

Cutten Elementary School District

Instruction

BP 6170.1

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

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

The district's TK 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.

Eligibility

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

Parents/guardians of eligible children shall be notified of the availability the TK program and 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. It shall be designed to facilitate students' development in essential 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.

The Board shall fix the length of the school day in the district's TK program, which shall be at least three hours.

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.

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.

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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 TK teachers are knowledgeable about the standards and effective instructional methods for teaching young children.

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 parental permission form for kindergarten attendance.

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

Assessment

The Superintendent or designee shall develop or identify appropriate assessments of TK 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.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8973 Extended-day kindergarten

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 Minimum age of admission (kindergarten)

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

48200 Compulsory education, starting at age six

60605.8 Academic Content Standards Commission, development of Common Core Standards

Approved: December 14, 2015