

TOMAH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# TIMBER PUPS

PARTNERS UNITED FOR PRESCHOOL

## Friends are Waiting!

A half day, community-based program to provide a developmentally appropriate curriculum to our youngest learners.



# A message from the Timber Pups Program Leader

Hello! My name is Mrs. Mary Gruber and I am the 4K Unit Leader for the Tomah Area School District's Timber Pups program.

Timber Pups offers our youngest students the opportunity to explore in a play-based learning environment. We know through research and our own history of Timber Pups, that an early childhood program such as ours provides students with a solid foundation on which they will build upon throughout their lifetime.

Timber Pups' curriculum focuses on language, early literacy, math, and social and emotional development in a manner that is best for their young developing minds.

Our Timber Pups attend school at one of our seven locations throughout the Tomah School District for a half day, four times a week. Classes are taught by a Department of Public Instruction certified teacher with the assistance of teaching aides as needed.

Enrollment is now open for next school year! To enroll, contact our district registrar or visit us online.

We look forward to sharing your child's educational journey and can't wait to meet you. Thank you!



## Program Highlights

### Four Areas of Development:

1. Social/Emotional: Following rules and routines, sharing, taking turns
2. Physical: large muscle movement to include balance and stability, small muscle control and dexterity
3. Cognitive: Learning and using information
4. Language: using and understanding spoken language, making sense of written language.

### Daily Routine Activities:

- Circle Time: Large group meeting where we sing songs, fingerplays, and sharing news
- Choice Time: children work in interest areas, Teacher may work with small groups
- Snack time:
- Outdoor play
- Story Time: another large group meeting where we read and discuss a story book

### Other Activities:

- Crafts, learning games, sensory play, imaginative play, music and movement, experience in the Library, practice writing and reciting their numbers and letters.

Timber Pups prepares your child for their transition into Kindergarten. They are introduced to the school environment, a structured daily routine, and use of school resources and spaces such as the library, computers, gymnasium, and outdoor playgrounds.

By the time your child enters into Kindergarten, they will be able to recite their ABC's, 123's, spell their name, and recognize letters and numbers by sight.



## A closer look at our curriculum



Timber Pups' Curriculum has integrated Second Step which is a research-based, teacher-informed, and classroom-tested program to promote the social-emotional development, safety, and well-being of children from Early Learning.

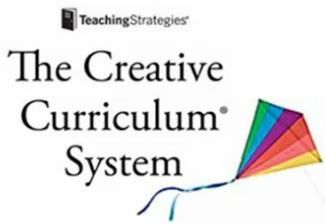
To learn more, visit <https://www.secondstep.org/>

Second Step teaches children to:

- » Recognize feelings
- » Understand another's point of view
- » Show care and understanding
- » Deal with anger
- » Resolve problem

Classroom teachers use Second Step to:

- » Discuss situation on photo card
- » Practice with role playing and feedback
- » Encourage children to use knowledge in real substitutions
- » Teach children language to use to express feelings and resolve problems.



We use a Creative Curriculum format in our Timber Pups program. This means that our class work is structured around and how children learn and develop, what children learn and emphasizes the teacher's role, the family's role, and the curated learning environment.

To learn more, visit <https://teachingstrategies.com/solutions/teach/preschool/>

The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool is...

- » Proven to increase kindergarten readiness
- » Academically rigorous and promotes social-emotional development
- » Rated higher than any other preschool curriculum
- » Inclusive, supporting all children
- » Aligned to all state early learning guidelines and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes



## Handwriting Without Tears®

by Learning Without Tears

An award-winning curriculum that offers a NEW integrated print and digital approach to teach pencil grip, letter formation, and the literacy skills that are needed for print and cursive handwriting.

To learn more, visit <https://www.lwtears.com/hwt>

Good handwriting skills develop from good handwriting instruction. Children can master handwriting best when they have explicit, thoughtful, targeted, and supported handwriting instruction.

- » Developed by an occupational therapist.
- » Children play, build, sing, color and learn
- » Small and large muscle control
- » Color and shape awareness
- » Letter and number recognition
- » Individual, small, and large group instruction

# More about our program

## Who is eligible for 4K?

Children must be four years old on or before September 1st of the year to enroll and \*be a resident of the Tomah Area School District.

*\*If you reside outside the Tomah Area School District, you may apply for open enrollment at the Department of Public Instruction website. Please visit our enrollment page for more information.*

## May a child with a disability participate, too?

Yes! Special education and counseling services in a public preschool are available based upon the needs of the individual child.

*If you have specific questions on your child's needs, please contact the Timber Pups program leader.*

## Is transportation offered to Timber Pups?

Yes! Transportation is offered through the TASD Transportation Department based on their policies and guidelines.

## What about Childcare before or after 4K?

Timber Pups is a half-day program (see our session information for specific times). Parents and guardians are responsible for arranging supplemental childcare. Finding childcare to wrap around the Timber Pups program can be a challenge, consider the following:

- Our partnering child care locations may offer wrap around care; contact those locations directly to check on availability.
- Wisconsin Department of Children and Families maintains a list of all certified, licensed daycare providers. Visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensing/lcc-directories> for the DCF Childcare Directory for a list of licensed providers in our area.

## What do we mean by "Community Based"?

We offer a quality public preschool education to children in the community in which they reside. It limits the number of transitions the child will need to make through their educational journey and utilizes the great, local child care facilities with which we partner.

## Still have questions?

That's great! We welcome all feedback and questions! Please contact the Timber Pups Program Leader to discuss further!



## Our classrooms

We know that these young minds learn best by doing! They like to explore using all of their senses and our spaces are specifically and thoughtfully created to support that.

Classrooms are organized into stations where the child is naturally guided through an activity and able to explore freely within that activity.



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Welcoming all children in the Tomah Area School District who are four years old on or before Sept 1st.

Students who attend our high-quality preschool program will reap benefits that last through school and their entire lives.

Tomah Area School District is proud to partner with local childcare providers, community preschools and other early childhood providers to support our 4K TimberPups program.

## CURRICULUM

Children will participate in play activities provide rich learning experiences. Creative Curriculum, Handwriting Without Tears, and the Second Step programs will be used in our classrooms.

*The Wisconsin Model for Early Learning Standards will be the guide for all [https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/early-childhood/wmels\\_5theditionfinal.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/early-childhood/wmels_5theditionfinal.pdf)*



## LOCATIONS

### 5 T ASD SITES:

Lemonweir Elementary, LaGrange Elementary, Oakdale Elementary, and Warrens Elementary, Tomah Area Montessori School

### 2 PARTNERING FACILITY SITES:

Noah's Ark Christian Preschool and Tomah School of Childhood



## SCHEDULE

TimberPup classes are held:

Monday - Thursday  
2 sessions: AM or PM

Supplemental/extended childcare is offered at select locations, visit our website for more details.

TimberPups' academic calendar matches the T ASD academic calendar.

## COST

TimberPups is funded by the T ASD; there is no tuition for parents to enroll their child(ren) in this half-day program.

## TRANSPORTATION

Bus transportation is offered by the T ASD based on attendance areas. Parents may drop off and pick up their child(ren) at the school location.

## ENROLLMENT

Enrollment is open from \_ to \_. This time frame allows to planning and coordination for our students. Although this is our encouraged enrollment window, we are happy to accommodate and work with you based on your needs.

For more enrollment information and enrollment packet, please visit our website.

Friends are waiting!



# ENROLL TODAY!

WWW.TOMAH.EDUCATION/TIMBER-PUPS



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## LOCATIONS & SITE DETAILS

### LOCATIONS

#### Lemonweir Elementary

711 North Glendale Ave., Tomah  
608-374-7847  
AM Session: 7:50 am - 11:00 am  
PM Session: 11:50 am - 3:00 pm  
Attendance Area: Lemonweir, Miller (East of HWY 131)  
Follows Lemonweir's 45-15 Academic Calendar

#### LaGrange Elementary

600 Straw St., Tomah  
608-374-7057  
AM Session: 7:55 am - 11:05 am  
PM Session: 11:50 am - 3:00 pm  
Attendance Area: LaGrange, Miller (West of HWY 131)  
Follows T ASD Academic Calendar

#### Oakdale Elementary

217 South Oakwood St., Oakdale  
608-374-7081  
AM Session: 7:50 am - 11:00 am  
PM Session: 11:50 am - 3:00 pm  
Attendance Area: Oakdale, \*Half of Wyeville  
Follows T ASD Academic Calendar

#### Warrens Elementary School

409 Main St., Warrens  
608-374-7800  
AM Session: 7:50 am - 11:00 am  
PM Session: not available  
Attendance Area: Warrens, \*Half of Wyeville  
Follows the T ASD Academic Calendar

\* Depending on where student is located; to be coordinated with Transportation Department

#### Noah's Ark Christian Learning Center

1105 Butts Ave, Tomah,  
608-372-4543  
AM Session: not available  
PM Session: 12:00 am - 3:10 pm  
Attendance Area: Lemonweir, Miller, LaGrange  
Follows the T ASD Academic Calendar  
*Wrap-around care is available based on availability, contact facility for more information.*

#### Tomah School of Childhood

115 W Lacrosse St, Tomah  
608-372-2969  
AM Session: 7:55 am - 11:05 am  
PM Session: 12:00 am - 3:10 pm  
Attendance Area: Lemonweir, Miller, LaGrange  
Follows the T ASD Academic Calendar  
*Wrap-around care is available based on availability, contact facility for more information.*

*4K is also offered at Tomah Area Montessori School- a free, public charter school in T ASD offering a Montessori education. For more information, visit our website.*

For more enrollment information and enrollment packet, please visit our website.

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## PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

### PLACEMENT

- » Placement is based on Attendance Area by default.
- » Families may note a school preference on their enrollment form to select a 4K site outside their attendance area.
- » If a student is attending a school outside of their attendance area, parents are responsible for transportation.
- » If a parent chooses a school outside their attendance area, but the daycare provided wrap-around care is within the attendance area, TASD will provide transportation to and from the daycare.
- » If the parent chooses a school outside their attendance area but there is already a route passing by, transportation may be provided as long as there is room on the bus and no additional costs are incurred by the district.
- » If the district assigns a student to a school outside their attendance area, the district will provide transportation.
- » Students in outlying area will ride the rout bus in for AM session and home for PM.
- » If students are attending a facility which offers both the 4K program and wrap around care, we transport the student to 4K but not before or after the daycare program.

### REQUESTING SCHOOL OF CHOICE

Parents are welcome to request a school outside their attendance area when enrolling, however please note the following:

- » Requests are not guaranteed; decisions are made by the administrative teams
- » Requests must be resubmitted after 4K to enroll in the outside school for Kindergarten (but not after that).

### TRANSPORTATION

Bus transportation is offered by the TASD based on attendance areas. Parents may drop off and pick up their child(ren) at the school location if they would like to.

To discuss your family's specific situation or address any of your concerns, please feel free to contact the TASD Transportation Department directly at the number below.

**TASD Transportation Department:**  
608-374-7377

For more enrollment information and enrollment packet, please visit our website.

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ENROLL  
TODAY!



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