



OROVILLE CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010 (Senate Bill 1381), establishes a new transitional kindergarten program to build a bridge between early learning and kindergarten. Transitional kindergarten is defined as "the first year of a two-year program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate."

During the 2012-13 school year, the Oroville City Elementary School District will be offering transitional kindergarten at Oakdale Heights Elementary School. The program is for children who will turn five years old between November 2 and December 2. The two-year program provides the opportunity for young children to be successful in school and build a solid academic foundation by providing developmentally appropriate experiences. It is an extended-day program. Therefore, parents have the flexibility of having their child participate in a half-day or full-day of lessons and activities.

I know that you may have questions about the transitional kindergarten program. Therefore, I have included a list of frequently asked questions and answers on the back of this letter. Please feel free to contact Ms. Andrea Dunn, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, at 532-5690, extension 105, or me at 532-3000, extension 3003, if you have any further questions about the program.

I look forward to seeing you during the new school year!

Sincerely,

Penny Chennell-Carter, Ed. D.
Superintendent

PCC:kjf

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN FAQs

California Department of Education

1. What is the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010?

Senate Bill (SB) 1381 (Chapter 705, Statutes of 2010) amended California Education Code (Section 46300, 48000, and 48010) to change the required birthday for admission to kindergarten and first grade and established a transitional kindergarten program beginning in the 2012-2013 school year.

2. What is transitional kindergarten?

A transitional kindergarten is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. Pursuant to law, (EC 48000[c]), a child is eligible for transitional kindergarten if a child will have his or her fifth birthday between:

For the 2012-13 school year - November 2 and December 2

For the 2013-14 school year - October 2 and December 2

For the 2014-15 school year and each school year thereafter - September 2 and December 2.

3. Must children attend transitional kindergarten or kindergarten?

Parents and guardians are currently not required to enroll children in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten (EC Section 48200).

4. What is the curriculum for transitional kindergarten?

California law (EC48000) defines transitional kindergarten as “the first year of a two-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate.” While no state curriculum is mandated, local education agencies must modify the local course of study in order to provide age and developmentally appropriate curriculum for transitional kindergarten.

5. How will the needs of English learners be addressed in transitional kindergarten?

Local educational agencies will provide a Home Language Survey to be completed by the parent or guardian which will aid the school in determining whether or not the student should be administered the California English Language Development Test (CELDT). Students who are English learners in a transitional kindergarten will have the same level of services as those in kindergarten.

6. How will the needs of parents of English learners be addressed in transitional kindergarten?

California law (EC 48985) requires that “all notices, reports, statements, or records sent to the parent or guardian of any such pupil by the school or school district shall, in addition to being written in English, be written in the primary language, and may be responded to either in English or the primary language.” This applies to parents of English learners in transitional kindergarten.