**YEAR OVERVIEW Kindergarten – Connections**

Connections was chosen as the organizational concept for kindergarten because of its relevance to the experience of kindergarten students. As five-year-olds enter the public school system for the first time, they will make many new connections. They will meet and make connections with new people every day and will learn in new environments. Connecting the student’s new learning to their previous experiences is an important aspect of learning at this time. The curriculum outcomes are organized around four units focusing on connections using the contexts: the individual, healthy lifestyles, the senses, and place and community. The outcomes are listed below:

**Unit 1 Students as Individuals**

Students will be expected to

K 1.1 demonstrate an understanding of themselves as unique and special;

K 1.2 describe their own physical changes and unique characteristics;

K 1.3 identify needs and wants that are common to all children;

K 1.4 demonstrate an understanding of how the roles of family members change over time;

K 1.5 recognize that families (local, national, and global) have varied traditions, rituals and celebrations;

K 1.6 identify and describe groups to which they belong; and

K 1.7 communicate effectively, solve problems and demonstrate conflict-resolution skills.

**Unit 2 Healthy Lifestyles**

Students will be expected to

K 2.1 describe the importance of personal hygiene and practice it in order to reduce the spread of germs and diseases; and

K 2.2 identify and explain types of activities that support a healthy lifestyle.

**Unit 3 Our Senses**

Students will be expected to

K 3.1 identify the five senses and describe methods to care for them;

K 3.2 use one or more of their senses to explore the characteristics of materials, noting how materials can be manipulated; and

K 3.3 develop vocabulary about sensory experiences that permits meaningful communication of ideas.

**Unit 4 Place and Community**

Students will be expected to

K 4.1 describe and locate some of the natural and constructed features of their community;

K 4.2 demonstrate an awareness of safety in the community;

K 4.3 demonstrate an awareness of the need for personal safety in the home, school and community, and be able to act accordingly; and

K 4.4 identify connections between their community and other communities (local, national, and global).