



# TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN



## WHAT IS TK?

Transitional Kindergarten is a school district program intended for children who are 4 years old who do not have access to another early learning program (such as Head Start, EPIC, ECEAP, or another private preschool program).

## WHO QUALIFIES FOR TK?

- Children who are 4 years old by August 31st
- Children in need of additional preparation to be successful in Kinder (based on a district screening)
- Children who live within the school boundary where there is a TK classroom



## WHAT DOES TK LOOK LIKE?

- There are currently three TK programs in WSD: Two at Columbia Elementary and one at Mission View Elementary.
- Transportation will be provided for students if they meet the criteria for preschool transportation
- TK classrooms follow the same schedule as Kindergarten classes (start/end times, specialists, etc). That means students will attend all day (except late start Mondays), 5 days/week.
- Students who are enrolled in TK but also receive special education services will be supported by the case manager at the elementary school.
- TK is free.

For more  
information, call  
(509) 663-7117



# Frequently Asked Questions

## What if my child already attends Castle Rock preschool?

- Castle Rock is a school district program, like TK.
- Movement between programs is an IEP team decision that's based on the individual needs of the child (e.g., The team decides what would best prepare the student for kindergarten).

## What if my child already attends preschool somewhere else (like Head Start, EPIC, ECEAP, a private preschool, or a daycare with preschool)?

- This means that TK is not applicable to your child.
- If you have questions or concerns about that, please reach out to your child's preschool program.

## Can I choose my child into TK?

- No, students are only allowed to enroll in TK if they reside within the boundary of the school.
- TK is intended to prepare students to go into kindergarten at the same school they attended TK.

## How do I enroll in TK?

- There is an enrollment process which includes a district screening. This screening will determine whether your child is eligible based on their need for TK (and if they are not already accessing another early childhood program in the community)
- Once it is determined that TK is best for your child, then you will register him/her into the WSD as a new student.

## What is the focus of TK?

- The focus of TK is to prepare students for kindergarten.
- The best way to prepare students for kindergarten is to build their social-emotional skills while simultaneously embedding pre-academic skills.

## How many students are in the TK classroom?

- There is a limit of 16 students per class.
- There is a certificated teacher for each class and 2 assistants