



Full Day Kindergarten

SITUATION

Senate Bill 248 was passed in 2011. Passage of this bill provides for Oregon districts to offer full day kindergarten beginning in the fall of the 2015-16 school year. Teaching and Learning has been collaborating with HR, the Business Office, Community Involvement, and IT to bring this to fruition in Beaverton Schools.

Below is a summary of our planning in terms of facilities, staffing, and potential costs.

Communication and Registration

Communication will begin with consistent messaging about enrollment for full day kindergarten from all elementary schools. Messages to the community will be provided in district communications, school communications, and electronic communications.

Schools will be asked to invite families to begin to enroll kindergarteners beginning in November. This will be helpful in projecting numbers that will drive staffing needs. Schools will continue to have kindergarten orientation in the spring.

Program Needs

In September 2014, elementary principals updated school plans to inform departments of the following: predicted number of Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) classrooms needed for the fall of 2015, number of classrooms needing age appropriate furniture, fixtures, equipment, (FFE), and the number of classrooms needing sets of curriculum materials.

Planning for professional development for teachers who may be new to full day kindergarten are being planned.

Special Education will project additional half-day costs for 1:1 IAs for kindergarten students.

Capacity

Facilities department has closely monitored elementary building capacities the last three years, 2011 to date.

If buildings are in need of additional space, portable needs will be investigated and planned to meet the start of the school year. (Kindergarten classrooms will not be located in portables.)

Facilities will provide cost estimates for furniture, fixtures, and equipment based upon the number of additional classrooms and costs incurred for furniture, fixtures, and equipment in building a new school.

Transportation needs are being planned based upon additional ridership in the morning and afternoon bus runs. Potential costs, if any, will be determined.

Staffing

Human Resources will take an aggressive approach in hiring highly qualified kindergarten endorsed teachers to meet the needs of staffing additional classrooms.

Review of additional staffing needs will be considered within the District's Staffing Allocation Methodology during budget development.

Half-Day Kindergarten Needs Assessment

To date, we have had minimal inquiries of providing only a half-day kindergarten program during the 2015-16 school year. The District is looking at determining the need for half-day programs beyond District sponsored full-day kindergarten classrooms.