

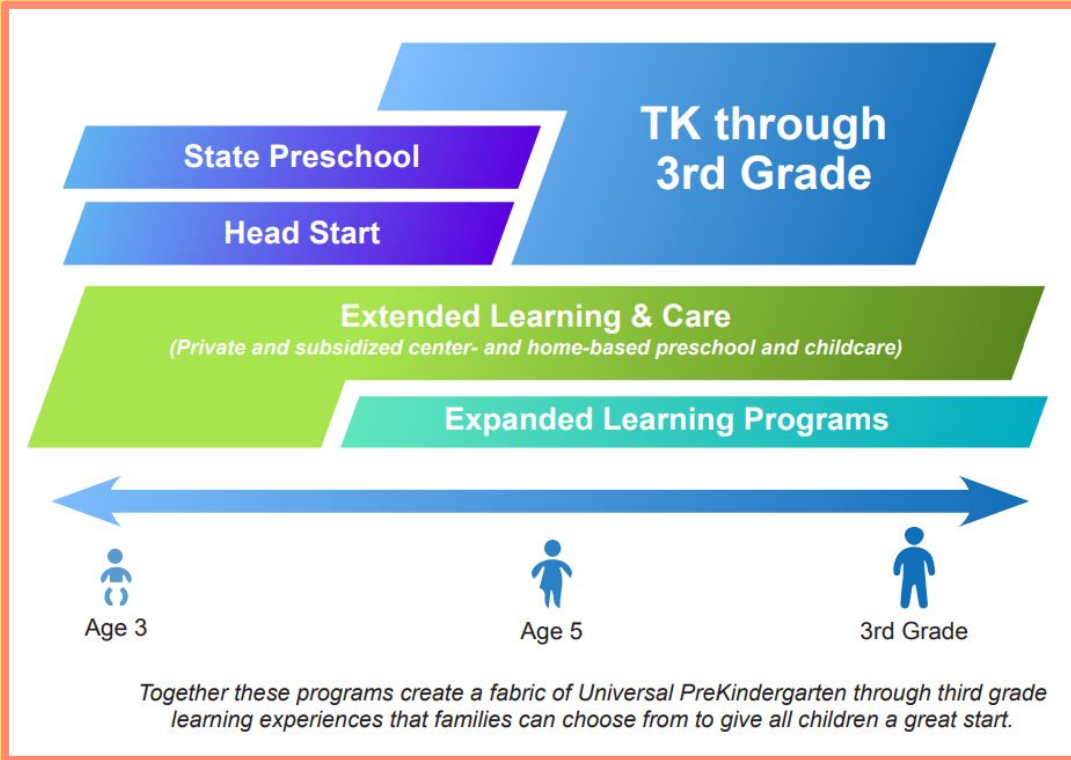
TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN UPDATE



Santa Rosa City Schools
Educational Services
June 8, 2022



GREAT START CALIFORNIA



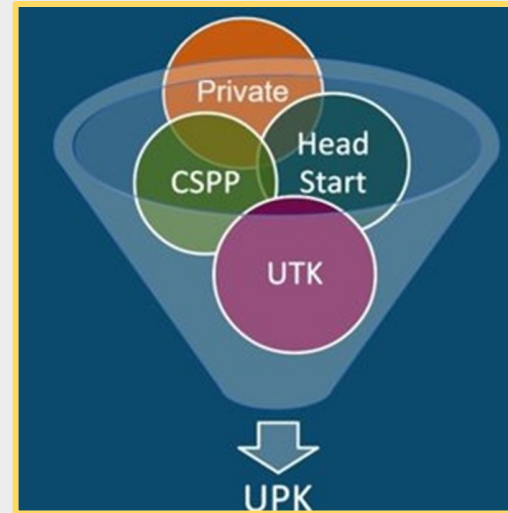
“California will provide a strong and early start to education for all children with high-quality, joyful, developmentally informed, inclusive, and rigorous prekindergarten (pre-K) through third grade (P-3) learning opportunities—beginning with equitable access to universal prekindergarten (UPK).”

**—GREAT START CALIFORNIA VISION,
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**



CALIFORNIA UNIVERSAL PRE-K (UPK)

UPK will bring together programs across early learning and K-12, **relying heavily on Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK)** and California State Preschool Program (CSPP), as well as Head Start, community-based organizations(CBO) and private preschool to ensure every four-year old child - regardless of background, race, zip code, immigration status, or income level - has access to quality learning experiences the year before kindergarten.

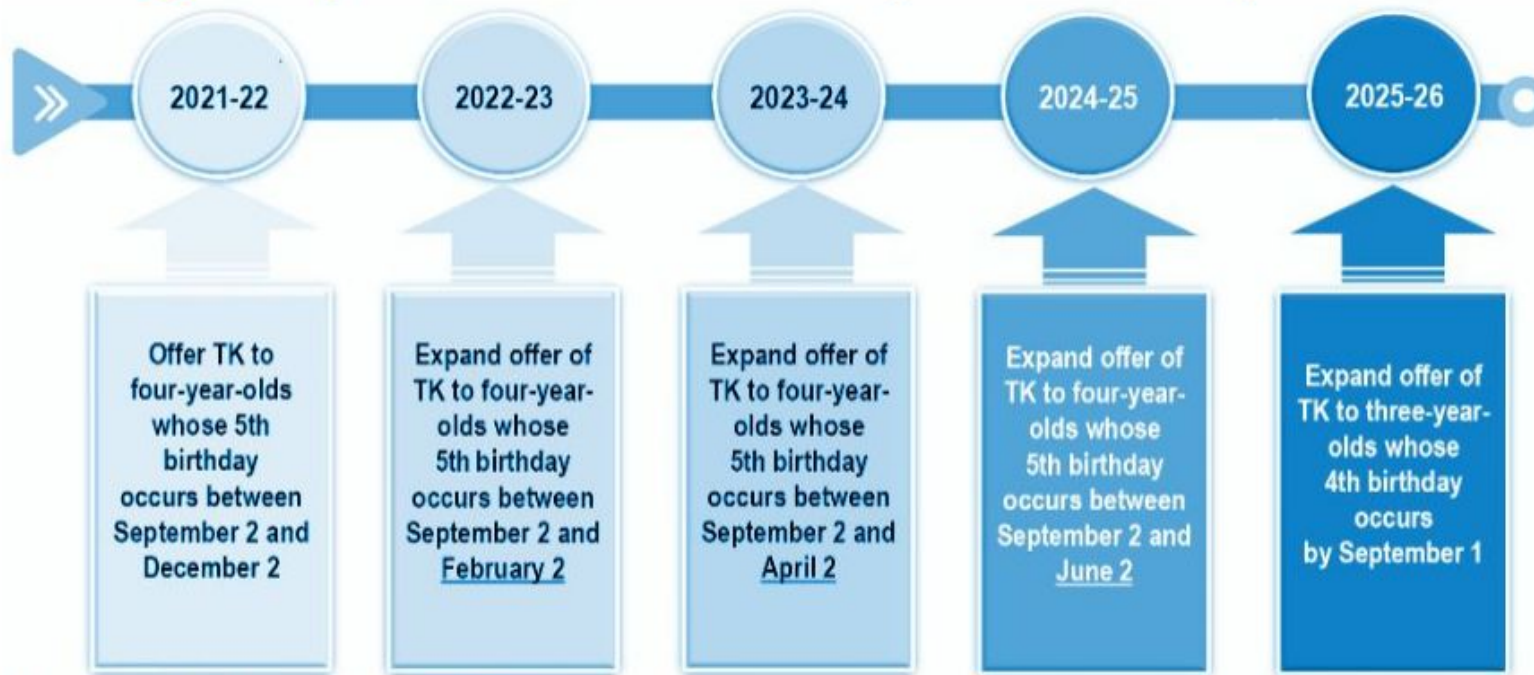


HISTORY

- **2010:** Kindergarten Readiness Act changes the cut-off date for Kindergarten entry and creates Transitional Kindergarten (TK)
- **2013-14:** SRCS begins to offer Transitional Kindergarten (known in SRCS as “Kinder Academy”)
- **2020:** CDE launches the P-3 Alignment initiative, seeking to elevate the role of high-quality, inclusive and multilingual preschool, strong early intervention services, and P-3 alignment
- **May 2021:** Gov. Newsom announces funding for Universal Transitional Kindergarten, including \$300 million for the CA Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program
- **Sept. 2021:** signing of AB 130 establishes initiative to expand access to Pre-K programs, while also expanding TK age eligibility in two-birth-month increments over 4-year period



TK Age Implementation Requirements per AB130





SRCS AREAS OF PLANNING

- Vision & Coherence
- Community Engagement & Partnerships
- Workforce Recruitment & Professional Learning
- Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
- Facilities, Services & Operations



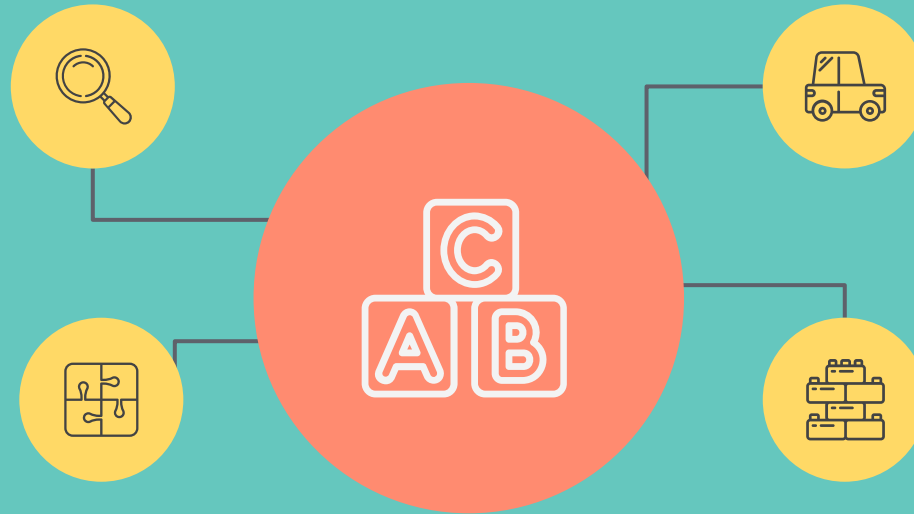
VISION & COHERENCE

VISION

- Align with SRCS Mission, Vision, & Priorities
- Provide equitable opportunity & access
- Close achievement gap

PARTNERSHIPS

- Community-based partnerships
- Family opportunity, access, & choice
- Collaborative effort from site to broader community



DELIVERY MODEL

- Inclusive & developmentally appropriate
- Whole-child focused
- Assets-based
- Standards-aligned
- P-3 articulated

SUPPORT STRUCTURE

- Highly qualified staff
- District-wide leadership across multiple departments
- Site and district leadership teams
- Inclusion of community organizations and stakeholders



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS



PARENTAL NEEDS & CHOICES

- Prioritized based on continuous feedback through surveys, parent meetings, & direct feedback from school sites
- Services prioritized based on serving our unduplicated students' needs & interests

OTHER LOCAL PARTNERS

- Support outreach to families through partnerships with local Resource & Referral (R&R) agencies and Local Planning Council (LPC)
- Continue to work with North Bay Children's Center and Head Start, which have programs housed on SRCS campuses

EXTENDED LEARNING & CARE PARTNERS

- Regularly plan & collaborate with community partners like Boys & Girls Club and Parks & Recreation with the goal of a shared process & voice
- Focus on social-emotional & academic needs, as developmentally appropriate

SERVING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- Continue agreements with Head Start and North Bay Children's Center to inclusively place preschool students with disabilities
- Expand Lewis Early Learning Academy (LELA) and Head Start partnership to provide greater access and support for students and families

WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT

- Recruiting highly qualified teachers and staff is paramount to the success & wellbeing of our students.
- Recruitment pathways include: job fairs, online advertisements, EdJoin, Informed K-12, the local paper, and word of mouth.
- SRCS wrote new job description for the TK Instructional Assistant position to help ensure candidates are informed & qualified for these new positions.
- Given new Early Childhood Education (ECE) unit requirements for teachers serving TK students, SRCS will support staff in pursuing these new goals.



STAFFING SUPPORTS

- SCOE Consortium
- SCOE Transitional Kindergarten Network
- District Professional development for TK Teachers and Instructional Assistants
- Support in meeting the Early Childhood Education unit requirements, as needed
- Participation in the Collaborative Curriculum Design (CCD) process, includes development of TK unit and working with K-3 CCD teams on P-3 alignment
- When the updated California Preschool Learning Foundations are released, refine and adapt the SRCS TK curriculum accordingly
- Attend TK-specific conferences, as available





PD, PARTNERSHIPS, & DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

PD

- SCOE Partnership
- CCD
- P-3 CCD Alignment & Articulation
- TK Collaboration

PARTNERSHIPS

- CSPP
- Head Start
- North Bay Children's Center
- Boys & Girls Club

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

- Continue TK Committee, inviting additional district & community partners

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & ASSESSMENT

A yellow silhouette of a mouse with whiskers and a tail. The word 'CURRICULUM' is written in bold black letters across its chest.

CURRICULUM

With CCD unit development & standards alignment, SRCS is ahead of most districts with regard to curriculum development.

CCD teams will work to update units based on TK expansion to ensure they are developmentally appropriate, inclusive, and culturally affirming.

An orange silhouette of a rabbit with long ears and a tail. The word 'INSTRUCTION' is written in bold white letters across its chest.

INSTRUCTION

Through PD and collaborative work with SCOE and other community partners, SRCS will support TK Teachers and Instructional Aides to ensure training in effective and developmentally-appropriate practices, including support for students with disabilities and multilingual learners.

A teal silhouette of a cat with whiskers and a tail. The word 'ASSESSMENT' is written in bold black letters across its chest.

ASSESSMENT

With assessment, SRCS is also ahead of the curve in that our TK team has developed standards-aligned trimester inventory assessments.

As new TK assessment guidance is released by CDE, SRCS will work to ensure compliance, training, and implementation.

FACILITIES, SERVICES, AND OPERATIONS



- TK classrooms carefully identified and placed in a location near other TK and Kindergarten classrooms.
- Schedules created to ensure safe playgrounds, outdoor spaces, and dropoff and pickup of students.
- Staggered lunch schedules created to separate older students from younger students.
- TK students' play yards are only accessible to TK and K students.
- Schools sites that currently provide transportation will continue to offer TK students the opportunity for transportation to and from school.
- TK students will have access to meals and adequate time to eat.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Understand legislation and California directive regarding universal TK and its impact on SRCS
- Attend UPK/UTK trainings & collaboratives
- Work with a variety of district & community partners to plan for TK expansion
- Create TK Committee and hold planning meetings
- Identify classrooms for TK expansion
- Order necessary furniture & materials

- Write job description for TK Instructional Aide position
- Write the SRCS TK Plan
- Identify PD needs for TK Teachers and Instructional Aides
- Plan for CCD units of study curriculum updates
- Investigate assessment guidelines & their impact on SRCS TK





NEXT STEPS

- Hire TK Instructional Assistants upon approval by CSEA of the new job description
- Train TK Instructional Assistants
- Monitor TK enrollment
- Expand TK Committee to include more district-wide and community members
- Begin realignment of TK CCD units in Summer 2022
- Work with and support teachers with TK credentialing and ECE unit requirements
- Plan TK-specific professional development for return to school in August and the 2022-23 school year



QUESTIONS