

Westlake City Schools' state-required kindergarten program is a half-day program. An optional fullday, tuition-based program is also available.

Benefits of the Full-Day Program: Students in the full-day program work on the same curriculum standards as students in the half-day program. However, the full-day program allows class time for additional practice, reinforcement, intervention, and extensions. Half-day students will require these types of supports at home with parental assistance. It is important to note that throughout your child's schooling, a partnership with parents to reinforce classroom education at home is essential and will still be necessary for full-day students. However, the full-day program provides more time in the school day to implement student-specific instruction to meet individual needs. If you have further questions about whether the full-day option is best for your child, please contact Mrs. Bailey Morres, Preschool and Kindergarten House Principal.

Half-Day Program: When registering for kindergarten with Westlake City Schools, you are automatically registering your child in the half-day program. Once a class section has reached the 25 student limit, that section may be capped and students enrolling after that time may be assigned to another section of that grade level. As such, the date and time of your completed registration may impact which half day section (AM or PM) your child will be assigned to attend for the upcoming school year.

Academic state standards are the same for the half-day program and the full-day program. As always, we partner with families and ask that parents assist with reinforcing at home what is taught in the classroom.

Tuition-Based Full-Day Kindergarten Option: Tuition is required for all students enrolled in the fullday option. Tuition for Westlake City Schools' full-day program is \$2,500 per student for the 2024-2025 school year. A \$250 non-refundable deposit is required no later than March 31st, 2024 paid by check or money order only. Checks and money orders should be made out to "Westlake Board of Education" or "Westlake BOE". The remaining tuition balance of \$2,250.00 must be paid in full no later than July 1st, 2024 to participate in the full-day program. Payments by check or money order are to be made out to "Westlake BOE" between March 1st, 2024 and July 1st, 2024. Please include the student's first and last name in the memo section of your check or money order.

Please note: The option to pay the remaining tuition balance by credit card will only be available through our EZpay system as an **Activity Fee** until July 1st, 2024. **Our credit card option only exists for the remaining tuition balance, not the deposit.** New students will not have active ID's until late July, so make sure to select <u>Activity Fee</u> and then Kindergarten Tuition Remaining Balance.

You haven't added any family member to your account for this district. Once you add a family member you will be able to access their account to make a deposit/payment. You can add a family member on the account page.

If you are here to purchase Activity items that do not require a registered family member click <u>HERE</u> to go to Miscellaneous Activity Fees.

Reduced tuition rates are available for families that qualify under the Federal Lunch Program. Hard copies of the lunch program application may be obtained on the Food Services web- page or via email to Lisa Zuk at zuk@wlake.org. **Pre-Applications must be approved prior to the full tuition balance due date.** All families will need to re-submit an official 2024-2025 application and re-qualify for the lunch program, after July 1st, 2024.

Federal Lunch Program applications: https://www.wlake.org/departments/food-services

Save the Date:

• Submit your **Kindergarten paperwork** no later than **March 31st, 2024**. We will accept registrations after this deadline, however, program placement is not guaranteed and will be on a first come first serve basis.

• Full-Day non-refundable deposit is due no later than March 31st, 2024 (payable by cash, check or money order only to "*Westlake BOE*"). Remaining tuition balance is due no later than July 1st, 2024.

• Kindergarten Medical Entrance Exam paperwork submitted no later than August 1st, 2024.

• First Day of School for Kindergarten and Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten students will have an orientation day with their parent/guardian prior to the first full day of school. Kindergarten students will then have a staggered start based off of their last name. Students will come to school on either August 29th or August 30th for their first day of school. All kindergarten students will start together on September 3rd.

- Orientation for all kindergarteners will be on August 28th
 - For Full-Day Classes and Half-Day Morning Class(es)
 - Students with last names that start with A-L will come with their parent(s) from 9:15-10:15 am.
 - Students with last names that start with M-Z will come with their parent(s) from 10:45-11:45 am.
 - For Half-Day Afternoon Class(es)
 - Students with last names that start with A-L will come with their parent(s) from 12:30-1:30 pm.
 - Students with last names that start with M-Z will come with their parent(s) from 2:00-3:00 pm.
- Students with **last names that start with A-L** will have their first day of school on **August 29th**. Students in this group will not report on August 30th, but will report again on September 3rd.
- Students with **last names that start with M-Z** will have their first day of school on **August 30**th. Students in this group will not report on August 29th, but will report again on September 3rd.
- First day for all kindergartners will be September 3rd.