Calculating the Costs and Benefits of Expanded Transitional Kindergarten

A new tool from School Services

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Presenters

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Today’s Agenda

I. Overview of TK/ETK
II. Governor’s Proposed Budget
III. School Services’ ETK Cost-Benefit Calculator
IV. Benefits Worth Considering
V. Questions & Answers
Have A Question?

• All participants are muted.

• Enter questions in the “Question” feature on the left side of your screen.

• We will answer questions entered into the question box at the conclusion of the presentation.

Thank you!
Expanding TK: An Overview
New Opportunity, New Resources: Expanded TK

New Funds Available:

- New amendments to the Education Code allow school districts to receive ADA funding for children enrolled in TK once they turn 5, even if they turn 5 after the December 2 TK cutoff date.

- As of this year, LEAs may enroll these children at the beginning of the academic year.
What were the recent changes made to TK?

Amended *EC 48000(c)*

- A chance for schools to address gaps early.
- Increased access to Pre-k for four-year-olds.
- Opportunity for families who have been asking: Why can’t my child attend TK?
Expanded TK: How does it work?

➢ Any child who turns 5 at any time during the school year may be admitted to TK

➢ Until children turn 5, LEAs can have multiple financial resources to support the program, including:
  ➢ LCFF $
  ➢ Federal Title 1 $
  ➢ Supplement and Concentration $
  ➢ Federal IDEA $ for students with special needs

➢ After children turn 5, districts collect state ADA funding
Maria, who turns 5 on January 4, may be admitted by a district or charter school to attend TK at the beginning of the school year.

While Maria is still 4, the district or charter school may use other funds to support her program.

Once Maria turns 5 on January 4, the district or charter school can collect ADA.
Expanded TK: Enrollment Options

Approaches to start dates:

- **Beginning of School Year (Recommended):**
  - Districts enroll all children at the beginning of the year

- **Mid-Year:**
  - Districts enroll children with post-Dec. 2 birthdays at mid-year (typically after winter break) and run a partial year program through the end of the academic year

- **Rolling enrollment is NOT recommended**
Building a Pre-K to K-12 Continuum

Partnerships between CSPP and ETK programs can create a successful transition from pre-K to K-12, and maximize the number of students served in the community.
ETK gives more 4-year-olds access to quality ECE

With more 4-year-olds in ETK, more low-income 3-year-olds can be served through CSPP

More low-income children could have two years of ECE before kindergarten
Expanding TK: Opportunity and Context
Governor’s Block Grant Proposal

Proposed Block Grant:

- $1.6 billion
- Combines TK, State Preschool, quality improvement funding streams
- Allocated to LEAs like LCFF
- “No less $” provision
- More flexibility to design pre-K programs locally
- **But**: funding stream more vulnerable in recession
Governor’s Block Grant Proposal: Many Questions Remain

- If ADA funding is severed from TK, will block grant funds be vulnerable to sharper reductions in the next recession?
- What quality standards will apply?
- What about community-based preschool providers?
- What becomes of the state’s commitment to provide preschool for all low-income 4-year-olds?
School Services’ ETK Cost-Benefit Calculator
ETK Cost-Benefit Calculator Overview

For Early Edge, SSC developed the ETK Cost-Benefit Calculator to help districts and charters explore costs – and benefits -- of expanding TK.

- The Calculator enables you to enter common factors about your district or charter to estimate the potential expenses and revenue of expanding TK.
- The tool will automatically save the data you have submitted, making it easy to look back at your projections.
ETK Cost-Benefit Calculator Preview

By the Way . . . Webinar Announced to Unveil SSC's Expanded TK Cost-Benefit Calculator

School Services of California, Inc., (SSC) in partnership with Early Edge California, has developed a web-based expanded transition kindergarten (TK) financial analysis tool that will be showcased during a webinar scheduled for January 26, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. Local educational agencies consider... Read More
Expanding TK: Advantages Worth Considering
ETK Advantages

Helps establish long-term ADA loyalty

- Engages families early, when they are most likely to partner with schools
- Creates a competitive advantage over other districts and charters for enrollment

Creates opportunities for systems alignment between Pre-K and K-12

Expands access to ECE

- As more 4s are served in ETK, more low-income 3s could be served in State Preschool
ETK Advantages

ETK helps districts and charters:

- Shrink opportunity and achievement gaps
- Refine instruction by reducing “combo” classes
- Reduce downstream costs
- Optimize state resources
- Mitigate declining enrollment
ETK Implementation: Who’s Expanding?

- Alum Rock Union Elementary School District
- Black Oak Mine Unified School District
- Jefferson Elementary School District
- La Mesa-Spring Valley School District
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Pasadena Unified School District
- Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District
- Ramona Unified School District
Questions?

Sign up for email updates at www.earlyedgecalifornia.org
More questions about expanding TK?

- ETK Calculator: [www.sscal.com/tk/](http://www.sscal.com/tk/)
- Early Edge’s TK site: [www.tkcalifornia.org](http://www.tkcalifornia.org)
- School Services’ “Ask SSC” service: [https://www.sscal.com/ask_ssc.cfm](https://www.sscal.com/ask_ssc.cfm)