

A Great Education starts with a Great Beginning!

Your questions answered about ... Enid Public Schools Full-Day Kindergarten

Why does EPS offer full-day classes?

We know that early years are learning years, and we want students to have the best educational foundation possible; therefore, EPS expanded its full-day kindergarten program three years ago for several reasons. First, members of the Oklahoma Legislature have mandated that the program be provided by all districts by the year 2010. Our students join more than two-thirds of Oklahoma children attending a full-day kindergarten program. Most importantly, however, we believe it is best for children!

What do students in full-day kindergarten learn?

In Oklahoma, the curriculum taught to students is determined by the Oklahoma legislature and the State Department of Education. It is known as PASS — Priority Academic Student Skills. The kindergarten PASS skills remain the same. However, with more time during the day, teachers are able to provide an even more enriching and rewarding experience for your child — stories, projects and more that will extend the day's lessons and activities.

Are 5-year-olds ready for all-day school?

Experience from our full-day classes and research from across the nation tell us that not only are 5-year-olds capable of attending full-day kindergarten, it helps them thrive academically, socially and emotionally. The key is the structure and philosophy of the program. EPS believes that we must be ready for children — not the other way around! Therefore, all of our early childhood programs are developmentally appropriate — from the daily schedule and routine to the centers and materials. Our teachers understand that children learn best when they are engaged in hands-on, innovative activities. After all, play is a child's work! The full-day program also allows students to spread their wings when it comes to music and motor development; they enjoy music and physical education classes, just like the older students.

Are students required to attend their home school?

You must enroll your child at his or her home school; however, kindergarten students may apply for transfers just the same as students in other grades. Applications are available at Central Office, located at 500 S. Independence. Transfers are reviewed in early August and your family will be contacted about whether or not your application has been approved.

What about the details — time, supplies, etc?

Kindergarten classes are offered Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.. Students may purchase breakfast and/or lunch at school. For more information about the district's free- and reduced-lunch program, please contact the Child Nutrition Department at 234-6324. School supply lists for each school will be available at local discount and office supply stores by mid-summer. They will also be posted online at www.enidpublicschools.org.

