

## Transitional Kindergarten

The Governing Board of MDUSD desires to offer a high-quality Transitional Kindergarten 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 Transitional Kindergarten shall be the first year of a two-year kindergarten program. (Education Code 48000)

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

### Eligibility

The district's Transitional Kindergarten program shall admit children whose fifth birthday lies between: (Education Code 48000)

1. ~~November 2~~ **September 2** and ~~December~~ **February 2** in the ~~2012-13~~ **2022-2023** school year
2. ~~October 2~~ **September 2** and ~~December~~ **April 2** in the ~~2013-14~~ **2023-2024** school year
3. September 2 and ~~December~~ **June 2** in the ~~2014-15~~ **2024-2025** school year ~~and each school year thereafter~~
4. **In the 2025-2026 school year, and in each school year thereafter, a child who will have their fourth birthday by September 1 shall be admitted to a transitional kindergarten program maintained by the school district**

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.

### Curriculum and Instruction

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

~~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 shall be designed to facilitate students' development in essential skills which may include, as appropriate, language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, the arts, science, social sciences, English language development, and social-emotional development.~~

~~The number of instructional minutes offered in Transitional Kindergarten shall be the same as that required for the district's kindergarten program.~~

**The program shall be aligned with 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 skill 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 establish the length of the school day in the district's TK program, which shall be at least three hours but no more than four hours long. If the district has adopted an extended-day kindergarten, the length of the school day for the TK program may be different than the length of the school day for the kindergarten program either at the same or different school site. The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to CDE**

as to whether the district's TK program are offered full day, part day, or both. (Education Code 8973, 37202, 46111, 46115, 46117, 48003)

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.

~~Teachers assigned to teach in Transitional Kindergarten classes shall possess a teaching credential or permit that authorizes instruction at the kindergarten grade level.~~

The Superintendent or designee may provide professional development as needed to ensure that Transitional Kindergarten teachers are knowledgeable about district 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. Parent/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)

### Program Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall develop or identify appropriate assessments of Transitional Kindergarten students' development and progress. ~~He/she~~ **The Superintendent or designee** shall monitor and regularly report to the Board regarding program implementation and the progress of students in meeting related academic standards. (Education Code 48000)

Policy MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 6, 2012 Concord, California

amended: December 14, 2021