

Davis Joint USD

Board Policy

Transitional Kindergarten

BP 6170.1

Instruction

The Governing Board of Education desires to offer a high-quality transitional kindergarten (TK) program for eligible children who do not yet meet the minimum age criterion for kindergarten.

The TK program shall assist students/children in developing the academic, social, and emotional skills they need to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

The district's transitional kindergarten TK program shall be the first year of a two-year kindergarten program. (Education Code 48000)

The Board encourages ongoing collaboration among district preschool staff, other preschool providers, elementary teachers, administrators, and parents/guardians in program development, implementation, and evaluation of the district's TK program.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Eligibility

Pursuant to Education Code 48200, each person between the ages of 6 and 18 years is subject to compulsory full-time education, unless otherwise exempted by law. Thus, parents/guardians are not required to enroll children in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten but, if they do so, are subject to the age criteria specified below.

A district could choose to accelerate implementation of the program prior to the dates specified in law, thus allowing all children whose fifth birthday will be between September 1 and December 2 to enroll in transitional kindergarten prior to 2014-15 at a date determined by the Board of Education. However, according to the California Department of Education (CDE), if a parent/guardian requests that his/her kindergarten-eligible child be admitted to kindergarten instead of transitional kindergarten, the district would need to honor that request because of the phase in stipulated in law. Furthermore, whenever kindergarten-eligible children are enrolled in transitional kindergarten, the district must obtain a continuance form signed by the parent/guardian consenting to the child's enrollment in kindergarten the following year. The continuance form is necessary in order to receive kindergarten apportionments for those children since they would otherwise be age-eligible for first grade. CDE recommends that approval for a student to continue in kindergarten not be given until near the end of the year of transitional kindergarten, since permission obtained unreasonably far in advance could be found invalid.

The district's transitional kindergarten program shall admit children whose fifth birthday lies

~~between: (Education Code 48000)~~

- ~~1. November 2 and December 2 in the 2012-13 school year~~
- ~~2. October 2 and December 2 in the 2013-14 school year~~
- ~~3. September 2 and December 2 in the 2014-15 school year and each school year thereafter~~

~~Beginning in the 2012-13 school year, the district shall offer transitional kindergarten for children born between September 2 and December 2.~~

~~Parents/guardians of eligible children shall be notified of the availability of this program and the age, residency, and any other enrollment requirements. Enrollment in the transitional kindergarten program shall be voluntary.~~

~~The district's TK program shall admit children whose fifth birthday is from September 2 through December 2. (Education Code 48000)~~

~~Parents/guardians of eligible children shall be notified of the availability of the TK program and the age, residency, immunization, and any other enrollment requirements. Enrollment in the TK program shall be voluntary.~~

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

~~(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)~~

~~(cf. 5111.13 - Residency for Homeless Children)~~

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

~~On a case-by-case basis, Education Code 48000 authorizes early entrance into kindergarten for children who reach age 5 later than the date specified below, provided the parent/guardian approves, the district determines it is in the child's best interests, and the district has provided the parent/guardian with information on the advantages and disadvantages of early admittance; see AR 5111 - Admission.~~

Upon request of a child's parents/guardians, the district may, on a case-by-case basis after the Superintendent or designee determines that it is in the child's best interest, admit into the district's TK program a child whose fifth birthday is on or before September 1 and who is therefore eligible for kindergarten.

~~A~~The district may, at any time during the school year, the district may admit into the TK program a child whose fifth birthday is after December 2 of that same school year, provided that the Superintendent or designee recommends that enrollment in a TK program is in the child's best interest and the child's parents/guardians approve. Prior to such enrollment, the child's

parents/guardians shall be provided information regarding the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information about the effect of early admittance. (Education Code 48000)

Promotion/Acceleration

Upon request of a child's parents/guardians, the district may, on a case-by-case basis, promote a student from TK to a kindergarten program during the school year, upon determination that it is in the best interests of the child and the child is ready for kindergarten work subject to the following minimum criteria:

1. The student is at least five years of age.
2. The student has attended a public or private school TK program for a long enough time to enable school personnel to evaluate his/her ability.
3. The student is in the upper five percent of his/her age group in terms of general mental ability.
4. The physical development and social maturity of the student are consistent with his/her advanced mental ability.
5. The parent/guardian of the student has filed a written statement with the school district approving the placement in kindergarten.

Curriculum and Instruction

The district's ~~transitional kindergarten~~TK program shall be based on a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. (Education Code 48000)

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

~~Upon recommendation by the Superintendent or designee, the Board shall approve academic standards for transitional kindergarten that bridge preschool learning foundations and kindergarten standards. Such standards~~The program shall be aligned with the preschool learning foundations and preschool curriculum frameworks developed by the California Department of Education. It shall be designed to facilitate students' development in essential skills related to which may include, as appropriate, language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, health, visual and performingthe arts, science, history-social sciences, English language development, and social-emotional development.

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

~~The number of instructional minutes offered in transitional kindergarten shall be the same as that~~

~~required for the district's kindergarten program. The Board shall fix the length of the school day in the district's TK program. TK programs may be maintained for different lengths of time either at the same or different school sites, as long as the school day is at least three hours but no more than four hours. The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the California Department of Education as to whether the district's TK programs are offered full day, part day, or both. (Education Code 37202, 46111, 46117, 48003) , which shall be at least three hours but no more than four hours.~~

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)
(cf. 6112 - School Day)

~~The district shall endeavor to maintain separate classes for transitional kindergarten and kindergarten. TK~~transitional kindergarten students may be placed in the same classrooms as kindergarten students when necessary, provided that the instructional program is differentiated to meet student needs.

Staffing

~~The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that T~~teachers assigned to teach in ~~transitional kindergarten TK~~ classes shall possess a teaching credential or permit ~~from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)~~ that authorizes ~~such~~ instruction ~~at the kindergarten grade level.~~

When possible transitional kindergarten and kindergarten teachers shall support one another one another during instructional time. Should that partnership not exist at a site, the Superintendent or designee shall have discretion to provide paraeducator support.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

~~A credentialed teacher who is first assigned to a TK class after July 1, 2015, shall, by August 1, 2020, have at least 24 units in early childhood education and/or child development, comparable experience in a preschool setting, and/or a child development teacher permit issued by the CTC. (Education Code 48000)~~

The Superintendent or designee may provide professional development as needed to ensure that ~~transitional kindergarten TK~~ teachers are knowledgeable about ~~the district~~ standards and effective instructional methods for teaching young children.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

Continuation to Kindergarten

Students who complete the TK program shall be eligible to continue in kindergarten the following school year. ~~Parents/guardians of such students shall not be required to submit a signed Kindergarten Continuance Form for kindergarten attendance.~~ Upon completion of transitional kindergarten, students will attend kindergarten at the school within their attendance boundary. To attend school outside of their attendance boundary, students must submit an

intradistrict transfer application.

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

However, whenever children who would otherwise be age-eligible for kindergarten are enrolled in TK, the Superintendent or designee shall obtain a Kindergarten Continuance Form signed by the parent/guardian near the end of the TK year consenting to the child's enrollment in kindergarten the following year.

A student shall not attend more than two years in a combination of transitional kindergarten and kindergarten. (Education Code 46300)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

Program Evaluation Assessment

The Superintendent or designee shall develop or identify appropriate formal and/or informal assessments of ~~TK~~transitional kindergarten students' development and progress. He/she shall monitor and regularly report to the Board regarding program implementation and the progress of students in meeting related academic standards.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8973 Extended-day kindergarten

37202 School calendar; equivalency of instructional minutes

44258.9 Assignment monitoring by county office of education

46111 Kindergarten, hours of attendance

46114-46119 Minimum school day, kindergarten

46300 Computation of average daily attendance, inclusion of kindergarten and transitional kindergarten

48000 A~~Minimum~~ age of admission, ~~-(kindergarten)~~ and transitional kindergarten

48002 Evidence of minimum age required to enter kindergarten or first grade

48003 Kindergarten annual report

48200 Compulsory education, starting at age six

~~60605.8 Academic Content Standards Commission, development of Common Core Standards~~

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

What Boards of Education Can Do About Kindergarten Readiness, Governance Brief, May 2016

Transitional Kindergarten, Issue Brief, July 2011

~~CALIFORNIA COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES-~~

~~ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS~~

~~Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Planning Guide: A Resource for Administrators of California Public School Districts, November 2011~~

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Transitional Kindergarten FAQs

Desired Results Developmental Profile, 2015

Transitional Kindergarten Implementation Guide: A Resource for California Public School District Administrators and Teachers, 2013

California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 1, 2010

California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 1, 2008

~~Prekindergarten Learning Development Guidelines, 2000~~

~~First Class: A Guide for Early Primary Education, 1999~~

~~COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS~~

~~11-08 Transitional Kindergarten Assignments, Credential Information Alert, August 25, 2011~~

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

~~California County Superintendents Educational Services Association: <http://www.cesesa.org>~~

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Kindergarten Association: <http://www.ckanet.org>

Commission on Teacher Credentialing: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov>

Transitional Kindergarten California: <http://www.tkcalifornia.org>

Policy

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DAVIS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Davis, California