

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten

A Handbook for Lassen County School Districts



Lassen County Office of Education

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Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten
Lassen County Office of Education



Message from the County Superintendent of Schools:

Early education for the students in Lassen County cannot be underestimated; when students have a strong start, it sets them up for future success. The Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010 is an exciting opportunity that allows schools to offer additional options for their students. The youngest students – students who now enter school as four-year-olds – will have the opportunity to have the additional gift of time to mature and gain a stronger start. This two-year kindergarten program also provides other kindergarten students with the opportunity to gain experience in a structured school setting.

The Lassen County Office of Education, along with each school district in the county, has established a collaborative network of teachers and administrators charged with building and promoting the highest quality Transitional Kindergarten (TK) possible. The TK network has met to establish curriculum guidelines and review the standards correlated to common core standards. The TK network looks forward to building assessments and reporting processes for every student.

This handbook has been compiled and published by the Lassen County Office of Education as a resource tool for both parents and schools in our county. The goal is to improve learning opportunities for students, as well as provide guidance to parents on the expectations for TK and Kindergarten readiness. The Lassen County Office of Education is committed to the success of all students and strives to provide the most current and up-to-date resources and guidance to each of our school districts.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Gunderson
Lassen County Superintendent of Schools

INTRODUCTION

The Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010 (Education Code 48000) changed California's entry-age for kindergarten and first grade students. This historic policy ensures that children in California are better prepared to succeed in school and beyond.

This legislation provides school districts with the guidance to implement a two-year Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten program to better meet the needs of young learners.

GOALS AND PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM

The legislation changed the requirements for kindergarten entry from five years old by December 2 to September 1, so all children enter kindergarten at age five. The law amended the state Education Code relating to kindergarten to create "Transitional Kindergarten," the first year of a two-year kindergarten experience for students born between September and December. This gives four-year-olds with fall birthdays an additional year of preparation before entering kindergarten.

The Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program was fully implemented in 2014.

Beginning the 2014-15 school year and each school year thereafter, Children who have their fifth birthday between September 2 and December 2 will be admitted to the TK program.

ENROLLMENT, REGISTRATION, ADMISSION CRITERIA

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) registration timelines correspond to the kindergarten enrollment and registration calendar. Admission criteria are based on the legality that TK and kindergarten are voluntary options for parents and families. While a child's birth date is the key determiner for eligibility into a district's program, TK should offer learning opportunities that use smaller group settings, hands-on learning, and a language-rich environment to prepare students for school success.

The Kindergarten Continuance Form (see next page) must be used for all children who attend two years of kindergarten. Any student, even those who have turned five, may have the option of entering the TK program. If your child is five and displays some of the following characteristics, TK may be a more appropriate placement than traditional kindergarten.

My Child:

- has difficulty staying focused, paying attention, attending to, or completing tasks.
- gets easily distracted, daydreams, or takes a long time to do things.
- has little or no previous experience in a "school setting."
- has few academic skills (see *A List of Basic Building Blocks – Kindergarten Readiness Skills*).
- gets tired easily or still needs a nap.
- will not have his/her birthday until after midsummer (July, August, etc.).
- struggles to color, write, or use scissors.
- has a difficult time communicating with others.
- acts shy or young for his/her age.
- lacks large motor skills and confidence.
- has a difficult time following directions.
- has separation anxiety and/or cries easily, especially in new situations.
- has a difficult time interacting with other children.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CONTINUANCE FORM

Kindergarten Continuance Form T08-244

English

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California Department of Education

Kindergarten Continuance Form

Parental Agreement for Pupil to Continue in Kindergarten

Reflects amendments to California *Education Code* sections 46300 and 48011, effective Jan. 1, 1992

Name of Pupil _____

Kindergarten Attendance Anniversary Date _____

Name of School Official Approving for District _____

Information for parent or guardian

California law provides that after, a child has been lawfully admitted to a kindergarten and has attended for a year, the child shall be promoted to the first grade unless the school district and the child's parent/guardian agree to have the child continue to attend kindergarten for not longer than one additional year. This rule applies whether a child begins kindergarten at the beginning of a school year or at some later date, so that a child who begins kindergarten in January, for example, shall be promoted the following January unless there is formal agreement to have him or her continue in kindergarten. Because kindergarten-age children often do not develop at steady or predictable rates, the California Department of Education recommends that approval for a child to continue not be given until near the anniversary of a child's admittance to kindergarten.

I agree to have my child (named above) continue in kindergarten until _____ (date)
(may not be more than one year beyond anniversary)

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date: _____

Printed/typed name of Parent/ Guardian _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number _____

A LIST OF BASIC BUILDING BLOCKS - KINDERGARTEN READINESS SKILLS

Basic Building Blocks	Individual Skills
<i>Self-Care & Motor Skills</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use of small manipulatives such as crayons, paintbrush, buttons, zippers, etc. ▪ Has general coordination (kicking balls, running, climbing) ▪ Performs basic self-help / self-care tasks (toileting, washing hands, eating)
<i>Self-Regulation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Works and plays cooperatively with peers (takes turns and shares) ▪ Controls impulses and self-regulates (is not disruptive of others) ▪ Stays focused / pays attention during activities ▪ Follows one- to two-step directions ▪ Participates successfully in activities (listens, focuses, sits still, participates)
<i>Social Expression</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relates appropriately to adults other than parents / caregiver (converses with, seeks help from) ▪ Appropriately expresses needs and wants verbally in primary language ▪ Expresses curiosity and eagerness for learning (tries new activities, asks questions) ▪ Has expressive abilities (tells about a story or experience) ▪ Engages in symbolic / imaginative play with self or peers (plays house, fireman)
<i>Kindergarten Academics</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognizes the letters of the alphabet (note: may be capitals, lowercase, or a combination) ▪ Writes own name (spelling and writing all letters correctly) ▪ Engages with books (knows where a book starts, pretends to read) ▪ Can count ten objects correctly ("Please give Maria five crayons." "Please put ten blocks in the basket.") ▪ Recognizes numbers (0-10) ▪ Recognizes primary colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, and black) ▪ Recognizes primary shapes (circle, triangle, square, rectangle) ▪ Can recognize rhyming words ▪ Nursery rhyme awareness

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN – ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten follow the same entry requirements. See the list of immunizations required for school entry and health care resources provided. The final page contains the list of schools in Lassen County; please contact your school of residence for registration and other important entry information.

PARENTS' GUIDE TO IMMUNIZATIONS



REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ENTRY

Entry Requirements by Age and Grade:

Vaccine	4-6 Years Old Elementary School at Transitional-Kindergarten/ Kindergarten and Above	7-17 Years Old Elementary or Secondary School	7th Grade*
Polio (OPV or IPV)	4 doses (3 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)	4 doses (3 doses OK if one was given on or after 2nd birthday)	
Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP, DTP, DT, or Tdap)	5 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT (4 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, Tdap, or Td (3 doses OK if last dose was given on or after 2nd birthday. At least one dose must be Tdap or DTaP/ DTP given on or after 7th birthday for all 7th-12th graders.)	1 dose of Tdap (Or DTP/DTaP given on or after the 7th birthday.)
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR or MMR-V)	2 doses (Both doses given on or after 1st birthday. Only one dose of mumps and rubella vaccines are required if given separately.)	1 dose (Dose given on or after 1st birthday. Mumps vaccine is not required if given separately.)	2 doses of MMR or any measles-containing vaccine (Both doses given on or after 1st birthday.)
Hepatitis B (Hep B or HBV)	3 doses		
Varicella (chickenpox, VAR, MMR-V or VZV)	1 dose	1 dose for ages 7-12 years. 2 doses for ages 13-17 years.	

*New admissions to 7th grade should also meet the requirements for ages 7-17 years.

WHY YOUR CHILD NEEDS SHOTS:

The California School Immunization Law requires that children be up to date on their immunizations (shots) to attend school. Diseases like measles spread quickly, so children need to be protected before they enter. California schools are required to check immunization records for all new student admissions at Kindergarten or Transitional Kindergarten **through** 12th grade and all students advancing to 7th grade before entry.

THE LAW: Health and Safety Code, Division 105, Part 2, Chapter 1, Sections 120325-120380; California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 8, Sections 6000-6075

WHAT YOU WILL NEED FOR ADMISSION:

To attend school, your child's Immunization Record must show the date for each required shot above. If you do not have an Immunization Record, or your child has not received all required shots, call your doctor now for an appointment.

If a licensed physician determines a vaccine should not be given to your child because of medical reasons, submit a written statement from the physician for a **medical exemption** for the missing shot(s), including the duration of the medical exemption.

A personal beliefs exemption is no longer an option for entry into school; however, a valid personal beliefs exemption filed with a school before January 1, 2016 is valid until entry into the next grade span (7th through 12th grade). Valid personal beliefs exemptions may be transferred between schools in California.

For complete details, visit ShotsforSchool.org.

You must also submit an immunization record for all required shots not exempted.

Questions? Visit ShotsForSchool.org or contact your local health department (bit.do/immunization).

LASSEN COUNTY CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE RESOURCES



Medical Services/CHDP Providers

Bieber

Big Valley Medical Center	554-850 Medical Center Drive Bieber, CA 96009	294-5241
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Chester

Lake Almanor Clinic	199 Reynolds Road Chester, CA 96020	258-2073
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Niloufsr Salehi, DO, NMM

David Wall, DO

Tonya Ayers-Macdonald, FNP

Dana Ware, MD

Susanville

Jay Beams, MD	701 Nevada Street Susanville, CA 96130	257-4137
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Lassen Indian Health Center	795 Joaquin Street Susanville, CA 96130	257-2542
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Hal Meadows, MD	705 West Street Susanville, CA 96130	257-7251
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Northeastern Rural Health Center	1850 Spring Ridge Drive Susanville, CA 96130	251-5000
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Family Practice, Suites B and C
Dean Brown, PA-C
Rich Carlton, MD

Family Practice, Suite D and E
John Dozier, MD
Lindsey Steglich, PA-C



Women's Health, Suites F and G
Steven Braatz, MD/OB/GYN
Naomi Rea, FNP
Rachel Petersen, MD

Urgent Care, first Suite on the Left

Optometrists/Vision Care Providers Who Accept Medi-Cal



Chester

Fred Feil	262 Main Street, Suite 1 Chester, CA 96020	258-3101
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Susanville

Richard Marason	600 Ash Street Susanville, CA 96130	257-3636
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Dental Care Providers Who Accept Medi-Cal



Susanville

Northeastern Dental	1850 Spring Ridge Drive Susanville, CA 96130	257-8522
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Smiles for Life Jeannie Huber, RDHAP	1803 First Street Susanville, CA 96130	257-9640
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Susanville Indian Health Center Dental Department	795 Joaquin Street Susanville, CA 96130	251-5188
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W.T. Pratt	805 Main Street Susanville, CA 96130	257-5179
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Health and Social Services



Banner Lassen Medical Center	1800 Spring Ridge Drive Susanville, CA 96130	252-2000
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Lassen County Health and Social Services	1445 Paul Bunyan Road Susanville, CA 96130	251-8128
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Public Health Department	1445 Paul Bunyan Road Susanville, CA 96130	251-8183
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Mental Health	555 Hospital Lane Susanville, CA 96130	251-8108
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Alcohol and Other Drug Programs	1410 Chestnut Street Susanville, CA 96130	251-8080
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Health and Social Services (continued)

Lassen WORKS and Community Social Services	720 Richmond Road Susanville, CA 96130	251-8152
Child and Family Protective Services	1445 Paul Bunyan Road Susanville, CA 96130	251-8277
Patient's Rights Advocate	545 Hospital Lane Susanville, CA 96130	251-8322
Lassen Family Services	1306 Riverside Drive Susanville, CA 96130	257-4599

Shelters

Crossroads Ministry	2410 Main Street Susanville, CA 96130	251-0701
Lassen Family Services Battered Women's Shelter Office	1306 Riverside Drive Susanville, CA 96130	257-4599
Crisis Line		257-5004

Food Banks

Susanville

Emergency Food Lassen Indian Health Center		257-2542
Lassen County Modoc Food Bank		257-4884



LIST OF LASSEN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

<p>BIG VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-294-5266</p> <p>BIG VALLEY ELEMENTARY – 530-294-5214 BIG VALLEY JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL – 530-294-5231</p>	<p>LONG VALLEY CHARTER 530-827-2395</p>
<p>FORT SAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-827-2129</p> <p>SIERRA PRIMARY – 530-827-2126 HERLONG JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL – 530-827-2101 MT. LASSEN CHARTER (SUSANVILLE) – 530-252-4313</p>	<p>RAVENDALE-TERMO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-251-8938</p> <p>NEW DAY ACADEMY – 530-233-3861</p>
<p>JANESVILLE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-253-3551 or 530-253-3660</p>	<p>RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-257-2338</p>
<p>JOHNSTONVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-257-2471 or 530-257-2119</p>	<p>SHAFFER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-254-6577</p>
<p>LASSEN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION 530-257-2196</p>	<p>SUSANVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-257-8200</p> <p>MCKINLEY SCHOOL (K-2) – 530-257-5161 MEADOW VIEW SCHOOL (3-5) – 530-257-3000 DIAMOND VIEW SCHOOL (6-8) – 530-257-5144</p>
<p>LASSEN UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-257-5134</p>	<p>WESTWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 530-256-2311</p> <p>FLETCHER WALKER (K-7) – 530-256-3295 WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL – 530-256-3235 WESTWOOD CHARTER SCHOOL – 530-256-2994</p>