

Growing with the Ferndale Schools

How to use this guide

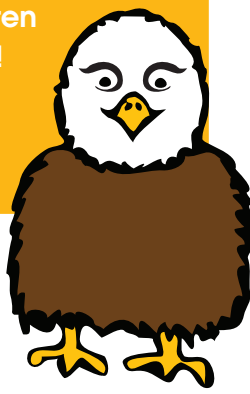
- With this side of the guide facing you, tape to your wall to mark your children's progress as they grow. The bottom edge of this piece should be taped 19" off the ground.
- As you create your growth chart, you can read to your children about the exciting world awaiting them in the Ferndale Schools as they GROW and reach each milestone.

How to join the Ferndale Schools



- Visit our website, www.ferndaleschools.org, and click on the gold "New to the district?" circle on the left side of our home page for enrollment info and forms.
- Call our Enrollment Office, 248/586-8686, to begin the registration process with our friendly staff.
- Tour our schools to meet our principals and staff to help you make the best educational choices for your child.

getting excited for Kindergarten! Spending all day in Kindergarten will be fun! You'll meet new friends, and maybe know some from Preschool. You'll practice reading and writing. You'll play games and have fun in gym and make art to hang on the fridge at home in art class. Kindergarten is the best!



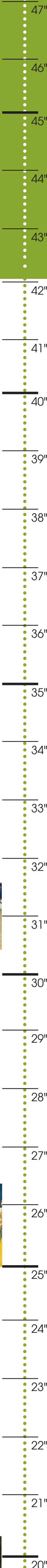
ready to meet new friends in Preschool At Grant Early Childhood Center or the Little Eagle Preschool Program, you'll have fun learning while meeting new friends, playing games, hearing stories, singing songs and making projects. You'll even have special visitors (see the turtle in the picture?), yummy snacks and will learn so much!



Ooh! Watching the big kids is fun! Go to a concert, a play, a musical, Extravaganza or a sporting event with your family to explore the Ferndale Schools. See all the fun things you'll get to do when you grow up. Aren't those big kids cool? And, Mom & Dad, aren't they nice kids, too?



Wiggling, babbling, crawling - All steps to get you ready for school. You're learning so much every day. As you grow, you're learning how to move and communicate and it's so exciting. Listen to stories from your family and soak up the the world around you. You'll be walking, talking and ready for preschool in no time.



step 1

birth-2 years

Get to Know Us

- **Visit our Annual District Showcase, Extravaganza and All-City (all grades) Concerts** where you'll get a one-day preview of all the wonderful programs offered by the Ferndale Schools from preschool through to high school graduation.
- **Attend a Meet & Greet** - Get to know other parents and learn why they love the Ferndale Schools.
- **Enjoy a Parents' Night Out** - Hear for yourself why we were voted one of the top communities for music education in the nation by attending a concert, play or musical.
- **Child Find** - If your child seems behind on developmental milestones such as rolling over, grasping, or talking, you may wish to contact Child Find, a free evaluation program available for Ferndale Schools residents - ages birth through five years - who may benefit from special education services at no charge. Call the Special Education Department at 248/586-8693 for more information.
- **Sign Up For Our eNewsletter** - Receive our weekly news updates, sign up on the web!



step 2

3-4 years old

Begin the Educational Journey with Preschool

- **Grant Early Childhood Center** - State/Federally funded educational preschool programs, including Headstart.
- **Little Eagle Preschool Program** - Half-day educational program for 3-year-olds two days a week and 4-year-olds three days a week. This tuition-based preschool is located at Roosevelt Primary School - a building designed just for young children, PreK-Grade 3. Learn more at www.ferndaleschools.org/littleeagles.html
- **Call the Enrollment Office** to sign up for Preschool 248/586-8686, or visit our website for the Preschool Enrollment Packet: www.ferndaleschools.org
- **Repeat Step 1 above and keep visiting our district events** all year long. Visit our website, www.ferndaleschools.org, for information on upcoming events and make sure to check our district calendar online.



step 3

4 years old

Get Ready for Kindergarten

Kindergarten starts in the year children with birthdays before December 1 turn five.*



- **Check out our programs.** During the year before kindergarten, you can learn first-hand from our principals what our programs can offer your child. Tours are scheduled at our elementary schools biweekly Oct to Feb.**
- **Kindergarten Readiness Booklets**, developed by one of our principals, are available at your request. Learn how to prepare your little ones for their first year at school.
- **Start the Enrollment Process** - Call the Enrollment Office at 248/586-8686 to begin your journey with the Ferndale Schools. Our friendly staff will assist you with paperwork, frequently asked questions and get your family all set to start school in the Fall.

* Young Fives: Children with birthdays between Sept 1 - Dec 1 can get ready for school in a half-day, pre-kindergarten program.
 ** Elementary Magnet Programs require lottery for entry, including tours and district enrollment/lottery application by Feb 28 the year Kindergarten starts.

cool facts

Ferndale Schools Highlights

- Free All-Day Kindergarten
- Elementary Spanish starting in Grade 5
- Elementary Instrumental Music starting in Grade 4
- Ferndale Schools was named One of the Top Communities for Music Education in the country by the NAMM Foundation.
- Three Michigan Green Schools: Roosevelt Primary, John F. Kennedy (Top 10 in Oakland County), and Coolidge Intermediate
- Roosevelt Primary School has won many awards including a 2011 National Schools of Character designation and Michigan Schools of Character designations, and 2008 and 2010 National Schools of Character Promising Practices Award.
- The Ferndale High School Golden Eagle Marching Band has won six State Championships.
- Ferndale Schools students get accepted to and attend the colleges of their dreams including University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, Oakland University, and across the country including MIT & George Washington University!



**Free Inside:
A child's growth chart**



3 steps

to get ready for Kindergarten,
and you'll be ready for the Ferndale Schools!



Ferndale Public Schools
www.ferndaleschools.org

Planning the future with the Ferndale Schools



We can't wait to meet YOU!