

RATIONALE
FOR
FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN

Rationale for the Full-Day Kindergarten

- A full-day kindergarten program is consistent with research that demonstrates that early intervention with literacy-rich and numeracy-rich programs shows long-lasting improvements in student achievement.
- A full-day kindergarten program affords much more time to reinforce and enrich the kindergarten curriculum than the present half-day program.
- The pace of instruction allows for more hands-on, discovery learning opportunities and time for exploration through spontaneous play.
- The additional time allows more time to continually assess achievement in all areas of child development and offer multiple learning opportunities.
- A full-day kindergarten program can maximize the opportunities to create a caring community of learners – a partnership of teachers, parents and students who work together to lay the foundation for lifelong learning.
- The additional time will enable teachers to better address the individual needs of students.
- A full-day kindergarten program offers greater probability of reducing long-term and costly special education and remedial education placement in the future.
- The format enables students and teacher to have a longer “uninterrupted” period of time for structured classroom activities.
- The additional learning experiences offer to children-at-risk a chance for a more “level playing field.”
- A full-day kindergarten program allows more time to work with students during the critical early learning years.
- It is consistent with the Connecticut State Department of Education’s encouragement that districts develop full-day kindergarten programs.

Additional Information

- Parents will have the option of sending their child to a full-day or half-day program.
- Regional School District 17 will provide transportation for half-day students.
- The kindergarten rooms will be clustered together.
- Kindergarten lunch in the cafeteria will be handled separately from the other grades.