

## **Optional All Day Kindergarten**

The optional all day kindergarten program is a full-day fee based kindergarten program that the district may offer if an adequate number of parents elect to pay tuition for the “extra” one-half day.

### **Timelines**

The administration will propose the cost of full day kindergarten to the Board as part of the annual budget process.

Parents need to notify the district of their desire to enroll their student in full day kindergarten at a designated time as announced by the district each year by submitting the full day kindergarten registration materials and a non- refundable deposit of one tenth (1/10th) the cost of yearly tuition. Enrollment in this program will be on a first come, first served basis at each elementary school. Only those applications that have all required documentation will be considered. Students not placed in to the program due to space limitations will be placed on a waiting list for future vacancies in the order that applications are received.

### **Fees**

Tuition can be paid in full prior to the start of the school year, or in nine monthly payments. Monthly tuition is to be paid on the fifth of each month beginning on September 5th with the last due on May 5th and the deposit acting as the final payment in June. Payments should be submitted to the school office where the student attends and will be made out to the district. If the payment is late (i.e. after the 5th of the month), a \$25 late fee will be assessed. A \$25 fee will also be assessed for Non Sufficient Fund checks.

The district will offer scholarships to families whose students are eligible for free or reduced lunch into the full day kindergarten program. These scholarship spaces will be filled based on the date the complete application is received (first come first served) from eligible students. Only students living within the district attendance boundaries are eligible for scholarships.

The district will reduce by an amount determined by the superintendent the tuition for a student eligible to enroll in the all day kindergarten program offered by the district upon a showing of severe hardship by the student’s parent or guardian.

“Severe hardship” is a family that is below the median family income definition for “low income” for the applicable county or region under the income limits established by the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Income Limits Documentation System.

Should tuition payments become overdue, by 30-days, the district has the right to assign the student to one of the regular half day kindergarten classes the district has in session.

The district cannot give tax advice regarding the deductibility of tuition. Administrators will direct parents to consult with the IRS regulations or their tax advisor.

## **Procedures**

Any student eligible to attend kindergarten in the district and meets the requirements for kindergarten entry may apply for the full day program. Students living in the district attendance area will receive first priority.

The minimum number of students required to offer a full day kindergarten class at any school will be 18. The opportunity to participate in the class will be on a first come first served basis. The district may also implement a K-1 blend where appropriate.

If a students' home school does not generate enough interest to create a full day kindergarten class the student may attend another school in the district for kindergarten only as long as the parents provide transportation to and from school.

It is the intent of the district to maintain kindergarten classes at 24. In some cases class sizes could be larger. full day kindergarten classes must be roughly equal in size to half day kindergarten classes.

Elementary principals will hire or assign teachers to the full day position according to district practice. Elementary principals will assign students to classes in an effort to promote an optimum learning environment.

The educational program and schedule will be consistent with the program and schedule offered to the rest of our grades 1-5 elementary program.

Parents desiring early entrance for their student into kindergarten will pay the deposit to the district, and their student will be evaluated for readiness as soon as possible according to district practice. If the student is found not ready for kindergarten the deposit will be returned in full.

If parents decide to withdraw their student from the full day program it must be done with written notification. The student may continue in the program until the end of the month.