



TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION PRESENTATION

Superintendent
Dr. Andrew Pulver

Board of Education:
Diana Hill, Chris Forehan, Marlys Davidson, Farnaz Pardasani, Matt Bragman

Meet the District Team

Igniting Unlimited Possibilities



Dr. Andrew Pulver
SUPERINTENDENT



Mrs. Ondrea Reed
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT
EDUCATION SERVICES



Dr. Ryan Weiss-Wright
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
HUMAN RESOURCES



Nadia Williams
EARLY LEARNING
COORDINATOR

PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

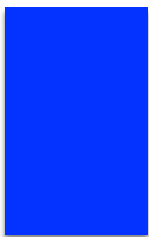


- Welcome families to Los Alamitos Unified
- Share District highlights and philosophy
- Overview of UTK program
- School registration process
- Busing/Before and After-school care options
- Answer questions



Los Alamitos Unified School District

PK-12 Unified School District



Los Alamitos High School
Home of the Griffins



Oak Middle School
Home of the Lions

McAuliffe Middle School
Home of the Eagles



Hopkinson Elementary

Los Alamitos Elementary

Lee Elementary

Rossmoor Elementary

Weaver Elementary

McGaugh Elementary



One High School
Two Middle Schools
Six Elementary Schools



#WeAreWeaver



Los Alamitos Unified School District **DISTRICT AT-A-GLANCE**

Igniting Unlimited Possibilities

- **All Schools are California Distinguished Schools**
- State testing results among highest in California:
 - 20+ years of ranking in the top Districts in Orange County
- 94% Post-Secondary Enrollment Rate + 3% Military
- 80% CSU/UC A-G Completion
- 100% Graduation Rate – Class of 2023 & 2024!
- Award winning Athletics, Activities and Arts programs



Better Together

LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FRANCIS HOPKINSON ELEMENTARY

Home of the Huskies

12582 Kensington Road, Los Alamitos 90720



Mr. Jason Farvour
PRINCIPAL



LOS ALAMITOS ELEMENTARY

Home of the Tigers

10862 Bloomfield Street, Los Alamitos 90720



Mrs. Jenny Padilla
PRINCIPAL



RICHARD HENRY LEE ELEMENTARY

Home of the Leopards

11481 Foster Road, Los Alamitos 90720



Mr. Gary Willems
PRINCIPAL



WEAVER ELEMENTARY

Home of the Whales

11872 Weatherby Road, Los Alamitos 90720



#WeAreWeaver



Dr. Todd Schmidt
PRINCIPAL



ROSSMOOR ELEMENTARY

Home of the Knights

3272 Shakespeare Drive, Los Alamitos 90720



Mrs. Amy Coltey
PRINCIPAL



McGAUGH ELEMENTARY

Home of the Sea Lions

1698 Bolsa Avenue, Los Alamitos 90720



Mrs. Wendy Wood
PRINCIPAL



Mr. Rick Larson
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL





*It's the Beginning of an
Exciting Journey!*

WELCOME GRIFFIN CLASS OF 2040...



UNIVERSAL TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN VS. TRADITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

What's the difference?

Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK)

Child must turn four years old on or before
September 1, 2026

- Steppingstone between preschool and kindergarten
- Students are actively engaged in play-based activities that are connected to theme-based, integrated curriculum
- Focus on PTK Learning Foundations (New 2024-2025!)

Regular Kindergarten

Child must turn five years old on or before
September 1, 2026

- 1-year Kindergarten program
- Students focus on mastery of ALL content standards and the program is designed to prepare students to enter first grade the following school year



UTK Curriculum & Program Focus



Based on Preschool/Transitional
Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF)

**BRAND NEW for 2024-2025*

*Bridge between the Preschool Learning
Foundations and the California Kindergarten
Common Core Standards*

**Preparing students for
Kindergarten success.**

California Common Core State
Standards for Kindergarten:

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- History Social Science
- Science

**Preparing students for
1st Grade success.**



5 Facts About Your Kindergarten Student

#1 Learning Happens Through Play and Exploration

Key Fact:

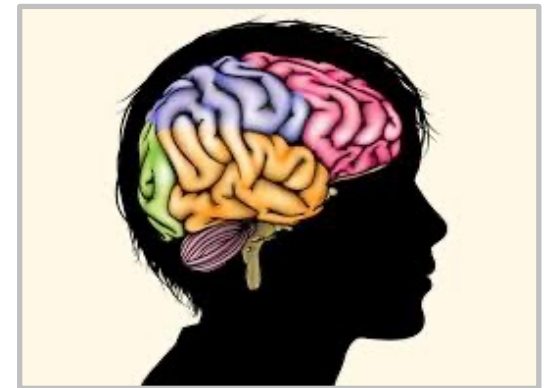
Four-year-olds learn best through play, movement, exploration, and hands-on experiences. Their brains are rapidly developing, and play is essential for building language, problem-solving, and self-regulation skills.

Los Alamitos Unified UTK Program:

- Classrooms are designed with learning centers and play-based instruction.
- Lessons are short, interactive, and developmentally appropriate.
- Play is intentionally used to build early literacy, math, and social skills

What Families Can Do at Home:

- Encourage pretend play, building, drawing, and storytelling
- Talk, read, and sing with your child daily
- Allow time for unstructured play, it supports learning and creativity





5 Facts About Your Kindergarten Student

#2 Still Learning Routines & Independence

Key Fact:

Most four-year-olds are still learning how to follow routines, transition between activities, and care for themselves in a school setting. Independence is emerging, but adult support is still essential.



Los Alamitos Unified UTK Program:

- Teachers explicitly teach routines and expectations
- Visual schedules and consistent structure are used throughout the day
- Adults provide guidance, reminders, and reassurance

What Families Can Do at Home:

- Practice simple routines (getting dressed, cleaning up, bedtime)
- Encourage your child to try tasks independently
- ***Praise effort, not perfection! (Process Praise vs. Person Praise)***





5 Facts About Your Kindergarten Student

#3 Big Emotions... Limited Self-Regulation

Key Fact:

Four-year-olds experience strong emotions but are still developing the ability to manage them. Emotional reactions may be quick and intense, especially when tired, hungry, or overwhelmed.

Los Alamitos Unified UTK Program:

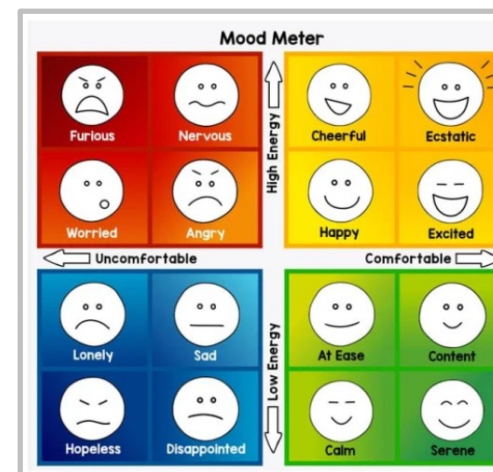
- Classrooms prioritize social-emotional learning
- Teachers help students name feelings and practice calming strategies
- Behavior is approached with guidance and support, not punishment

What Families Can Do at Home:

- Help your child name feelings and talk about emotions
- Model calm responses and coping strategies
- Maintain predictable routines to support emotional security

Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

RULER





5 Facts About Your Kindergarten Student

#4 Developing Language & Communication Skills

Key Fact:

Language skills are rapidly expanding at age four, but children vary widely in vocabulary, sentence structure, and expressive skills. Communication is still developing.

Los Alamitos Unified UTK Program:

- Teachers model language, ask questions, and encourage conversation
- Songs, stories, and play are used to build vocabulary
- Oral language is emphasized as the foundation for future reading

What Families Can Do at Home:

- Talk with your child often and ask open-ended questions
- Read aloud daily and discuss pictures and stories
- Encourage your child to explain ideas and tell stories





5 Facts About Your UTK Student

#5 Short Attention Spans & High Need for Movement

Key Fact:

Four-year-olds have developing attention spans and need frequent opportunities to move. Sitting still for long periods is not developmentally appropriate.

Los Alamitos Unified UTK Program:

- Lessons are brief and include movement and brain breaks
- Students rotate through activities throughout the day
- Learning environments are flexible and active

What Families Can Do at Home:

- Build movement into daily routines
- Keep activities short and engaging
- Balance quiet activities with active play



Typical Day in UTK 8:00AM - 1:25PM



8:00AM - 10:00AM
Language & Literacy
Exploration



10:00AM - 10:15AM
RECESS (Snack/Play)



10:15AM - 11:15AM
Numbers & Cardinality Exploration



11:15AM - 12:00PM
LUNCH (Eat/Play)



12:00PM - 1:25PM
Rotating Exploration Blocks





A Day in the Life of a UTK STUDENT

In Transitional Kindergarten Your Child Will:

- **Develop Social Skills:** Engage in play-based activities that foster sharing, taking turns, and building friendships
- **Explore Early Literacy:** Practice recognizing letters, learning letter sounds, and enjoying story time to develop a love of reading.
- **Build Math Foundations:** Learn about numbers, shapes, patterns, and basic counting through hands-on activities and games
- **Strengthen Motor Skills:** Participate in activities like cutting, drawing, and building to enhance fine motor coordination.
- **Express Creativity:** Explore art, music, and imaginative play to encourage self-expression and creativity.
- **Gain Independence:** Practice routines like lining up, cleaning up, and making choices to build confidence and self-reliance.
- **Develop Emotional Awareness:** Learn to identify and express feelings while building strategies to manage emotions and solve conflicts
- **Enjoy Active Play:** Participate in outdoor and indoor physical activities to build gross motor skills and promote healthy habits.

Universal Transitional Kindergarten

Classroom Environment



- **Play-Based and Developmentally Appropriate:** A balance of structured and unstructured play that supports hands-on learning and exploration.
- **Safe and Nurturing:** A welcoming space where students feel secure, supported, and encouraged to take risks and try new things.
- **Rich in Literacy and Numeracy:** Engaging materials like books, manipulatives, and interactive activities to build foundational skills in reading, writing, and math.
- **Stimulating and Organized:** Thoughtfully arranged learning centers, such as art, blocks, sensory play, and dramatic play, to encourage creativity and curiosity
- **Learning in Small Groups:** Explicit instruction is often done in small groups and for short chunks of time with multiple opportunities for success and exploration.

Inclusive and builds on an environment of curiosity and questions.

INCOMING

Transitional Kindergarten Students

Come in with a wide range of abilities...

No Pre-School Experience/Group

Learning Experience

Knows Letters in Name

Can Write Some Letters

Struggle Following Simple
Directions from Adults

Can Count to 10



2+ Years of Pre-School/

Group Learning

No Letter Awareness

Can't Hold Pencil

Easily Follow Multi-Step
Directions from Adults

No Number Awareness

We're prepared to meet the needs of all learners.

PTKLF Overview



10 DOMAINS
Broken down into:
Strands,
Sub-Strands and
Foundations

Mirrors the 8
DRDP Domains
(Desired Results
Developmental Profile)



UTK Student Reporting

Student Reporting

(Report Card)

Universal TK

Kindergarten

Developmental Continuum of Progress:

- Discovering
- Developing
- Broadening

Standards-based report card:

Performance Level Marks

- 1 – Limited Not Meeting Standard
- 2 – Approaching Standards
- 3 – Meets Standards

Effort Marks

- S – Satisfactory
- A – Approaching
- N – Needs Improvement

WELCOME BACK CONFERENCES



August 12: First Day of School (*Early Dismissal*)
August 13 - 14: Minimum Day Schedule

WELCOME BACK CONFERENCES*

August 17 – August 28
Minimum Day Schedule

August 31:
Regular Dismissal Begins

*Weaver follows an alternate calendar.

STUDENT REPORTING

Quarter & Semester Reporting



QUARTER 1: (August 12 – October 9) Semester I Progress Report

Fall Elementary Parent Conferences October 12 – 19

QUARTER 2: (October 12 – December 18)

Semester I Report Card Issued Electronically

QUARTER 3: (January 4 – March 12) Semester II Progress Report

Spring Elementary Parent Conferences March 15 – 22

QUARTER 4: (March 15 – June 3)

Semester II Report Card Issued Electronically

SEMESTER I

SEMESTER II

SCHOOL SITE MEET & GREETINGS

UNIVERSAL TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

**PARENTS
ONLY**

- Lee Elementary – May 7 @ 5PM
- Hopkinson Elementary – MAY 14 @ 5PM
- Los Alamitos Elementary – May 14 @ 5PM
- McGaugh Elementary – May 11 @ 5PM
- Weaver Elementary – May 18 @ 5PM
- Rossmoor Elementary – May 11 @ 5PM



LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED

Mobile/Smart Device Policy

Board Policy 5131.8: Mobile Communication Devices

Preschool, Elementary, & Middle School (Grades PK–8)


 **No device use during the school day, including:**


- Class time
- Recess
- Lunch
- Before/after-school programs or daycare



Devices (phones, smartwatches, earbuds, etc.) must be turned off and stored out of sight (in backpacks or designated areas) while on campus.

High School (Grades 9–12)

 **During instructional time** (including class periods, tutorials, assemblies, and labs), devices must be turned off and stored out of sight.

 **Non-instructional time:** High school students may responsibly use devices during passing periods, lunch, and other non-instructional times, following school site rules.

LAUSD Extended Day Care

Yolanda Mortensen, Program Supervisor



*Kids Korner Available
at ALL Los Al Schools.*



FOR EXTENDED DAY CARE
Information & Registration

Losal.org

EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS **PROGRAMS**


- BYOD
- 6th Grade Summit
- Emergency Preparedness
- English Learners
- Extended Day Care**
- Gate Program
- LosAl@Home
- Health Services
- Outdoor Science School
- Preschool Child Development Center
- Section 504
- Summer Academy & Bridge
- Wellness
- Microsoft Student Advantage Program


LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Igniting Unlimited Possibilities


Extended Day Care

LOSAL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT EXTENDED DAY CARE

The Program Mission of the Los Alamitos Unified School District Extended Day Care Center (EDCC) program is to provide high quality care at affordable prices.
For more information regarding our program, please click on the images below:

 **Extended Day Care**

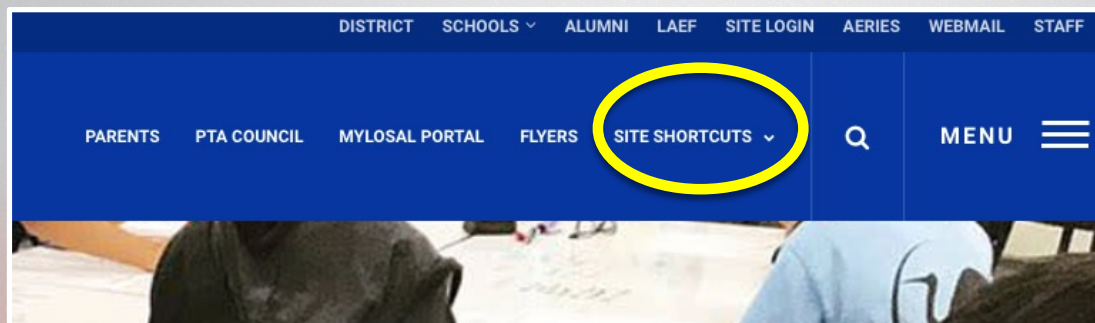
 **Summer Program (Camp Fun in the Sun)**

 **Academic School Year Information**



TRANSPORTATION

Have your child take the bus to and from school.



Click here for
busing information.

- Enrollment
- Bus Application & Routes
- Meals for Students
- Connect to BYOD Network
- Human Relations Advisory Council
- My School Locator
- Board Agenda & Minutes
- District Priority Goals
- Food Services
- Job Opportunities

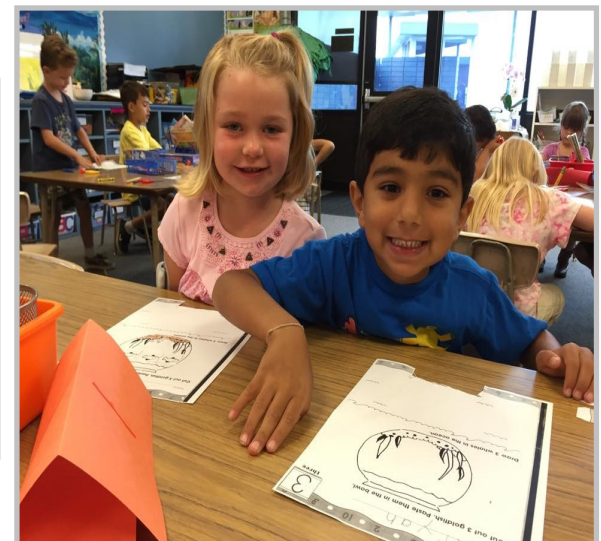
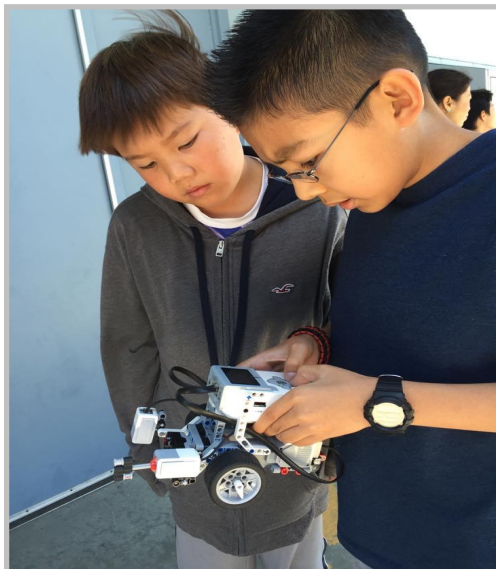
After School & Summer Enrichment

Extended Learning Opportunities On-Site at Los Al Schools

laef4.kids.org



LAEF offers a variety of afterschool and summer enrichment classes for all grade levels. Check out their website for summer program information and registration.





THANK YOU FOR JOINING US
Welcome to the Los Al Family!

GENERAL QUESTIONS

HOW TO ENROLL IN LOS AL UNIFIED @ 6:15PM

Directly following Q&A.