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The Process

• Input from stakeholders
• Formation of Committee
• Sub Committees
• The Work
• Presentations to Board of Education
• School Visits
• Pre school visits
• Teacher information sessions and survey
• Professional learning opportunities for teachers
• Full Implementation!
Informing Our Practice

- Social Emotional Learning- Second Step
- Language Acquisition
- Occupational and Physical Therapy (Fine and Gross Motor Skills)
- School Visits - furniture, resources, etc…
- Community input
Visits to Other Full-day Programs

Schools Visited:

- Lindenwold School # 4
- Gibbsboro Elementary School
- Tatem School, Collingswood
- Taunton Forge and Kirby’s Mill, Medford
- Littlebrook Elementary, Princeton
- Thomas Jefferson, Washington Township

Observations Included:

- Classroom materials and furniture
- Technology available for students and teacher
- Encores/Special area teachers
- Daily schedule
- Program Models

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Kindergarten Registration

Dates: March 1 - March 14, 2019

Who attends:

- School secretary
- Nurse
- Literacy Teacher
- Coach

Literacy Initiative:

- *Clifford Goes to School*
- *Wemberly Worried*

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# Kindergarten Readiness Assessment/Screening Tool

## Purpose of Assessment/Screening Tool:

1) Diversify placement in Kindergarten classes
2) Early identification of students who may need support
3) Offer parental support in preparation for Kindergarten
4) Collect baseline data for K teachers to utilize in supporting students

## Reviewed six assessments and examined:

- Are assessed
- Materials
- Training needed
- Time to administer
- Expense

## Assessments reviewed:

1. Bolster Learning Systems - WELL Screening
2. Scholastic Testing Service (STS) - Kindergarten Readiness Test
3. Pearson DIAL-4
4. Pearson Speed DIAL-4
5. NJKEA - NJ Kindergarten Entry Assessment
6. Johns Hopkins University - KRA – Kindergarten Reading Assessment

## Final Recommendation of the committee:

Pearson DIAL-4
Orientation

Please observe the following guidelines when implementing the Kindergarten Orientation:

● When
  ○ The Orientation should take place during an evening session in June in order to maximize the opportunity for working parents/guardians to attend.
  ○ The Orientation should have an established time frame, not to exceed 1 hour.

● Who
  ○ Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of incoming Kindergarten students will be invited to attend the Orientation.
  ○ It is recommended that parents make care arrangements for children, as this event will be geared to dispersing parent information.

● What
  ○ Parents/Guardians of incoming Kindergarten students will have the opportunity to:
    ■ Meet Kindergarten teachers
    ■ Meet pertinent staff members, including principal, nurse, Guidance Counselor, LTC
    ■ Learn a brief overview of the Kindergarten curriculum
    ■ Learn about how they can prepare their student for the start of Kindergarten.
    ■ Ask questions regarding school procedures.
Welcome to Kindergarten!

Dear Families,

It is almost time for kindergarten! The materials in this bag will help you prepare for an exciting year of growth. Included in this bag are the following: a box of crayons, two kindergarten pencils, a communicator, a dry erase marker, a summer journal, parent information, and month-by-month calendars.

The month-by-month activity lists are simple to use. Hang the monthly list where your child can easily view it. Help your child complete an activity from the list each day. Don’t worry if your child is not able to complete every activity—the important part of these activities is that you are working with your child to get ready for kindergarten. Please remember that all of these activities should be a fun experience for you and your child! All materials may be kept at home for continued practice throughout the year.

Have a wonderful summer! We look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Sincerely,
The Kindergarten Team

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Readiness Bag/Packet

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Readiness Bag/Packet

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Open House

Please observe the following guidelines when implementing the Kindergarten Open House:

- **When**
  - The Open House should take place during the PM session of the faculty inservice day, Friday, August 30, 2019.
  - The Open House have an established time frame, not to exceed 30 minutes.

- **Who**
  - Kindergarten students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) will be invited to attend the Open House.

- **What**
  - Incoming Kindergarten students will have the opportunity to:
    - Meet their new teacher(s)
    - See their classroom
    - Meet classmates
    - Bring in materials prior to the first day of school.
    - Complete a brief “scavenger hunt” to familiarize themselves with the classroom environment.

- **Why**
  - Providing the opportunity to meet the teacher and see the learning environment will diminish first day jitters for both student and caregivers.

Open Houses will be held on Thursday, August 29, 2019. This was changed to avoid the holiday weekend.
Integrated Curriculum

The benefits of an integrated curriculum, especially with purposeful integration with English Language Arts (ELA), can include:

- Enhanced student engagement
- Improved ELA skills through connecting ELA to content instruction
- Strong critical thinking skills

3 Units of Study

Unit 1: Our Community
Unit 2: Our Diverse World
Unit 3: Construction

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## What Will Be Taught

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Time Allocation in minutes</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Homeroom / Morning Meeting / Unpacking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20 - 9:47</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Integrated ELA and Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:47 - 10:22</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Integrated ELA and Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:22 - 10:47</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Fundations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:47 - 11:07</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Snack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:07 - 11:32</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Lunch / Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:32 - 11:52</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:52 - 12:07</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Encore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:07 - 12:22</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Rest / Quiet Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:22 - 12:47</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Play Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:47 - 13:17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Pack-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>390</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Encore

- Full Day K allows our Kindergarten students access to the arts, technology, world language and PE
- Encore offerings will be consistent with Grade 1-5
- Various scheduling options are being considered
- Considerations are being made with respect to sectioning, minimizing staff travel and room availability
- Resources will be provided to support increased students
- Anticipate assignments after Master Schedules are developed

![Music Notes]
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Special Education

The district will continue to provide a continuum of services for students in Kindergarten. This includes:

- In-Class Resource
- Pull-Out Resource
- Co-Teaching (Cooper, Kingston, Knight, Stockton, Woodcrest)
- Specialized classes (Autistic Support, Behavioral and Emotional Support, Learning and Language Disabilities, Multiply Disabled)

Staffing will be consistent with existing district practice for determining need based on student Individualized Education Plans.

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English Language Learners

- Eligibility for English as a Second Language (ESL) services will be determined by the WIDA Model
- Kindergarten ESL services will be offered at all magnet schools
- ESL services delivered using a push-in model that will be integrated into the full-day kindergarten schedule
- The ESL teacher will work with the classroom teacher to provide content and language support for ELLs (Sheltered Instruction Model)
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Furniture

- Guided Reading Table on wheels
- 4 Rectangle or circle tables with chairs
- At least 2 additional rectangle or circle tables for Daily 5 areas
- At least 3 shelf bookshelves
- Easel with whiteboard/ chart paper side
- Mailboxes
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Resources

- In addition to furniture:
  - Play materials
  - Books to enhance existing classroom libraries
  - Materials / Resources to support an integrated curriculum
Technology

- Access to devices - per class chromebooks
- Students access to databases and online platforms (i.e. Tumblebooks, BrainPOP Jr., PebbleGo)
- Interactive Flat Panels
- Professional Development will be provided (i.e. In-service days, flex-options, faculty meetings, PLC meetings)
- Include headphones, not earbuds, on all supply lists
More to Come....

- Kindergarten Academy (PD sessions)
  - During the academic day for current teachers May/June 2019
  - For new hires Summer 2019
- Professional Development to launch Grade K Math resource
- Professional Development to support increased Technology expectations
- Development of supply lists -School Choice - For now remember to include headphones not earbuds
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