

WHAT IS KINDERBOOST?

Building Strong Foundations for Kindergarten



Lansing USD 469 is launching a new early learning initiative designed to give some of its youngest students an extra boost before beginning their K-12 journey.

An intentional readiness year for students who need a little extra time to grow.

Confidence. Readiness. Success.



Early Literacy Foundation



Social & Emotional Growth



School Readiness Skills



A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO READINESS

Each year, a small number of kindergarten-eligible students enter school still developing foundational skills. These may include early literacy and numeracy skills, speech and language development, self-regulation, or overall school readiness.

Rather than waiting for students to struggle, or considering retention later in elementary school, **KinderBoost** provides an intentional, research-informed pathway designed to set students up for long-term success.



HOW IT WORKS

Students enrolled in **KinderBoost** are kindergarten age (meeting the September 1 eligibility requirement), but instead of moving directly into a traditional kindergarten classroom, they participate in a structured readiness year. After completing **KinderBoost**, students then transition into kindergarten the following year.

This model provides students with additional time to grow developmentally before beginning the formal K-12 progression.



PREVENTING RETENTION, PROMOTING SUCCESS

Research shows that grade-level retention later in elementary school can significantly increase the likelihood of long-term academic struggles and decreased graduation rates. **KinderBoost** addresses challenges early, before students fall behind, by building foundational skills at the right developmental pace.

Instead of being among the most struggling students in a class, **KinderBoost** students frequently become classroom leaders.

WHAT THE PROGRAM LOOKS LIKE

KinderBoost is at Lansing Elementary School as part of the Early Childhood programming. It is a 5 hour school day (9am-2pm) and follows a schedule similar to kindergarten.

The curriculum is intentionally designed to focus on:



Early literacy and numeracy foundations



Speech and language development



Social-emotional growth



School routines and behavioral readiness



Executive functioning and self-regulation



A THOUGHTFUL INVESTMENT IN EARLY INTERVENTION

The creation of **KinderBoost** reflects Lansing USD 469's commitment to meeting students where they are developmentally and ensuring strong transitions into elementary school.

By identifying readiness needs early and providing targeted support, the district is working to:



Reduce later intervention and retention



Strengthen student confidence



Improve long-term academic outcomes



Support families with individualized pathways

KinderBoost is another example of Lansing's **Whole Child Approach** in action, recognizing that readiness is more than academics alone and that giving students the right start makes a lasting difference.



LANSING USD 469 • Whole Child Approach to Learning in Action

Additional information about enrollment and eligibility will be shared with families as the program continues to develop.