

Kindergarten Program Update: Exploration of Full Day Kindergarten

Kirsten Zazo
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

November 8, 2022

Kindergarten Schedule Considerations

Modified Full Day	Full Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● All students stay 8:20 - 2:00 four days a week and follow grades 1-5 Wednesday early dismissal● Maintain early release days at beginning of year<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ (3 weeks) – release at 12:10 AM● Provide for small group instruction (frequency/duration of small group instruction to be determined)● Contractual Prep would be after students leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Full Kindergarten Day will be equal to the length of the day for grades 1-5 (8:20 - 2:50)● Maintain early release days at beginning of year<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ (3 weeks) – release at 12:10 AM● Provide for small group instruction (frequency/duration of small group instruction to be determined)● Provide prep time through Media Center, PE, and Music (arts) staffing

Summary of Planning Components

Modified Full Day	Full Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with our educators to establish shared vision and define best practices for implementation of schedule • Collaboration with our educators to establish a shared understanding of how best to deliver small group instruction • Communication and revision of after school program contracts • Communication with all after school program leads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased need for elementary music, physical education, and teacher librarian FTE (primary source of fiscal savings from last shift - FULL DAY ONLY) • Funding source for additional 3.5 FTE based on 23 sections of kindergarten - Expected funding for additional specialist teacher would be \$420,000.00 • Collaboration with our educators to establish shared vision and define best practices for implementation of schedule • Collaboration with our educators to establish a shared understanding of how best to deliver small group instruction • Communication and revision of after school program contracts • Communication with all after school program leads

Timeline

Modified Full Day	Full Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>November: Decision on Option and timeline for implementation</i> • November - May: Communication to community • December: Board presentation on schedule and enrollment • December: Projections for next year enrollment • January: Kindergarten Information nights • January 31 - Must notify teachers of schedule (Contract) • January – May: Engage teachers in program transition • May: Present update to Board • August: Implementation of new schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>November: Decision on Option and timeline for implementation</i> • November - May: Communication to community • December - (Option 3 only) BOARD will have to identify cuts to budget to support additional FTE for specialist teachers to support contractual prep • December: Board presentation on schedule and enrollment • December: Projections for next year enrollment • January: Kindergarten Information nights • January 31 - Must notify teachers of schedule (Contract) • January – May: Engage teachers in program transition • February - Post new positions • May: Present update to Board • August: Implementation of new schedule

Enrollment Timeline

November

AUSD puts out the timeline for enrollment for the next school year

December

Enrollment projections made for the next school year

**November -
January**

Advertizes enrollment and programmatic structure to incoming K families

January

Holds Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten information nights at all of the elementary school

February

February 6th, TK and Kindergarten enrollment takes place

Background

February 2016	AUSD announces plan to offer full-day kindergarten program at all elementary schools beginning in 2016-17 school year
August 2016	Full-day kindergarten program implemented (8:20 - 2:50)
August 2017	Paraprofessional FTE provided as pilot program to all kindergarten classrooms to support small-group instruction
April 2018	Board of Education confirms elimination of full-day kindergarten program effective 2019-20 and discontinuation of pilot paraprofessional support for small group instruction effective 2018-19
August 2022	Board of Education and staff expressed interest in exploring a full day schedule as a foundational goal in the strategic plan

Staff Recommendation

1. Current recommendation is for Modified Full Day effective August '23
2. If the Board decides on Full Day Option, staff recommends implementation in August '24
 - Additional time for hiring planning
 - Additional time to identify approximately \$450,000 in ongoing reductions elsewhere in the General Fund
 - Modified full day could be a Board approved, cost-neutral interim step for Fall '23
 - Options could be revisited post-implementation in Fall of '23

Exploration of Full Day Kindergarten

Board Discussion

Kindergarten Program Update: Exploration of Full Day Kindergarten

Kirsten Zazo
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

October 25, 2022

Presentation Goals

- Provide background information on kindergarten program decisions
- Present a plan for exploring transitioning to a full day kindergarten program including:
 - Timeline
 - Staff Engagement Process
 - Communication with Community

Background

February 2016	AUSD announces plan to offer full-day kindergarten program at all elementary schools beginning in 2016-17 school year
August 2016	Full-day kindergarten program implemented (8:20 - 2:50)
August 2017	Paraprofessional FTE provided as pilot program to all kindergarten classrooms to support small-group instruction
April 2018	Board of Education confirms elimination of full-day kindergarten program effective 2019-20 and discontinuation of pilot paraprofessional support for small group instruction effective 2018-19
August 2022	Board of Education and staff expressed interest in exploring a full day schedule as a foundational goal in the strategic plan

Background, *cont...*

Why the change to a full day program?

- Current research shows that full-day kindergarten helps close the achievement gap
- A full-day kindergarten program confers significant social, emotional, and academic benefits on all kindergarteners
- We must offer a 9 hour day to all transitional kindergarten students and would like a smoother transition into kindergarten
- Our charter schools and private schools in Alameda all offer a full day program
- A majority of our district neighbors offer a modified full day program
- We have seen a steady loss of enrollment in kindergarten that could be due to the partial day program

Background, *cont...*

Why the change to a full day program?

[Best Research Yet on the Effects of Full-Day Kindergarten](#) (2014)

- The first-of-its-kind randomized trial of full-day kindergarten shows sizable learning advantages for full-day students at the end of the kindergarten year.
- Most notably, the advantage for Hispanic full-day students over other Hispanic kindergartners is nearly twice than seen in the overall sample.
- Positive effect for Hispanic students occurred *even while raising outcomes for all students*.
- A full-day of kindergarten made *all* students better off, while also closing the literacy achievement gap between Hispanic and non-Hispanic students by 70 percent.

Alameda Charter and Private Schools

SCHOOL DISTRICT	A/B SCHEDULE	AM/PM SCHEDULE	EARLY BIRD/LATE BIRD SCHEDULE	MODIFIED FULL DAY SCHEDULE	FULL DAY SCHEDULE
NEA Community Learning Center					8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Academy of Alameda (AOA)					8:10 am - 3:10 pm w/early dismissal on Wednesdays at 1:10 pm.
St. Joseph's Elementary School (St. Joe's)					7:50 am - 3:00 pm w/early dismissal on Fridays at 2:00 pm.
St Philip Neri					8:00 am - 2:30 pm
Coastline Christian School					8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Neighboring School Districts

SCHOOL DISTRICT	A/B SCHEDULE	AM/PM SCHEDULE	EARLY BIRD/LATE BIRD SCHEDULE	MODIFIED FULL DAY SCHEDULE	FULL DAY SCHEDULE
Albany USD		8:10 - 11:30 am / 11:50 am - 3:10 pm			
Berkeley USD			8:10 am - 1:30 pm / 9:00 am - 2:15 pm		
Castro Valley USD				8:10 am-1:32 pm	
Emeryville USD				8:00 am - 1:30 pm	
Oakland USD					8:30 am - 2:45 pm
San Leandro USD				8:10 am -1:50 pm	
San Lorenzo USD			Ranging from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm/8:45 am - 1:45 am to 8:40 am - 1:45 pm/9:25 am - 2:30 pm (varies by site).		

Declining Enrollment

Grade	16/17 SY	17/18 SY	18/19 SY	19/20 SY	20/21 SY	21/22 SY	22/23 SY
Kindergarten enrollment		770	768	811	720	605	617
Kindergarten	709	743	744	722	633	585	563
Difference		27	24	89	87	20	54

Kindergarten Schedule Considerations:

Remain A/B			Modified Full Day	Full Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain early release days at beginning of year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (3 weeks) – release at 12:10 AM - Contractual Prep would be after students leave 4 days per week 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All students stay 8:20 - 2:00 4 days a week and follow 1-5 wednesday early dismissal - Maintain early release days at beginning of year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (3 weeks) – release at 12:10 AM - Provide for small group instruction (Frequency/duration of small group instruction to be determined) - Contractual Prep would be after students leave 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full Kindergarten Day will be equal to the length of the day for Grades 1-5 (8:20 - 2:50) - Maintain early release days at beginning of year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (3 weeks) – release at 12:10 AM - Provide for small group instruction (Frequency/duration of small group instruction to be determined) - Provide prep time through Media Center, PE, and Music (arts) staffing
Days	'A' Schedule	'B' Schedule		
Monday, Tuesday	8:20 – 1:40	8:20 – 12:45		
Wed.	8:20 – 12:10			
Thursday, Friday	8:20 – 12:45	8:20 – 1:40		

Summary of Planning Components

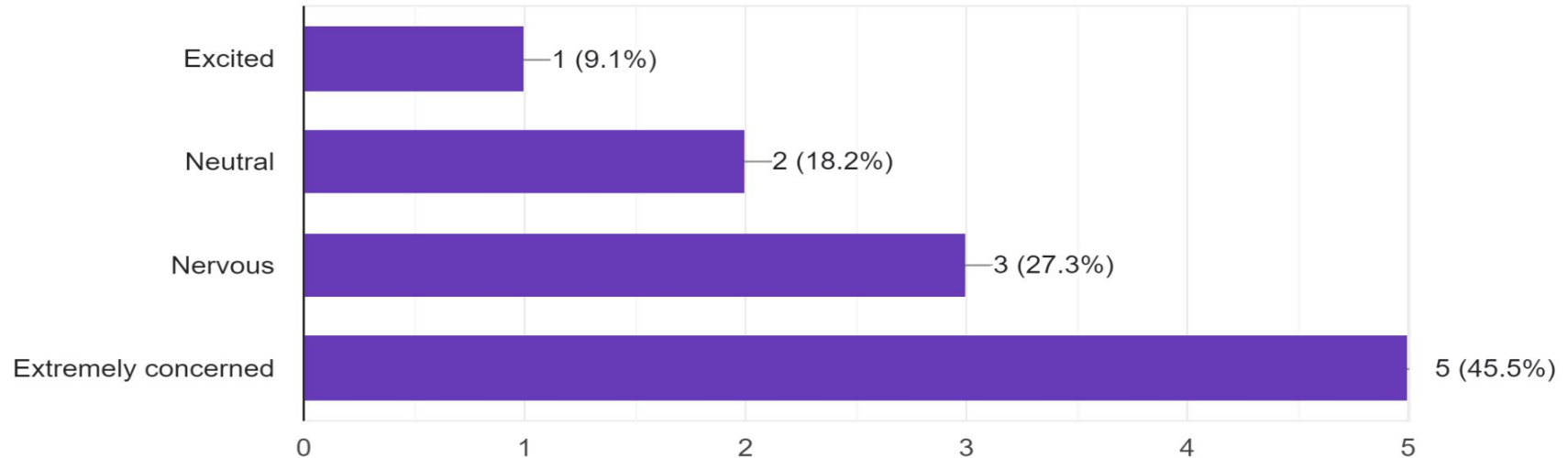
If we transition to a full day or modified day kindergarten schedule it will require planning to address the following:

- Increased need for elementary music, physical education, and teacher librarian FTE (primary source of fiscal savings from last shift - **FULL DAY ONLY**)
- Funding source for additional 3.5 FTE based on 23 sections of kindergarten - Expected funding for additional specialist teacher would be **\$420,000.00**
- Collaboration with our educators to establish shared vision and define best practices for implementation of schedule
- Collaboration with our educators to establish a shared understanding of how best to deliver small group instruction
- Communication and revision of after school program contracts
- Communication with all after school program leads

Preliminary Teacher Input

What is your first reaction to thinking about implementing a full day K program next year?

11 responses



Consistent themes of narrative responses:

- Small group instruction
- Kindergarten students ability to sustain a full day schedule
- Class size
- Developmentally appropriate PE, Music and Media Center

Timeline for Transition

Staff will be working with kindergarten faculty across sites to implement the new kindergarten schedule if option 2 or 3 are chosen. Key steps in the transition process include:

- **November: Decision on Option and timeline for implementation**
- November - May: Communication to community
- December - **(Option 3 only)** BOARD will have to identify cut to budget to support additional FTE for specialist teachers to support contractual prep
- December: Board presentation on schedule and enrollment
- January: Kindergarten Information nights
- January 31 - Must notify teachers of schedule (Contract)
- January – May: Engage teachers in program transition
- May: Present update to Board
- August: Implementation of new schedule

Exploration of Full Day Kindergarten

Board Discussion