

TUSD Philosophy Statement

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) in TUSD is designed to provide a safe, healthy and nurturing environment. The academic, moral, social, emotional and physical needs of each child will be met to ensure early school success and to close the achievement gap.

The TK program will honor and celebrate the many cultures represented in our District. Each family will be invited to participate in their child's education, thus fostering an active partnership between home and school.



What Happens in a Transitional Kindergarten Classroom?

In TK, teachers help children develop social skills through activities that build confidence and communication. They also expose children to reading and math in an exciting, interactive way by using educational games to teach children about words and sentences and help them understand mathematical concepts like counting and patterns.

Who is eligible for Transitional Kindergarten (TK)?

- **If your child's birthday falls between September 2nd 2018 and April 2nd, 2019, your child is eligible for Transitional Kindergarten in the 2023-2024 school year.**
- **Child MUST be completely toilet-trained – no diapers, no pull-ups.**

How do I register my child?

If your child is age-appropriate for TK, you will need to complete the Tracy Unified Online Registration Process. All public school-entry requirements apply: The student must have up-to-date Kindergarten immunizations as well as:

- Birth Certificate or valid US Passport
- Immunization Records signed by a Physician
- Proof of Residency Address (3 items)
 - Mortgage/Rental Agreement
 - Recent Utility Bill (PG&E or City)
 - 1 Recent, Additional Bill
- Completed Oral Health Assessment Form signed by a licensed Dental Provider
- Valid Parent Photo ID
- Completed TUSD Residency Affidavit

And, if applicable:

- I.E.P. (Special Education Individual Education Plan)
- Legal Custody or Court Documents

Go to www.tracy.k12.ca.us to register your child.

As the Tracy Unified School District *does not* currently offer Transitional Kindergarten at all of its elementary school sites, the District will assign the students as room and balance permit. We are not able to honor parent requests for specific school assignments.

Tracy Unified School District



Transitional Kindergarten Program

Office of Continuous Improvement,
State and Federal Programs

Mary Petty, Ed.D., Director

1875 W Lowell Avenue
Tracy

Phone: (209) 830-3200
extension 1054

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What is Transitional Kindergarten?

California law now states that children must turn 5 years old on or before September 1st to enroll in kindergarten. Previously, children could be enrolled in kindergarten if they turned 5 years old by December 2nd. While this change may seem small, it can mean a big difference during these early years when children are rapidly growing and developing.

In order to ensure that these students still had access to the educational system, the State of California passed an additional law, creating Transitional Kindergarten (TK). This Transitional Kindergarten Program gives children an opportunity to learn in a hands-on, interactive way that supports their development. TK will prepare students for the high standards of kindergarten.

Eligible students will have an opportunity to continue building their skills and abilities. Their time in Transitional Kindergarten will help them to succeed in Kindergarten, become leaders in the classroom, and confidently navigate the school day routine.



Starting school is a very exciting time for children and their families. It begins a new chapter in their lives and sets the tone for their future. But California's Kindergarten standards and curriculum have changed over the years, and many of the skills children were once taught in first grade are now expected in Kindergarten. This can make the transition into Kindergarten difficult for some children, and the youngest children entering the Kindergarten classroom often struggle to adjust.



TUSD

~::~Transitional Kindergarten~::~

Ensuring that our youngest learners receive
the skills they need to succeed in
Kindergarten and beyond!

Transitional Kindergarten –

- Is part of the public school system and is free for families
- **Classroom facilities and teachers:** TK is taught by a credentialed teacher at designated school sites.
- **School day:** Students go to school every day on the same calendar as all other TUSD schools. Times and locations are to be determined.
- **Curriculum and learning:** Students learn important new skills including oral language, reading readiness, math and science. We also concentrate on social-emotional development and self-regulation. These skills build on what they may have learned in preschool and help them adjust to the elementary school environment. The curriculum is designed to support young 5 year olds.
- **Learning environment:** Students learn by playing and working with peers, guided and supported by the teacher in a group setting.
- A bilingual (Spanish) curriculum may be available, for students who qualify.

