and accessing public transportation
- Utilizing recreational facilities and engaging in leisure
- Demonstrating relationship responsibilities
- Buying, preparing and consuming food
- Buying and caring for clothing

Self Determination and Interpersonal Skills

- Understanding self-determination
- Being self-aware
- Developing interpersonal skills
- Communicating with others
- Good decision making
- Developing social awareness
- Understanding disability rights and responsibilities

Employment Skills

- Knowing and exploring employment possibilities
- Exploring employment choices
- Seeking, securing and maintaining employment
- Exhibiting appropriate employment skills

Similarities & Differences

Students are eligible for a community transition program if they:

- (1) qualify for special education services;
- (2) have completed four years of high school programming, and;
- (3) have not earned a standard high school diploma.

What are the similarities and differences between CTPs and high schools?

CTPs are programs designed to specifically meet the needs of adult students in key areas related to their transition into the community.

| Differences | Similarities |
|--|--|
| Attendance is not mandatory, CTPs are choice programs | IEPs are developed annually through the IEP team process |
| The "classroom" is most frequently a community business, where students receive instruction in real world skills | CTPs follow the district calendar for secondary schools, with some minor differences |
| No report cards or credits are generated—all progress is documented through Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) | Transportation may be provided (although we are always working towards independence in public transportation) |
| Days, times and instruction are individually determined based on a student's goals, interests and needs | Students participate in a graduation event when they "age" out at the end of the school year in which they turn 21 |

Who is involved in the plan?

During these three years of transition planning, your CTP team will work diligently to connect your family with community and agency resources designed for supporting adults experiencing disabilities.



Student

During these three years, the student is at the center of all programming and decision-making. Classroom instruction and community experiences are based on the student's preferences, interests, needs, and strengths.



Vocational rehabilitation

Many of our students in the CTPs qualify for vocational rehabilitation services. Vocational Rehabilitation is an agency designed to support individuals experiencing disabilities in finding and keeping paid, competitive employment in the community.



Marion & Polk County Developmental Disability Services

Some students qualify for ongoing services to support their independent living needs. Our CTPs work closely with the county offices to support collaboration and coordination of services between school and home to ensure consistent implementation of the IEP and ISP (Individual Support Plan).



Brokerages

Some adults eligible for DD Services elect to have services provided through a Support Services Brokerage to assist with living independently in the home. Currently, Marion and Polk Counties have three local Support Service Brokerages, all of which are close partners with the CTPs in the transition planning process.



Providers

A number of agencies exist across Marion and Polk counties, all designed to support with ongoing individual needs around competitive employment, community engagement and independent living. Your CTP team, along with your DD Service Coordinator or Brokerage Personal Agent, will help you and your family navigate these agencies to find what works best for you!

How can I help at home?

As a parent or guardian, you are the most influential person in your child's future success.

There are many things you can do to help set your student up for success in life after the transition program.

Tips to prepare your child for graduation at home

- Encourage self-determination and self-advocacy
- If you believe your child may qualify for developmental disability services, or if you are unsure, talk with your high school case manager; eligibility for adult services is easier if the process is completed before the student turns 18
- Practice basic job interview questions for a job your child is interested in
- Talk as a family about what you hope your child's life will look like after they leave the community transition program, and share this at your annual IEP meeting
- Prepare your student to problem solve situations that may occur in community settings, as this is where they will be spending most of the day
- Communicate to your child that each day they are "going to work" rather than "going to school"