

Transitioning into First Grade



Transitioning into First Grade (T-1) is a classroom for children that do not need another year of kindergarten, but are not able to meet all the rigorous academic standards that are a part of a first grade curriculum. T-1 students need the gift of a year to develop the skills necessary to achieve success in subsequent years of their education.

The following guidelines are used to identify the children for the T-1 classroom:

- Kindergarten teacher recommendation
- Report card
- Scores on NWEA Testing
- Scores from the First Grade Baseline Assessment

T-1 students will still receive first grade academic instruction, but at a less demanding pace. First grade standards will be taught at a level that is developmentally appropriate for each student. A benefit of the T-1 classroom is a smaller class size than the traditional first grade classroom. Students will receive small group instruction throughout the day from Title One Instructors, the classroom aide, and the classroom teacher. These small groups will help students that need more time to develop skills and/or push those that can move at a faster pace.

First grade is an extremely important year to lay out the foundation for success in reading and math. Transitioning into first grade will give students the opportunity to catch up in an environment that is not overwhelming, but still structured in a first grade setting. At the end of the school year, if a student is not ready for a regular second grade classroom,

then he/she will return to his/her home school and be enrolled in a regular first grade classroom the following school year.