

# IUSD Early Childhood Learning & Universal Pre -Kindergarten

*(formerly known as Transitional Kindergarten)*

Prepared for IUSD's Board of Education

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# UPK Planning Team

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# Agenda for tonight

1. Brief history of Transitional Kindergarten
2. New legislative changes for Universal Pre-Kindergarten
3. IUSD's Early Childhood Learning and PK Roll-out
4. The 5 Focus Areas determined by the State of California
5. IUSD's next steps and questions





# A Brief History of TK

## In 2010

- Senate Bill (SB) 1381 changed the kindergarten age eligibility from a student whose birthday occurs before December 2nd to September 2nd.
- TK phased in over three years beginning in 2012 -13
- TK defined as kindergarten with a modified curriculum.

## In 2021

- Assembly Bills (AB) 22 & 130 universalizes access to TK for all four -year -olds across the state
- A four -year phase in process
- Requires one teacher/adult per 12 students beginning in 2022 -23



IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Early Childhood Learning Programs

**PRESCHOOL · PRE-KINDERGARTEN · KINDERGARTEN**

*formerly known as Transitional Kindergarten*

2022-23

Offer Pre K  
(formerly TK) to  
students  
who turn 5-years-old  
between  
**September 2nd**  
and  
**February 2nd**

2023-24

Expand offer  
of Pre K to  
students  
who turn 5-years-old  
between  
**September 2nd**  
and  
**April 2nd**

2024-25

Expand offer  
of Pre-K to  
students  
who turn 5-years-old  
between  
**September 2nd**  
and  
**June 2nd**

2025-26

Offer Pre-K  
to **ALL** students  
who turn  
**4-years-old**  
on  
or before  
**September 1st**



# Resources available on our website

## EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING PROGRAMS



PRESCHOOL · PRE-KINDERGARTEN · KINDERGARTEN

*(formerly known as TK)*

Welcome to the Irvine Unified School District Early Childhood Learning Information Page!

In IUSD, we are committed to providing the best educational experience imaginable that enhances the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of each child.

Our Universal Early Childhood Learning Programs are intentionally designed to provide access to developmentally appropriate learning opportunities that align with Kindergarten entry and build a strong foundation for school readiness. Our programs consist of Preschool, Pre-Kindergarten, formerly known as Transitional Kindergarten (TK), and Kindergarten; and include both general education, specialized instruction and special education.

The Early Childhood Learning Team believes in providing equitable learning opportunities and experiences across our programs and various school sites. In partnership with parents, we are dedicated to providing high quality, nurturing, and supportive learning experiences that promote the overall development of our students. We are proud to serve our youngest learners!

As we embark on the upcoming school year, we are excited for the wonderful moments and experiences ahead of us, in all our programs!



PRESCHOOL

[Learn More](#)



PRE-KINDERGARTEN (TK)

[Learn More](#)



KINDERGARTEN

[Learn More](#)

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN (TK)

*FORMERLY KNOWN AS TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN*



IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Pre-Kindergarten

In Irvine Unified School District, we believe the goal of our Early Childhood Learning Programs is to promote a joy of learning in a positive and nurturing environment. This will create critical thinkers, effective oral communicators, and life-long learners. In partnership with parents, we will provide intentional opportunities that meet the emotional, social, physical, and academic needs of all learners. Early Childhood Learning Programs include Preschool, Pre-Kindergarten (formerly known as Transitional Kindergarten) and Kindergarten.

+ **PRE-K (TK) PARENT INFORMATION**

+ **WHAT IS PRE-K VS. TK?**

+ **PRE-K (TK) IN IUSD**

+ **PRE-K (TK) ENROLLMENT AGE ELIGIBILITY**

+ **HOW TO ENROLL**

+ **IUSD PRE-K (TK) CONTINUUM OF STANDARDS**

+ **PRE-K (TK) SCHOOL SITES**

+ **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

+ **ADDITIONAL PRE-K (TK) RESOURCES**



# Implementation Timeline & Enrollment Projections

Year	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024 -25	2025 -26
Expansion	Sept. 2 - Dec. 2	Sept. 2 - Feb. 2	Sept. 2 - Apr. 2	Sept. 2 - June 2	On or before Sept. 2
Projected PK enrollment	422 <i>Actual</i>	626	880	1156	1575
Projected Kinder Enrollment	2142 <i>Actual</i>	2145	2155	2190	2243

*\* based on conservative enrollment projections*



A vertical stack of various colored pencils is positioned on the left side of the page. The pencils are sharpened and arranged in a slightly overlapping manner, showing a variety of colors including black, brown, orange, red, purple, blue, green, yellow, and pink. Some pencils have brand names like 'Metall', 'Faber-Castell', and 'Koh-I-Noor' visible.

# California State Template for Implementation

In order to support local districts in the planning and implementation of UPK, the state provided each district with a template of guiding questions to ensure consistency of program design. The template provides 5 focus areas:

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**Focus Area A: Vision and Coherence**

**Focus Area B: Community Engagement & Partnerships**

**Focus Area C: Workforce Recruitment & Professional Learning**

**Focus Area D: Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment**

**Focus Area E: Facilities, Services & Operations**



# Focus Area A: Vision & Coherence





## Focus Area A: Vision and Coherence

IUSD is focused on the three year's of a child's Early Childhood Learning experience:

- Pre-school (3 year old)
- Pre-Kindergarten (4 year old)
- Kindergarten (5 year old)


By designing Early Childhood Learning with these three years in mind, we can provide a consistent and comprehensive program supporting the academic, developmental, and social-emotional learning needs of all children.



# Focus Area B: Community, Engagement, & Partnerships








## Focus Area B: Community Engagement & Partnerships

We will continue to engage our community in the design and implementation of the program. We provided initial information about the UPK implementation to:

- Incoming PK parents via our parent night in February
- EAC
- UCPTA
- Elementary and K-8 Principals
- IUSD's current TK teachers
- ICCP and the City of Irvine

\*We also expanded our website to ensure information is readily available to community members and staff.



# Focus Area B: Community Engagement & Partnerships

## Extended Learning and Care

- Explore, identify and communicate extended day options for families
  - IUSD, City of Irvine, Irvine Child Care Committee (ICCC), Irvine Child Care Project (ICCP), Resource and Referral agencies, and community based organizations

## Community Engagement

- Parent Education
- Professional collaboration, education, and partnerships with community partners
  - RCO C, community preschools, home care providers, IUSD schools, and surrounding school districts



# Focus Area C: Workforce Recruitment & Professional Learning







# Focus Area C: Workforce Recruitment and Professional Learning

## PK Teacher Qualifications:

By August 1, 2023, the CDE has required PK teachers to earn 24 Early Childhood Education (ECE) units or equivalent to qualify to teach PK.

- District TK teachers that taught TK prior to July 2015 are grandfathered in and not required to earn additional units.
- IUSD determines what is equivalent to 24 Units in ECE.

## PK Teacher Recruitment:

- Staff Informational Forum offered in March 2022
- Recruitments for 6-10 PK positions occurred in April & May
- IUSD will partner with OCDE and local institutes of higher education on future recruitment and Early Childhood professional learning



# Focus Area C: Workforce Recruitment and Professional Learning

## PK Professional Learning:

- PK teachers will have the opportunity to participate in 15 hours of Early Childhood Professional Learning created by IUSD Experts
  - The Professional Learning will combine in person trainings and asynchronous learning opportunities with coaching provided by mentor PK teachers.
- Principals will participate in embedded ECE learning opportunities during monthly principal meetings.





# Focus Area C: Workforce Recruitment and Professional Learning

## PK Professional Learning (continued):



- OCDE is offering summer Professional Learning:
  - A teacher development series on developmentally appropriate practices for PK
  - Principals PK Institute on the effective PK classroom
- Partnering with OCDE on the Early Education Teacher Development State Grant



# Focus Area D: Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment





# Focus Area D: Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

## Inclusion for All Learners

### Curriculum & Instruction

- Essential Standards
- Assessment
- Developmentally Appropriate Practice
- Social and Emotional Learning
- Publisher Materials and Adoption Process

### Program Design

- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Multi -Tiered Systems and Supports (MTSS)
  - Positive Behavior Instructional Supports (PBIS)
  - Prevention and Intervention
- Professional Learning



# Focus Area E: Facilities, Service, & Operations







## Focus Area E: Facilities, Services, & Operations

Although enrollment is slowing, we will face facility constraints as we add over 1,500 students to our IUSD family.

Some prominent facilities considerations are:

- Offering a PK option either at each neighborhood school site or within the local region
- Avoiding displacement of current programs or neighborhood students
- Providing learning and play spaces appropriate for 4 year old needs
- Examining regional needs and sites that may be able to accommodate multiple PK classrooms.



## Focus Area E: Facilities, Services, & Operations

IUSD has received \$416K to support the implementation and expansion of Universal Pre Kindergarten. These funds will support:

- Staff training and professional development
- Optimizing the model PK learning environment
- Designing and selecting developmentally appropriate materials and supplies

IUSD has also joined with OCDE and other OC school districts in a consortium to leverage state dollars to support teacher training beginning in 2022-23.



## Implementation: What does this look like in 2022 -23?

- We intend to add 10 additional teachers to the existing 15 to accommodate the additional students and to support the smaller adult to student ratio.
- IUSD will maintain our current program format with classrooms located across the city and adjust the instructional program to accommodate the developmental needs of our younger learners.
- We currently have a PK classrooms in at least 23 of our schools.





## Next Steps: Beginning 2022 -23

- We will convene a teacher committee to design the overall program.
- We will evaluate facility options for the 2023 -24 school year, once we begin the 2022 -23 school year.
- We will support PK staff by offering professional learning aligned to the needs of our youngest learners in concert with offerings from the Orange County Department of Education.
- We will foster family engagement, outreach and education through shared leadership and community input.

# IUSD Early Childhood Learning & Universal Pre -Kindergarten

*(formerly known as Transitional Kindergarten)*

Thank you!

Any additional questions?

