

Policy 6170.1: Transitional Kindergarten

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/16/2015 | **Last Revised Date:** 05/03/2023 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 05/03/2023

The Board of Trustees 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 in developing the academic, social, and emotional skills needed to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

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

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

Eligibility

The district's TK program shall admit children as follows: (Education Code 48000):

1. For the 2021-22 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 through December 2
2. For the 2022-23 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and February 2
3. For the 2023-24 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and April 2
4. For the 2024-25 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and June 2
5. For the 2025-26 school year, and in each school year thereafter, children who turn four by September 1

A child's eligibility for TK enrollment shall not impact family eligibility for a preschool or childcare program. (Education Code 48000).

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

Curriculum and Instruction

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

The program shall be aligned with the preschool learning foundations and preschool curriculum frameworks developed by the California Department of Education (CDE). It shall be designed to facilitate students' development in essential knowledge and skills related to language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, health, visual and performing arts, science, history-social science, English language development, and social-emotional development.

TK students may be placed in the same classrooms as kindergarten students when necessary, provided that the instructional program is differentiated to meet student needs.

The district shall maintain an average TK class enrollment of not more than 24 students for each school site. (Education Code 48000)

Staffing

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

A credentialed teacher who is first assigned to a TK class after July 1, 2015, shall, by August 1, 2023, have at least 24 units in early childhood education and/or child development, comparable professional experience in a preschool

setting, and/or a child development teacher permit issued by CTC. (Education Code 48000)

The Superintendent or designee may provide professional development as needed to ensure that TK teachers are knowledgeable about the standards and effective instructional methods for teaching young children, including, but not limited to, developing competencies in serving inclusive classrooms and dual language learners.

The district shall, commencing with the 2022-23 school year, maintain an average of at least one adult for every 12 students for TK classrooms and, contingent upon an appropriation of funding, maintain an average of at least one adult for every 10 students commencing with the 2023-24 school year. (Education Code 48000)

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.

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

Assessment

The Superintendent or designee may develop or identify appropriate formal and/or informal assessments of TK students' development and progress. The Superintendent or designee shall monitor and regularly report to the Board regarding program implementation, the progress of students in meeting related academic standards, and student preparedness for future education.

RVSD Policy History

Initial Approval: Unknown

Revisions/Updates: 6/15, 1/21, 5/23

Adopted/Updated: May 3, 2023 , San Anselmo, California

(Based on Last CSBA Update: December 2021)
