



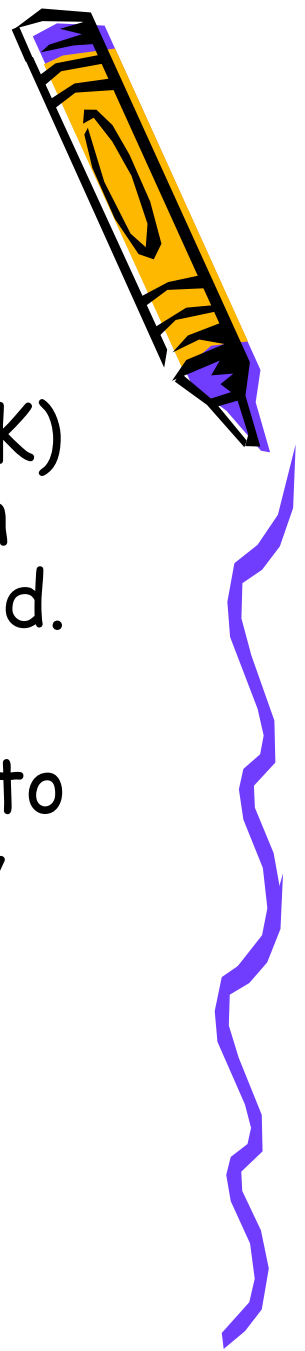
# Transitional Kindergarten

Lowell Joint School District  
November 8, 2011



# Overview of the Kindergarten Readiness Act

- Requires Transitional Kindergarten (TK) to better prepare California's children for success in Kindergarten and beyond.
- Changed the Kindergarten entry date over a three-year period from Dec. 2 to Sept. 1 and similarly adjusts the entry date for first grade.  
(Education Code Section 48000)



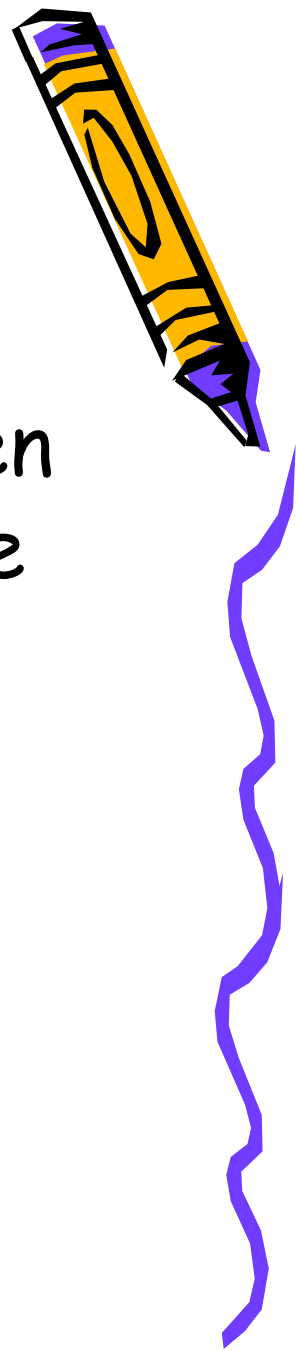
# Overview of the Kindergarten Readiness Act (cont.)



- Kindergarten entry date change phased in over three years
  - 2011-12: date remains Dec. 2
  - 2012-13: date moved back to Nov. 1
  - 2013-14: date moved back to Oct. 1
  - 2014-15: date moved back to Sept. 1
- Fully implemented by 2014/15



# Overview of the Kindergarten Readiness Act (cont.)

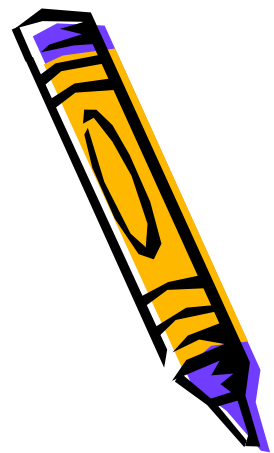


- Creates a Transitional Kindergarten program for students who miss the cutoff and are born between:
  - 2012-13: Nov. 2 - Dec. 2
  - 2013-14: Oct. 2 - Dec. 2
  - 2014-15: Sept. 2 - Dec. 2



# Overview of the Kindergarten Readiness Act (cont.)

- Children will be better prepared to succeed in Kindergarten and beyond.
- Gives parents an additional option to help their children enter Kindergarten with the maturity and skills needed to excel.
- Will help ensure children enter Kindergarten more prepared to learn and succeed.



# Benefits

- A year of Kindergarten readiness provides a strong, early start to help children read proficiently in third grade — a critical milestone that predicts whether a student will graduate from high school.
- TK will possibly reduce rates of grade retention and special education placement
- Research shows that beginning Kindergarten at an older age:
  - Improves social, emotional, and academic development
  - Boosts test scores
  - Increases likelihood of attending college and earning higher wages



# What is Transitional Kindergarten?



CHILDREN ENTERING K-12  
SYSTEM IN FALL



4 YEAR  
OLDS



YEAR 1  
TRANSITIONAL  
KINDERGARTEN



YEAR 2  
KINDERGARTEN

5 YEAR OLDS



# What is Transitional Kindergarten?

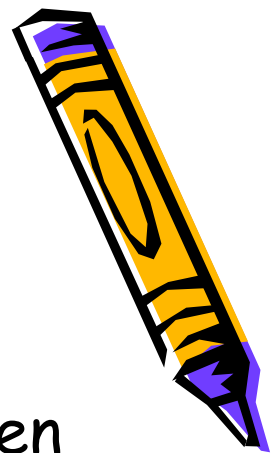
- Transitional Kindergarten (TK) is the first year of a two-year Kindergarten experience for students born between Sept. 1 and Dec. 2
- When fully implemented, it is estimated that 120,000 more children will receive an additional year of preparation to boost K-12 success





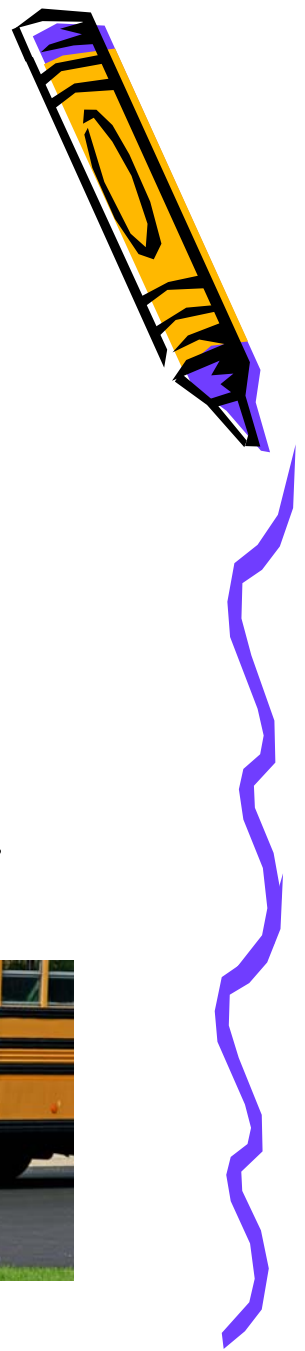
# What is Transitional Kindergarten?

- Enrollment is voluntary; children born between Sep. 1 and Dec. 2 can be admitted to Kindergarten on case-by case basis
- Requires school districts to offer TK to any age-eligible child
- Requires school districts to provide a "developmentally appropriate curriculum; aligned with Kindergarten standards; taught by credentialed teachers."



# Features of Transitional Kindergarten

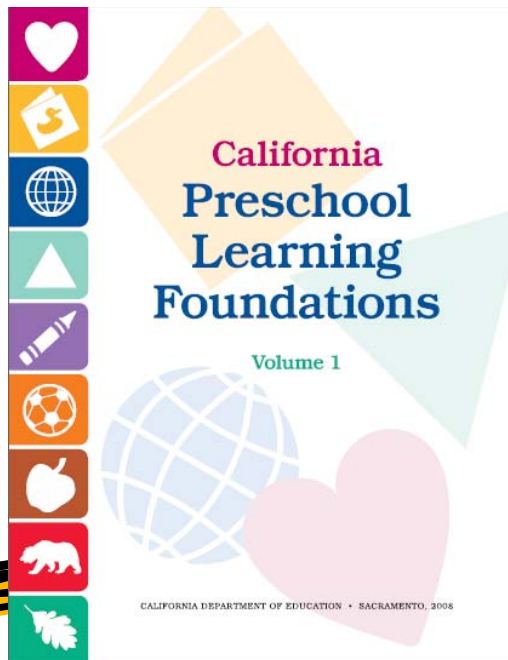
- Redirects existing Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding to TK for children with fall birthdays who would have been entering Kindergarten
- TK classes must be taught by credentialed K-12 teachers
- The curriculum must be age and developmentally appropriate and aligned with Kindergarten standards
- Offered on a school site(s)



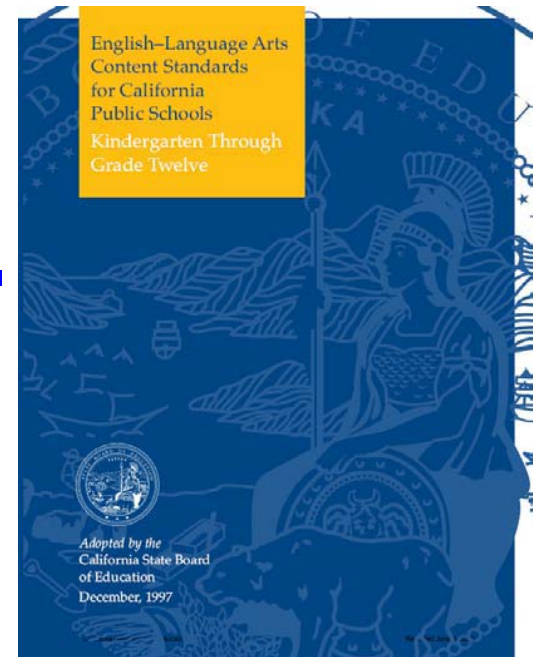
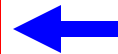
# TK Program Design



- Curriculum and Learning Environment
  - TK uses the Foundations and Kindergarten Standards for Curriculum and Instruction



TK



# TK Program Design



Transitional Kindergarten



Preschool



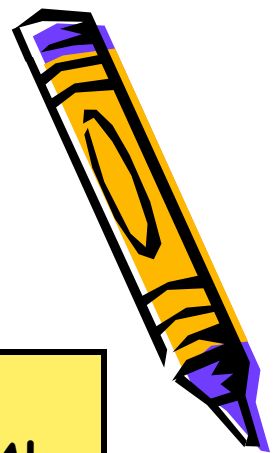
Kindergarten



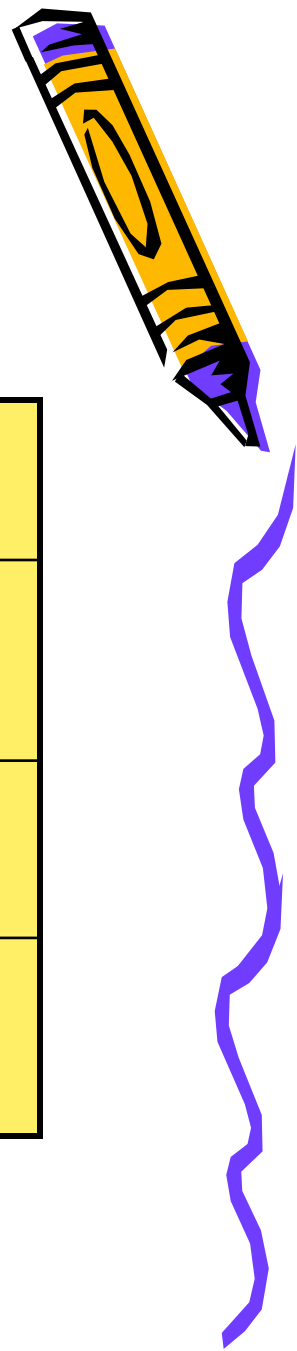
# Numbers of Estimated Students Eligible for TK

Based on Kindergarten Students Enrolled at All Schools

Year	9/2 - 10/1 birthdays	10/2 - 11/1 birthdays	11/2 - 12/2 birthdays	TOTAL
2009	28 (9%)	9 (3%)	15 (5%)	52 (17%)
2010	19 (6%)	16 (5%)	20 (7%)	55 (19%)
2011	24 (7%)	18 (5%)	28 (8%)	70 (19%)



# Number of Estimated Classrooms Needed to Implement TK



ESTIMATED 300 Kindergarten Students District-wide

Birthday Between	Calculation	TOTAL Students	TOTAL Classrooms*
11/2 - 12/2	$300 \times 7\% =$	21	1
10/2 - 12/2	$300 \times 12\% =$	37	1.5
9/2 - 12/2	$300 \times 19\% =$	57	2.5

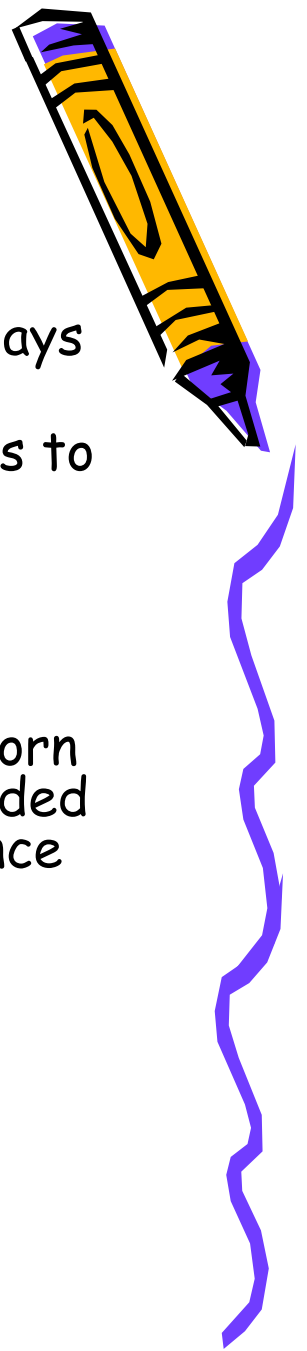
\*If staffed at a 25:1 student-to-teacher ratio





# Transitional Kindergarten Recommendation to the Board

- Implement TK one year at a time (Nov. 1 - Dec. 2 birthdays enrolled in 2012/13)
- One TK class in 2012/13 for all District eligible students to be offered at El Portal Elementary School
- Desired enrollment cap: 25 students
- Class in session from 8:30 - 11:50 a.m. each day (200 required minimum minutes)
- Create a waiting list based on birth date for students born between Dec. 2 and Jan. 30 if additional enrollment needed to fill the class at 25 students (ADA may be claimed once students reach their fifth birthday)
- Assignment: TK teacher 50% and District Reading Specialist/Coach 50%
- Requirements: Multi-subject credential and a Master's Degree in Early Literacy or Reading



# Questions?

