



Transition Kindergarten Initial Implementation 2010-2011

November 18, 2010



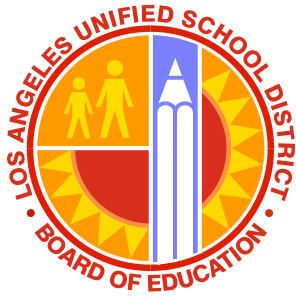
How did we get here?

- 1. California is one of only four states with a required kindergarten admission birthday as late as December. Most states have moved to an August or September cut-off.**
- 2. California's Kindergarten Standards are among the most rigorous in the county.**
- 3. The 2nd Grade CST English Language Arts scores raise concerns about the District's current Preschool through 2nd Grade continuum, particularly for English Learners.**



How did we get here? A quick timeline

- Fall 2009 – Board Members approach Superintendent Cortines regarding an alternative kindergarten model being implemented on a small scale in various districts**
 - Superintendent asks Chief Academic Officer (CAO) and Assistant Sup. ECE to research the alternative kindergarten models**
- 12/2/09 – CAO and Assistant Superintendent, ECE, submit kindergarten information to Superintendent with proposal for implementation by LAUSD.**
- 12/8/09 – Superintendent announces decision to implement a Transition Kindergarten Program during televised Board Meeting.**
- 12/10/09 – CAO and Assistant Sup. ECE, introduce proposal for Transition Kindergarten to Local District Superintendents.**
- 1/11/10 – District issues press release on Transition Kindergarten followed by interviews with print, radio and television media.**



- January – Packard Foundation, Preschool California, and the Boeing Corporation indicate support for the development of Transition Kindergarten**
- February – Meetings with Advisory Group (selected by AALA and UTLA) including administrators, teachers, parents, and community partners**
- March – Packard Foundation funds Dr. Linda Espinosa as Lead Consultant who works with Dr. Carola Matera and Elizabeth Magruder in program development**
- March – Application for selection of Initial Implementation sites issued**
- May – Schools Selected for Initial Implementation**
- Ongoing – Collaborative process for the development and implementation of curriculum, assessment, and family engagement**

California Education Code 8970:

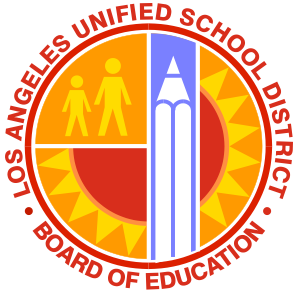
Kindergarten programs have become more academically oriented with an emphasis on paper and pencil “seat work” and a decreased emphasis on other essential age appropriate curricular elements such as language development; familiarity with stories, music and oral language experiences; artistic exploration; social interaction; and large muscle development.



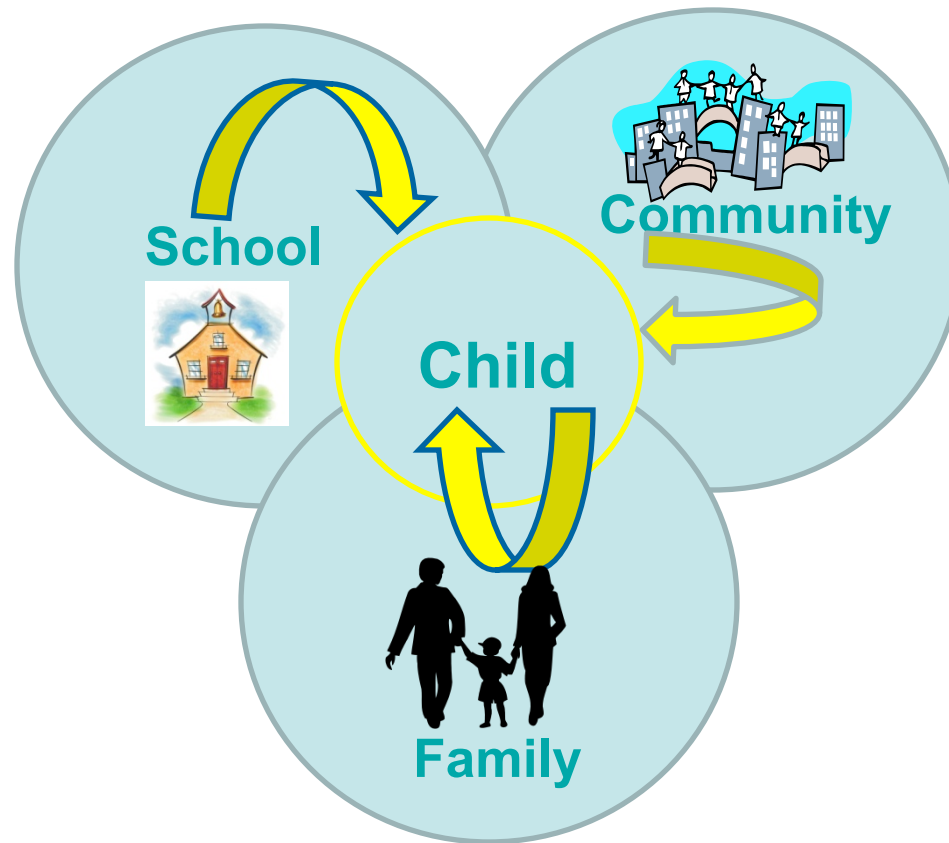


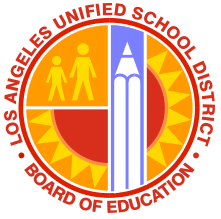
Goal of Transition Kindergarten:

Provide the youngest kindergartners with a readiness year that is developmentally appropriate and will better prepare them for success once they enter traditional kindergarten.



Transition Kindergarten is a partnership...





LAUSD Transition Kindergarten

- Voluntary program at Parents' request
- Development of academic, social and emotional skills
- Full-day program
- Bridge between a flexible curriculum and academic rigor of traditional kindergarten



What does it look like?

Kindergarten

Self Regulation *Language & Communication*
Social Emotional

Decoding

Transition Kindergarten

Decoding *Social Emotional*
Self Regulation

Language & Communication



This is a process...





Curriculum

- **Integrated Experiential Curriculum**
 - ~ organized around big ideas/themes
 - ~ use of enhanced learning centers
 - ~ standards based
- **Oral Language Strategies**
 - ~ Foster Home Language and English Language Development



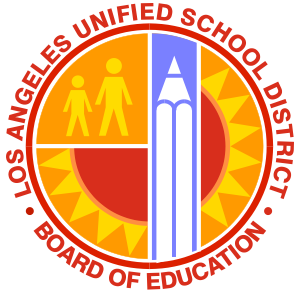
Capturing Data...

Transition Kindergarten Program

- LAUSD Data & Accountability
- First 5 – Mathematica

Program Evaluation Study

- ~Student
- ~Family
- ~Teacher



Capturing Data...

Student

- English/Spanish Pre-LAS: Receptive and expressive language – pre/post
- DRDP-SR: Field Study-Observational tool: ELD, Language and Literacy, Social/Emotional and Mathematics
- CPAA-Children's Progress Academic Assessment
English/Spanish
Literacy and Mathematics
Interactive Computer Software



Capturing Data...

Family

- Family Languages & Interests Survey
- *Abriendo Puertas* Parent Survey
- Family Feedback:
 - ~ Road to College Family Field Trip
 - ~ “I love to Read-Me Gusta Leer” program
 - ~ Family Workshops (Literacy and Mathematics)



Capturing Data...

Teacher

- Site support and observations
- Feedback and Interviews
- Needs assessments
- Curriculum & Assessment Feedback



Transition Kindergarten is intended to build a bridge between the preschool years and traditional kindergarten...



...building on the strengths each child brings to the program

...preparing each child for success in kindergarten and beyond



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