



Highlights to Board

March 25, 2022

Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) | Educational Services Division

The Educational Services division is in the process of developing a five-year plan for the newly state mandated Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) program. UTK is an optional, state-funded program which provides literacy development and more self and social development opportunities for younger children. UTK is a part of Governor Newsom's Universal Pre-school (UPK) plan to ensure access to early learning for all students.

UPK will bring together programs across early learning and K-12, relying heavily on Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) and California State Preschool Program (CSPP), as well as Head Start, community-based organizations (CBOs), and private preschool to ensure every four-year-old child within the boundaries of Manteca Unified – regardless of background, race, immigration status, or income level – has access to a quality learning experience the year before kindergarten.

The benefits of the UTK rollout in Manteca Unified (MUSD), include:

- Phases in full-day, universal pre-kindergarten by providing a year of TK for all 4-year-olds.
- Implements improvements to address the social-emotional and early academic development of California's youngest learners.
- Lowers staff to student ratios to enable educators to meaningfully interact with each child – 20 students for every two adults (credentialed teacher and classroom support staff).
- Creates a standard curriculum that bridges the gap between preschool and kindergarten.
- Adds capacity to serve more 3-year-olds in California State Preschool (CSPP) and Head Start, as well as infants and toddlers thanks to complementary legislation (SB50).
- Maintains the parent's ability to choose whether their 4-year-old remains in CSPP or Head Start, or enrolls in TK.

In the 2022/23 school year, six elementary schools will host UTK on site. These schools are French Camp, Lathrop, Lincoln, Komure, Shasta and Golden West. These school have been identified as our high need sites and will provide the community with access to a full day UTK learning program. MUSD will continue rolling out UTK to meet the 2025/26 school year. At that time, four-year-old children from every corner of MUSD will be eligible for UTK!

District Superintendent

Clark Burke, Ed.D.



Deputy Superintendent

Roger Goatcher

An MUSD district task force has been meeting monthly to review the requirements of the mandate, develop a plan and prepare for all aspects of the four-year roll out. District leadership has met with union groups, preschool partners, surveyed parents on program needs, and held community meetings to gather feedback from parents on program needs. This information will be compiled and used to create a comprehensive plan. We will be bringing the complete UTK plan to the Board in June for approval.

Please find an informational PPT on UTK attached to this highlight.



Introducing: Universal Transitional Kindergarten



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3/25/2022

Introducing Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK)

We are excited to announce that beginning in the 2022/23 school year, our school will host a Universal Transitional Kindergarten program!

- Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) is a state-funded program which provides more early education opportunities to younger children.
- UTK programming is based around early development with emphasis on self and social growth and development. UTK is an optional program and is not required prior to Kindergarten.



The Differences Between UTK and TTK



UTK (Universal Transitional Kindergarten)

- Available to students turning five between Sept. 2, 2022 & Feb. 2, 2023
- Full-day program options
- Students build early literacy **and** social-emotional skills in a play-based environment

TTK (Traditional Transitional Kindergarten)

- Available to students turning five between Sept. 2, 2022 & Dec. 2, 2022.
- Part-day program
- Students build early literacy readiness

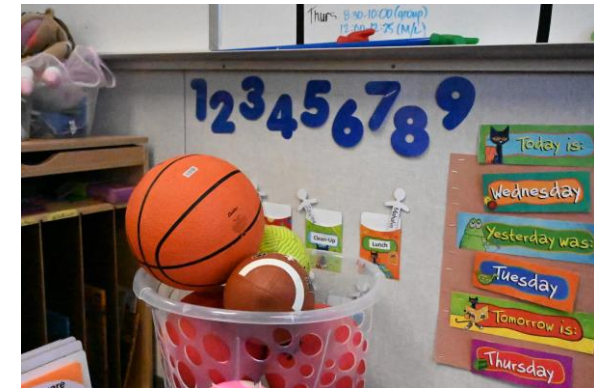


What does UTK programming offer?

Unlike Traditional Kindergarten programs, UTK provides the following:

- Free, full-day learning opportunities
- Transportation to and from the host site per B.P. 3540
- A lower staff to student ratio

ABC



Who is eligible for UTK?

Children who will turn five between September 2, 2022, and February 2, 2023, **and live in the designated boundary area of the UTK host site**, are eligible for UTK.

For example: A child who turns five on November 5, 2022, whose school of residence is Golden West, is eligible for the UTK program hosted at Golden West Elementary. This same child would **NOT** be eligible to attend UTK programming at another UTK host site, such as French Camp.





How do parents register their child for UTK?

If interested in UTK, parents may visit www.mantecausd.net/registration and click the "UTK – 2022/23 School Year" button to begin pre-enrolling their child. Registration will begin on April 1, 2022.



How can families share their feedback?



Manteca Unified wants to know how UTK programming can best help your family.

You will receive an email/text message with a survey link after tonight's presentation where you can share your thoughts, ideas, and feedback.

