WELCOME

Transitional Kindergarten & Kindergarten Information Night

SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

LIVE • LEAD • LEARN
Welcome
- Molly Barton, Assistant Superintendent

- Introduction to the San Mateo-Foster City School District
- Provide information on the District’s new Strategic Plan and Kindergarten readiness
- Review key enrollment dates and the online registration process
- Provide an overview of our both our Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten programs
District Presenters

- **Molly Barton**  
  Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

- **Amber Farinha**  
  Coordinator of Enrollment & Communications

- **Beth Marsh**  
  Kindergarten Teacher

- **Mary Kay Going**  
  Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

- **Alicia Heneghan**  
  Principal on Special Assignment for Transitional Kindergarten (TK)

- **Gail Oshima**  
  Transitional Kindergarten Teacher
District Demographics

• District serves communities of San Mateo and Foster City

• 20 Schools: Transitional Kindergarten - 8th Grade
  - 8 Transitional Kindergarten sites
  - 15 elementary schools (K-5)
  - 1 elementary/middle school (K-8)
  - 4 middle schools (6-8)

• 11,700 TK-8 students

• 500 preschool students
District Demographics

School Calendars

- Traditional and Year-Round

District Services and Programs

- Special Education
- Gifted and Talented Program
- English Language Learners
- Child Development/Preschool Programs
- Transitional Kindergarten – our newest grade level
- The Children’s Annex Before & After School Program
- Parent Involvement – PTAs and Ed Foundation
San Mateo-Foster City School District

Strategic Plan

1
Strategic Direction

Educate all students to achieve their potential through a rigorous program that builds a solid academic foundation and challenges students to think critically and communicate.

2
Strategic Direction

Inspire all students to go out into the world as active, well-rounded, socially responsible citizens who positively impact today and the future.

Live.  Lead.  Learn.
Vision
The San Mateo-Foster City School District
*Educates and inspires students to live, lead and learn with integrity and joy.*
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Mission
Our students are prepared to positively impact a dynamic and diverse world as they:

- Develop career and life skills through academic excellence and personal wellness.
- Become critical thinkers while taking responsible risks in their learning.
- Acquire and exchange knowledge through collaboration and effective communication.
- Utilize creativity and technology to maximize their potential.
- Demonstrate socially responsible citizenship.
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Academic Achievement
Students will make measurable progress in mastering grade level Common Core standards.
Students will learn through differentiation.
- English Language Arts
- English Language Development
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education
- Visual and Performing Arts

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Twenty-First Century Learning
Students will think creatively and pursue innovative solutions.
Students will utilize evolving technology that is targeted to support their learning.
Students will develop collaborative skills that require active participation and engagement.
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Creativity
- Critical Thinking

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Citizenship & Character Education
Students will be supported by community and parent resources.
Students will engage in programs that develop an ongoing healthy lifestyle.
Students will benefit from a school community empowered to foster social and personal responsibility.
Students will effectively resolve conflicts in a respectful manner.
Students will develop a deeper understanding of self and others.
Students will use their individual strengths to benefit the community.

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Welcome to Kindergarten!

Beth Marsh,
Kindergarten Teacher
Getting Ready

- Kindergarten is a very special school year for parents and children alike!

- Is your child ready?
  - Alphabet recognition
  - Personal knowledge
  - Counting objects and understanding quantities
  - Size and shape relationships
  - Small muscle skills
  - Social skills
Our Kindergarten curriculum is driven by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

- Check out our District website for Common Core Parent Resources
  - [www.smfc.k12.ca.us/CCParentResources](http://www.smfc.k12.ca.us/CCParentResources)
- Our focus this year is on Language Arts
- Next year, Mathematics
For Your Consideration

Do’s and Don’ts

• In this case…”don’ts and do’s”… some practical suggestions for helping your child be a successful student

Kindergarten is the first step in an exciting journey!
New Student Registration
- Amber Farinha, Coordinator of Enrollment

School Assignments

• Students are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten if their 5th birthday is on or before September 1, 2014

• Students are eligible to enroll in Transitional Kindergarten if their 5th birthday falls on or between September 2 – December 2, 2014

• To find your school of assignment, go to www.smfc.k12.ca.us/lookup

• Priority registration for TK-8th grade is March 10 – 28, 2014
Online Pre-registration

- All students pre-register online for their school of assignment

- More detailed instructions will be available on the District website in February. Please check back at that time.

- Online pre-registration is not a guarantee of enrollment

  ✓ New Student Priority Registration period begins March 10
1) Go to the SM-FCSD website – www.smfc.k12.ca.us – For Parents section > Student Registration

2) Click on the 2014-15 pre-registration link

3) Completely fill out all required information

4) Print out 1 copy of your pre-registration confirmation, sign it

5) March 10, go to your school and register in person. Bring all original documents as well as your pre-registration confirmation. Check your school’s website for specific instructions.
Magnet School Programs

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAGNET PROGRAMS:

- College Park Elementary
  Mandarin Immersion
- Fiesta Gardens
  Spanish-English, Two-Way Immersion
- George Hall Elementary
  Accelerated Project-Based Learning
- Horrall Elementary
  New magnet theme under development
- North Shoreview School (K-5)
  Montessori School/Music & Art
- Parkside Elementary
  Montessori
- San Mateo Park Elementary
  Math & Science
- Sunnybrae Elementary
  International Baccalaureate World School
Magnet School Programs

MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGNET PROGRAMS:

- Abbott Middle School (6-8)  Two-Way, Spanish Immersion Program
- Borel Middle School          International Baccalaureate World School
- North Shoreview School (6-8) Montessori School/Music & Art Middle Years Program
- **THE Bayside S.T.E.M. ACADEMY**  Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
Intradistrict Transfer Process

Intradistrict Transfers

• Transfer deadline is February 7, 2014

• Notification letters will be sent home by February 28

• If you receive an approved transfer before priority registration begins, you register at your new school

• Transfers will only be approved until 10 days before the start of school

• All wait lists expire once the school year begins

• For TK students, transfer requests will be accepted in April. See the TK website for more info in March.
Questions?

For more information, contact the Student Services Department
(650) 312-7345

Visit the SM-FCSD website
www.smfc.k12.ca.us
> Student Registration
> Student Transfers
Transitional Kindergarten

For parents with children who will turn 5 years of age on or between

**September 2 - December 2, 2014**

please stay for a brief presentation on

Transitional Kindergarten
Welcome to Transitional Kindergarten!

Alicia Heneghan & Gail Oshima
What is Transitional Kindergarten?

- Created by the Kindergarten Readiness Act 2010
- Law changed Kindergarten entry date from December 2 to September 1
- The new age requirement has been phased in by moving the cutoff date back one month a year for three years, which began in the fall of 2012
What is Transitional Kindergarten?

- Transitional Kindergarten (TK) is the first year of a two-year kindergarten experience for students who are born between September and December.

- For the upcoming 2014-15 school year, if a child turns 5:
  - **On or before September 1:** Register for Kindergarten
  - **September 2 - December 2:** Register for TK
  - **On or after December 3:** Eligible for preschool only
What is Transitional Kindergarten?

- TK is part of the public school system and is free to participating students.

- Two years of Kindergarten
  - Transitional Kindergarten (TK) is the first year
  - Kindergarten is the second year

- The TK classes follow the same calendar as the school and have approximately the same schedule as Kindergarten, 3 ½ hours.

- Current TK classes are located at Audubon, Baywood, Foster City, George Hall, Highlands, Horrall, San Mateo Park and Sunnybrae Elementary Schools.

- TK students are eligible to attend the Annex Program.
Teachers & Curriculum

- Transitional Kindergarten is taught by SM-FC credentialed teachers.
- TK is intended to give young learners a head start and provide them with an opportunity to learn and grow in an environment that is tailored to meet their social, emotional and academic needs.
- TK curriculum is a blend of the California Kindergarten standards and the CA Preschool Foundations for 5 year-olds.
- The TK classroom environment provides more opportunities for social-emotional and language development through interactive, hands-on activities so that children will have the skills to be successful in Kindergarten.
What is the difference between K and TK?

- Focus is on the social, emotional and self-regulation needs of the child.
- Students are taught to interact with their peers.
- Students are taught the academic foundations they will need to be successful in Kindergarten.
Registering for TK

• Registration for Transitional Kindergarten program is the same process as for Kindergarten. During the month of February, parents will pre-register online for their school of assignment based on address then go into their school to complete their registration starting March 10.

• Almost all of our schools will host a TK class. If your home school isn’t one of them, you will be assigned the school closest to you.

• Please complete the Intent To Register form and return it to the District Office if your child will be 5 years old on or between September 2 and December 2, 2014.

• Check the District website for periodic updates and information regarding TK.
Questions?

For more information, contact the Transitional Kindergarten office

(650) 312-7298

Visit the SM-FCSD website

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> Student Registration
> Transitional Kindergarten
THANK YOU FOR COMING

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