



## **Chico Unified School District**

1163 East Seventh Street, Chico, CA 95928-5999  
(530) 891-3000

**Board Policy:**

**#6170.1**

**Section: 6000**

**Instruction**

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### **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 **TK** program shall assist ~~TK children~~ **students** in developing the academic, social, and emotional skills they need to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

The district's ~~transitional kindergarten~~ **TK program** 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~~ **the** development, implementation, and evaluation **of the district's TK program**.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)  
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

#### **Eligibility**

The district's ~~transitional kindergarten~~ **TK** program shall admit children whose fifth birthday is from September 2 through December 2. (Education Code 48000)

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

(cf. 5111 - Admission)  
(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)  
~~(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)~~  
~~(cf. 5111.13 - Residency for Homeless Children)~~  
(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)  
(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)  
(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)  
(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

Upon request of a child's parents/guardians, the district may, based on the educational, social and/or emotional needs of the child, admit into the district's TK program a child whose fifth birthday is on or before September 1 and who is therefore eligible for kindergarten. ~~Such students will be subject to the two-year Kindergarten program and will transition from TK to Kindergarten the subsequent year.~~

**At any time during the school year, the district may admit into the TK program a child whose fifth birthday is after December 2 of that same school year, provided that the Superintendent or designee recommends that enrollment in a TK program is in the child's best interest and the child's parents/guardians approve. Prior to such enrollment, the child's parents/guardians shall be provided information regarding the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information about the effect of early admittance. (Education Code 48000)**

#### **Curriculum and Instruction**

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

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)  
(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

The program shall be aligned with the preschool learning foundations and preschool curriculum frameworks

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developed by the California Department of Education (CDE). 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.

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)  
(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)  
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

The Board shall establish the length(s) of the school day in the district's TK program. TK programs may be maintained for different lengths of time either at the same or different school sites, as long as the school day is at least three hours but no more than four hours. The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to CDE as to whether the district's TK programs are offered full day, part day, or both. (Education Code 37202, 46111, 46115, 46117, 48003)

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)  
(cf. 6112 - School Day)

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.

TK students may be placed in a classroom commingled with 4-year-old students from a California State Preschool Program as long as the classroom does not include students enrolled in TK for a second year or students enrolled in a regular kindergarten. (Education Code 8235, 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.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

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)

### **Continuation to Kindergarten**

Students who complete the ~~transitional kindergarten~~ 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~~ Kindergarten Continuance Form for kindergarten attendance.

However, whenever children who would otherwise be age-eligible for kindergarten are enrolled in TK, the Superintendent or designee shall obtain a Kindergarten Continuance Form signed by the parent/guardian near the end of the TK year consenting to the child's enrollment in kindergarten the following year.

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

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

### **Program Evaluation Assessment**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop or identify appropriate formal and/or informal assessments of

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~~transitional kindergarten~~ **TK** students' development and progress. He/she shall monitor implementation and the progress of students in meeting related academic standards ~~and developing patterns of positive attendance.~~

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

### **Legal Reference:**

#### **EDUCATION CODE**

8235 California State Preschool Program

8973 Extended-day kindergarten

37202 School calendar; equivalency of instructional minutes

44258.9 Assignment monitoring by county superintendent of schools

46111 Kindergarten, hours of attendance

46114-46119 Minimum school day, kindergarten

46300 Computation of ADA, inclusion of kindergarten and transitional kindergarten

48000 Age of admission, kindergarten and transitional kindergarten

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

48003 Kindergarten annual report

48200 Compulsory education, starting at age six

### **Management Resources:**

#### **CSBA PUBLICATIONS**

*What Boards of Education Can Do About Kindergarten Readiness, Governance Brief, May 2016*

#### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS**

*Transitional Kindergarten FAQs*

*Desired Results Developmental Profile, 2015*

*Transitional Kindergarten Implementation Guide: A Resource for California Public School District Administrators and Teachers, 2013*

*California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 3, 2013*

*California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 3, 2012*

*California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 2, 2011*

*California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 2, 2010*

*California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 1, 2010*

*California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 1, 2008*

#### **WEB SITES**

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Kindergarten Association: <http://www.ckanet.org>

Commission on Teacher Credentialing: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov>

Transitional Kindergarten California: <http://www.tkcalfornia.org>