



Roxbury Public Schools

Full-Day Kindergarten Program

The full-day kindergarten program is designed to develop knowledge and skills in the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive areas. Our goal is to help children develop skills and strategies that will help them learn and establish a foundation for lifelong success in education. The program allows more time for students to address curriculum in depth and allows teachers to provide additional activities in learning.

The Board of Education has set a maximum of two hundred forty (240) available seats for the full-day kindergarten program. In the event that there are more than 240 students registered for the full day program, a lottery will be conducted and a waiting list will be established. Details are listed below.

Each school will also have a limited amount of seats available for the full day kindergarten program. The seat allotment for the individual schools is set at:

Franklin School	forty-eight (48) seats
Jefferson School	seventy-two (72) seats
Kennedy School	forty-eight (48) seats
Nixon School	seventy-two (72) seats

Program format

Students will be enrolled for 180 full days each school year and follow the same school calendar as all first – twelfth (1st -12th) grade students. Students will arrive in the morning along with all other students in grades one – four (1 - 4) and be dismissed at the end of the school day with all first – fourth (1st – 4th) graders. Students will have lunch at school and in most cases, may be transported to and from schools on regular transportation routes.

Entrance requirements

According to Roxbury Board of Education Policy 5112 – Entrance Age; a child is eligible to enter into Kindergarten who will have attained the age of five on or before October 1 of the year in which entrance is sought.

Kindergarten registration forms are available on the district website (www.Roxbury.org) or at your neighborhood school main office.



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To enter the full-day program, parents must apply at their neighborhood school. Parents who apply for variances to attend another in-district school other than the neighborhood school for kindergarten must send official request to the Superintendent of Schools.

Transportation

Transportation will be provided in accordance with Board of Education Policy 8600 – Transportation. The Roxbury Transportation Department can be reached at 973-584-6756.

Estimated costs

The full day kindergarten program is offered at no additional cost to parents.

If a student is selected to attend a full-day program at another in-district school due to the overage in seat allotment, the parent assumes the logistical and financial responsibility for transporting the child.

If there is a need for before/after care, additional costs will be incurred at the parent's expense. These services are not provided by the Roxbury Board of Education.

Lottery Procedures (If necessary)

If the total number of enrolled students seeking placement exceeds the number of seats available by the fourth Tuesday in March, a lottery may be conducted.

In order to create an equitable opportunity for all kindergarten students, the Roxbury Public Schools may conduct a lottery for each elementary school.

Registrants that have siblings already registered in their neighborhood school will be granted priority consideration as long as the kindergarten student has been registered by the fourth Tuesday of March.

Any students that are registered for the full-day kindergarten program after the date of the lottery will be assigned to an in-district school that has available seats at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.



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General Procedures

At the time of the lottery, students must meet the entrance and residence criteria established by School District policy. Students may only participate in the lottery for their assigned school. The lottery will be conducted on the fourth Tuesday in March for student placement in the following September.

Parents will be notified by the second Tuesday in April of their child's placement in the program. Upon notification parents, will have until the third Tuesday in April to secure the seat in full-day kindergarten. If notification is not received by that date, the seat will be made available to the first family on the waiting list.

The Roxbury Public Schools will conduct the lottery for each elementary school in such a way as to ensure transparency in the process. The lottery will be held in the evening and will be open to the public. Parents who have registered their child to take part in the lottery will be notified as to the date and time that the public lottery will be conducted.

The lottery will be conducted by the Superintendent or his/her designee, an elementary school principal or his/her designee, and a Board of Education member. Members of the lottery team shall not have a personal stake in the outcome and/or a conflict of interest.

Parents of students who have registered for their child to take part in the lottery will be provided a number that represents their child during the lottery process. For each elementary school, the lottery team members will select all registered students and enter them into a list from the first student selected through the last. Each school's full-day kindergarten lottery list will be displayed for those in attendance with an indication of which students will be receiving full-day kindergarten and which students will be on the waiting list.

Eligible siblings, unless otherwise specified by the parents, will be given the same numerical designation; thus, if this numerical designator is selected in the lottery process, then all sibling(s) will also be considered selected.

If the decision is made to retain a student in kindergarten, that student will automatically be assigned to their neighborhood school the following academic year and will not be subject to the lottery.

If a student is participating in the full-day kindergarten program, placement in the assigned school is for the full academic year.



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Communication of Lottery Results

Parents will be notified in writing by letter of their child's placement in the full-day program. Any student included in the lottery who did not place in the full-day program will be assigned a waiting list number. Students on the waiting list will be moved into the full-day program according to their waiting list number. The waiting list number will be assigned based on the order that the child's number was drawn after all the available full-day seats were filled. If seats become available in their assigned school through withdrawals, students who register after the lottery is held will be added to the waiting list in the order in which they enroll.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Question - If too many children want to attend full-day kindergarten at the neighborhood school in my attendance area, will there be a lottery for my school?

Answer - Yes. Unfortunately, in some schools, the demand may exceed the number of spaces available in the full-day kindergarten program. Parents will have until the fourth Tuesday in March to register for the program. If the number of applicants exceeds capacity, the district will conduct a lottery to determine those students who will be assigned to that neighborhood school.

Question - Will I be notified if my child does not get into the full-day kindergarten in my neighborhood school; will I be able to send my child to full-day kindergarten at another in-district location? What is the procedure?

Answer – The district has allocated a maximum of 240 seats for the full-day kindergarten program. Parents will be notified whether or not their child has been assigned into the full-day kindergarten program. If the student was not assigned in the neighborhood school, the parent may then request enrollment to an in-district school with space still available. In the event that there are more than 240 students enrolled, a waiting list will be created.

Question - Will I be required to pay for transportation?

Answer - Transportation costs for full-day kindergarten in your neighborhood school area follow the same guidelines as for elementary students in grades 1 - 4. If your child attends a full-day program outside of your neighborhood school, you will be responsible for your child's transportation to the other in-district school.



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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's – continued)

Question – What happens if I already have a child in a neighborhood school and the kindergarten class is full?

Answer – Priority will be given to those students that have a sibling in the neighborhood school, as long as they register by the fourth Tuesday in March.

Question – What happens for first grade if my child attends a school other than the neighborhood school for kindergarten?

Answer – The student will return to the neighborhood school for grade 1. The parent may petition to the Superintendent of Schools to have their child remain at the school at which they began. However, transportation will be the responsibility of the parent.

Important Dates:

Registration – By the fourth Tuesday of March @ 4:00PM.

Notification – By the second Tuesday in April.