

Four Year Old Kindergarten Changes Proposal

February, 2015



Proposed Changes

- * We want to increase the amount of instructional time we have with our 4K students at school.



Why?

- * Increases Educational Success and Adult Productivity
 - * Increases cognitive abilities and achievement
 - * Improves social behavior
 - * Increases educational attainment

What Does the Research Say?

National research shows low income children with quality preschool achieve greater success during school years.

* *Reynolds, Perry Preschool and Abecedarian*

What I expect with changes

- * higher vocabulary, reading, and math skills
- * reduction of Students With Disabilities placement
- * greater attendance through elementary school
- * greater commitment to school
- * increased scores on district and PALS assessments
- * greater sense of belonging to the TES community

Discovering Interest

* Survey Questions asked:

1. Did your child attend 4K at Tomahawk Elementary School?
2. I would have preferred class for my child:
 - Two full days every week and a full day every other Friday = 38
 - Two full days every week and a full day every other Wednesday = 11
 - Two full days per week only (as it currently exists) = 68
 - Three full days a week one semester and two full days per week the opposite semester = 20

Informing Community

- * Radio
- * Newspaper
- * Facebook
- * District & Elementary Website
- * Mailings to 4K parents



Impact on District Finances

* Financially

- * No change in district income or costs
- * No changes to staffing
- * No change to busing costs
- * No change in resources
- * Increase in number of breakfast and lunch purchases



Impact on Community

- * Headstart –
 - * Serves 10 students on Friday's currently.
 - * Some of these students may attend TES 4K programming.
- * Local Daycare Providers
 - * Students currently attending day care 3 days per week would attend two to four less days per month depending upon class selections.

Effectiveness Measures

- * State PALS testing
- * District Common Assessments
- * Attendance tracking
- * Reduced referral and placement in SPED programming
- * Increased reading and math levels due to well established base



Possible Barriers

- * Parents may not want to send their children 3 days per week.
- * Day cares will be losing one day of student attendance.
- * Home visits will be limited each month.
- * Parent Teacher conference times will be challenging to schedule due to number of students in the two classes.

Expected Positive Results

- * Increase in breakfast/lunch count
- * Increase student contact time
- * Especially helps students of low socio-economic backgrounds due to the language exposure they will experience
- * Sense of continuity for child as they move into the next grade level



4K Changes

* How shall I proceed?

* Questions

