



**G**oing to school for the first time is one of the most important and exciting experiences in your child's life. There is so much to learn, see, and do!

Families who are entering the school system for the first time often have many questions. The following questions are a guide to help prepare your child for the first day of school.

### **What is the cut off date for students entering Manitou School District #14?**

Students entering kindergarten must be 5 by September 15th. There are no exceptions!

### **How do I register my child?**

You will need to come to the school to pick up a registration packet. Office hours are Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please bring your child's birth certificate and current immunization records at this time. Students may not attend school until both of these documents are on file with the school. If you have any questions, please call 684-9821.

### **What immunizations does my child need to begin kindergarten?**

At this time your child will now be required to have proof of the following immunizations:

**5 DTP**

**4 Polio**

**2 MMR**

**3 Hepatitis**

**2 Varicella (chicken pox)**

Please check with your physician to make sure your child is up to date on his/her immunizations.

### **How can I be sure my child is ready to start school?**

Most educators agree that school readiness is not guaranteed by chronological age, but is defined by the total picture of the child's intellectual, physical, social and emotional development. Concentrating on a task for an extended period of time, sitting still, listening, standing or walking in line without pushing, taking turns, and sharing are a few of the skills necessary for kindergarten.

If you are not sure of your child's readiness, we invite you to observe our kindergarten class and to set up an appointment with the teacher to discuss your concerns. Remember, all children are unique and grow and develop at different rates. Call 684-9821 to make your appointment.

### **What skills can I work on with my child?**

Help children practice:

- Putting on and taking off coats, shoes and boots
- Reciting name, address and phone number
- Recognizing basic colors
- Finding circles, squares, triangles, ovals, diamonds, and rectangles
- Pointing out numbers on signs, calendars, clocks, rulers and newspapers
- Counting objects such as buttons, stones, seeds and macaroni
- Pointing out letters on signs, cereal boxes, books, and magazines

### **What is the Extended Day Kindergarten Program?**

All kindergartner students will be offered the opportunity to attend Full - day kindergarten free of charge. The school day will begin at 8:25 AM and end at 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

### **Can my child meet the teacher before the first day of school?**

We will hold a special kindergarten open house several days before school actually starts. This gives to meet the teacher, the other students, learn the layout of the school, and to find out what she/he can expect the first day of school. We will notify you of this meeting sometime in early August. Make sure we have your current mailing address!

### **Does Ute Pass Elementary accept out of district students?**

We do accept out of district enrollment on a space available basis. Out of district students are placed on a waiting list and will be notified when an opening is available.

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**Ute Pass Elementary  
9230 Chipita Park Road  
Chipita Park, CO 80809  
(719) 684 - 9821**

[www.mssd14.org/new/upe/index.html](http://www.mssd14.org/new/upe/index.html)