



# Monarch River Academy

## Student | Programs

### TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN POLICY

The Monarch River Academy Governing Board, to ensure compliance with the California Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010, authored as Senate Bill (SB) 1381, supports the development and implementation of effective early primary education programs.

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) is the first year of a two-year program that provides a “modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate” (Education Code Section 48000).

The purpose of the Monarch River Academy Governing Board approving this Transitional Kindergarten Policy is to accomplish the following:

1. Outline the school’s TK programs.
  2. Specialty TK Staffing Requirements
  3. TK Student Age Eligibility
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1. **TK Programs:** For the 2022-2023 school year, the school will offer three different options for TK. Two options are for a full TK academy program and the third option is a traditional Kinder readiness program.

**a. TK Academy Program:**

Parents can choose one of the full TK Academy program options that includes \$2200 in Planning Amounts. Students will be assigned a specialty TK Teacher, and the student must complete the assigned curriculum with these two full program choices. To receive the extended day Planning Amounts, parents must commit that their student(s) will attend virtual classes or complete the assigned daily curriculum. More Planning Amounts are allocated for use on Virtual Academy classes or Community Partner (service vendor) classes for a full learning experience. Students in an Academy program have a TK specialty teacher as their Independent Study Teacher.

**i. TK Virtual Academy:** Parents can choose to do full TK through Virtual Academy (VA). In VA, students attend two days a week of virtual instruction in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics with a TK Teacher and complete lessons that are taught and assigned on the other days with the learning



coach/parent. Parents will meet with the student's Specialty TK Teacher once each Learning Period (LP). VA classes and Curriculum are \$250 each per semester; \$500 for both ELA and Mathematics each semester.

**ii. TK Academy:** If parents/students would like to complete their schooling without virtual classes, the school has written a complete TK curriculum which parents would do with their child independently. Parents will utilize Planning Amounts for specific resources to go with the assigned curriculum and will meet weekly with their child's Specialty TK Teacher to ensure lessons are being completed. TK Academy Specialty TK Teacher and Curriculum is \$250 each per semester; \$500 for both ELA and Mathematics each semester.

**b. General TK (Kinder Readiness):**

The General TK program is traditional TK focused on kindergarten readiness and includes \$1100 in Planning Amounts. TK students work towards kinder readiness goals and parents have choice in the learning opportunities their TK student engages in. Students follow an Educational plan and meet with their family's Teacher every LP. No Specialty TK teacher assigned and the student can be with their family's Teacher if they have siblings.

All TK students have the opportunity to join optional TK classes for an hour each day in ELA through our Enrichment Academy, whether they are in the TK Academy or General TK programs.

**2. Speciality Teachers for Transitional Kindergarten**

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) is part of the K-12 public school system and is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. TK is not considered a preschool program and must be taught by an educator who holds one of the following credentials:

- Multiple Subject Credentials (P, K-12, and adults):
  - Full Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential
  - University Intern
  - District Intern
  - General Education Limited Assignment Permit
  - Short-Term Staff Permit
  - Provisional Internship Permit
  - General Kindergarten-Primary (K-3)
  - General Elementary (K-8)



- Standard Early Childhood (P-3)
- Standard Elementary (K-9)
- Specialist Instruction Credential in Early Childhood Education (This is different than the Education Specialist Instruction Credential: Early Childhood Special Education)

Any teacher who is or was assigned to teach TK, or a combination of kindergarten and TK, on or before July 1, 2022, is “grandfathered in” to teach TK without having to meet the additional unit requirement for TK teachers set forth in Education Code section 48000(g).

- General Kindergarten-Primary (K-3)
- General Elementary (K-8)
- Standard Early Childhood (P-3)
- Standard Elementary (K-9)
- Specialist Instruction Credential in Early Childhood Education

Education Code section 48000(g) requires credentialed teachers who are first assigned to a TK classroom after July 1, 2015 to have one of the following by August 1, 2023:

- At least 24 units in early childhood education, or childhood development, or both
- Professional experience in a classroom setting with preschool-age children comparable to the 24 units of education described in bullet 1 (comparability determined by the local employing agency)
  - Professional experience working in an early childhood setting for more than two years which may include: Pre-school, day care, cooperative education groups, and volunteer assignments with children five and under in a group setting.
- Child Development Teacher Permit issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing

### **3. TK Student Age Eligibility**

Education Code §48000(c) states that a child is eligible for TK if a child will have his or her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday between September 2 and December 2 (inclusive) for the 2022-2023 school year.

Adopted: June 27, 2022