## • What schools do children/youth living on the installation attend?

There are no DoD schools at Minot AFB. The Minot Public School system operates the public schools that the base children will be attending. The Minot Public School District has 11 elementary schools located in Minot and two on base. There are two middle schools in Minot and one on base. There is one high school on two campuses: Central Campus (for grades 9 and 10) and Minot High School (for grades 11 and 12). Minot Public Schools also offers an Adult Learning Center, Head Start program and alternative schools. To access information on any of the schools go to the <u>Minot Public Schools</u> website and select the Our Schools tab.

Other school districts within a short 10-30 mile commute from Minot AFB are: -Glenburn

-<u>Sawyer</u> -<u>Des Lacs/Burlington</u> -<u>Surrey</u>

Additionally, there are the following Private Schools in the Minot area: -<u>Minot Catholic Schools</u> -Our Redeemer's Christian School

#### • When does school start?

All Public/Private Schools have a 9 month school year. The school year traditionally begins before Labor Day and ends around Memorial Day.

#### • How old must a child be to start school?

Age requirements for North Dakota Public Schools are governed by State Law. If a child has not attended school before, parents must bring a birth certificate, or other proof of age, and shot records to the school at registration time.

For entrance into:

Kindergarten-Child must be 5 years old by 1 August of the school year unless they have already attended Kindergarten at prior location.

First Grade-Child must be 6 years old by 1 August of the school year unless they have already completed Kindergarten at prior location and have already entered into the first grade.

# • What are the school's accountability data (ranking, test scores, financial, demographics, etc.)?

Enrollment for the Minot Public School District averages 6,600 students and has a 14:1 student teacher ratio. The graduation rates for the public and private schools are 90% and 100% respectively, far above the national rate of 71%. Between 70 - 85% of public school graduates continue their education and 90% of those that graduate from the private schools. There is one computer for every two students in the Minot school system. The Minot Public School District consistently scores above the state and national averages in the North Dakota Assessment and the American College Test (ACT). Click on the following link for additional information on local schools and to review school district profiles:

http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/dpi/reports/Profile/index.shtm

#### • How far is the walk or bus ride to and from school?

Minot Public Schools provides the following busing:

**In-town:** Special needs, Shuttles between Magic City Campus and Central Campus, Field Trips, Extra Curricular, Bell Elementary, McKinley Township, Eureka Township and students living in the former Jefferson Elementary area who attend Sunnyside Elementary. Busing is not provided for elementary, middle, and high school students. City bus is available if needed.

**On base:** Special needs, Field Trips, Extra Curricular and students attending Magic City Campus, Central Campus, Central Campus Plus, Souris River Campus, and the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch (Approximately 30 minute ride).

Additionally, Minot AFB provides busing during the winter months for students that attend Dakota, North Plains, and Memorial. The average distance for a house on base to a school on base is approximately 1 mile and the average bus ride is about 10 minutes.

#### • What are the boundaries for the various off-base schools?

The Minot School District will not participate in Open Enrollment except in the following circumstances.

The child is military dependent and will attend school on the Base.

If the family moves out of the Minot Public School District, the child may finish the school year with Minot Public Schools. A tuition waiver must be signed by the resident district. If the student of the family moving out of the Minot Public School District is a senior, he or she may finish high school and graduate from Minot Public Schools. Note, siblings of students who opt to finish high school under this provision are not eligible to open enroll into the Minot Public Schools.

Currently Minot Public Schools is in the process of building a new elementary school along with adding significant additions to two other elementary schools so the off-base boundary lines are very much a work in progress. For the most up-to-date off base district boundary lines contact the District Enrollment Specialist at 701-857-4444.

#### • What is the school registration procedure?

The registration process for Minot Public Schools begins with contacting the District Enrollment Specialist and setting up an initial registration appointment. Here is the contact information:

Barbara Hansen District Enrollment Specialist 215 2nd Street SE Minot, ND 58701 barb.hansen@minot.k12.nd.us Phone: 701-857-4444 Fax: 701-857-4472 Office Hours: (Open Year Round) Monday-Thursday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

# **Required Documents**

You will need ALL of these required items with you when you come to enroll your child:

- Parent/guardian photo identification is required.
- Copy of state-certified birth certificate for each child you are enrolling.
- Copy of the certificate of Immunizations records for each child you are enrolling.
- Primary proof of residence such as a current utility bill, lease/renter's agreement, homeowner's or renter's insurance, Home Purchase Agreement, or Ward County Property Tax Statement, .
- Completed Registration Forms (forms are available at the enrollment office if you don't have access to a computer and printer).
- Custody/Guardianship Documentation (if applicable)

For all other school districts contact their main office for registration information because the procedures vary from district to district.

# • What kind of before & after-school and holiday care programs are available? On base:

The Before and After School program at the Minot AFB Youth Center offers developmentally appropriate curriculum, high-energy activities, and expanded learning opportunities in a safe and healthy environment. The program welcomes all 5-12 year olds to take on the challenge and join this fast moving program. During school breaks and summers, this program becomes a full day camp. Field trips, swimming, bowling, nature walks, computer challenges, science experiments, and group activities ensure that each full day is fun and exciting for participants.

In addition to daily Power Hour (homework time), the School Age Program offers clubs supporting the 4-H and Boys and Girls Club organizations. Numerous clubs such as cooking, sewing, science, sports, writing, jewelry and collectable's just to name a few are incorporated in the program. Each room in both facilities features a main activity as well as a wide selection of manipulatives to choose from for independent play. The children may choose what room they want to go in by using our famous safety board. To obtain more information and to ask about eligibility, please contact the School Age Program at 723-2838.

# Off base:

The 21st Century Community Learning Center Program was established by Congress as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The 21st Century Community Learning Center Program provides grants to communities to develop or expand on out-ofschool time programs. These programs give students opportunities for academic enrichment and provide a broad array of additional services that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program. The 2015 -16 academic year marks the 16th year that CLC programs have been offered by the Minot Public School District.

The 21st Century CLC programs are funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. The grant programs are currently operating at the following elementary schools: Lewis & Clark, McKinley, Roosevelt, Sunnyside and Washington. The Minot Public Schools Community Learning Centers operate at Bel Air, Edison, Erik Ramstad, Longfellow and Perkett which are funded through program fees and administered by the program director. Contact the CLC office at 857-8780 for additional information regarding program services.

## • What are the state procedures for home schooling?

Home Schooling is an option in the local communities, but ND has a strict home schooling policy. Military personnel and family members, who decide to home school, should review the information available on the North Dakota Department of Instruction website: (http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/approve/home/).

The North Dakota Home School Association's website (<u>www.ndhsa.org</u>) includes an online packet of information designed for families beginning the home school adventure in ND. It contains the law, statement of intent, testing information, immunization records, free national magazines, and information on educational philosophies.