

**Transition Kindergarten Program
January thru June
at Cottonwood Elementary**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who will receive the initial letter that will invite families to apply for the program?

The initial letter will be sent to all elementary families.

2. How will students be identified for the program?

We will ask five pre-qualifying questions.

- 1) Are they currently in a preschool or early learning setting? (opportunity gap)
- 2) Do they qualify for Free/Reduced meals? (income qualification)
- 3) Do they qualify for the Transitional Bilingual Education Program (language gap)
- 4) Are they age-eligible for Transitional Kindergarten? (age qualification = 5 years old)
- 5) Do they reside in the West Valley School District (in-district priority)

3. Will Transition Kindergarten students be included in Skyward?

Yes, the students will be reported as Kindergarten students. The District will receive monthly apportionment payments from OSPI for each student based on monthly student enrollment: Feb. 1, March 1, April 1, May 1, and June 1.

4. What will be the class size?

The class size will follow District guidelines for Kindergarten classrooms (21 students).

5. What if there are more students who apply for the program than there are slots?

Applications will be accepted and date of receipt will be noted. Qualifying criteria will be used to identify students for the program. If a tie-breaker is needed, students will be placed based on the date of receipt of the application.

6. What is the age requirement?

Students must have turned five years old prior to Feb. 1, 2022.

7. Will this be an additional cost to the District or will the state apportionment pay for the costs?

Additional state apportionment received by the District will pay for all costs of the program.

The District will receive additional apportionment for the additional students on the monthly enrollment count. This additional apportionment will cover all costs for the program.

8. What is the timeline?

Families will need to turn-in their application to the Cottonwood office by Friday, Dec. 10, 2021.

During the week of December 13-17, letters will be mailed to families to notify them of the results of the application process.

On Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2022, an Orientation Day will be held at Cottonwood for families whose students have been identified for the program. Families will turn-in their District Student

Registration form and they will select a date/time for their WaKIDS Conference.

On Monday, Jan. 10 and Tuesday, Jan. 11, WaKIDS Conferences will be held at Cottonwood.

On Wednesday, Jan. 12 and Thursday, Jan. 13, the program will have a staggered start. Half of the students will attend school on Wednesday and the other half of the students will attend school on Thursday.

On Friday, Jan. 14, all students in the program will attend school at Cottonwood.

On Monday, Jan. 17 and Friday, Jan. 21, there will be no school due to the Martin Luther King Holiday and Semester Break.

The program will follow the regular school calendar for the remainder of the school year.

9. Why was Cottonwood selected for the location of the program?

Cottonwood has an unoccupied classroom so space is available for the program.

10. What if I have additional questions?

Please contact Michelle Siguenza, Principal of Cottonwood Elementary

Phone: (509) 972-5520

Email: siguenzam@wvdsd208.org