# Full Day Kindergarten Update

January 23, 2023
Board of School Directors
Regular Business Board Meeting

# Full-Day Kindergarten Update

- Community Conversation Sessions
  - 10/9, 10/19, 10/25
- Full-Day Kindergarten Committee Meetings
  - 10/25, 11/29, 12/15, 1/19
- Full-Day Survey Subcommittee Meeting
  - 11/17
- MCPC Enrollment Study Findings
  - 11/21
- Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Subcommittee School Tours
  - 12/9, 12/16

# Agenda

❑ Projected Staffing and Space Needs

❑ Facilities Tours Information

❑ Full-Day Kindergarten Survey Update

❑ Implications and Learnings

❑ Recommendation

❑ Revised Timeline


Full Day K Team!

# Updated Staffing/Classroom Projections

| School | Projected Enrollment | Current Staff | Additional Staff Projected for Oct/Nov Presentations | Additional Classrooms Based on Oct/Nov Presentation | Projection Based on Scenario A in MCPC Report | Projection Based on Scenario B in MCPC Report | Additional Classrooms Based on MCPC Report |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Belmont Hills | 78 | 2.5 FTE | 1.5 FTE | 1 | 52 (0.5 FTE) | 52 (0.5 FTE) | 0 |
| Cynwyd | 92 | 1.0 FTE | 4.0 FTE | 4 | 51 (2 FTE) | 51 (2 FTE) | 2 |
| Gladwyne | 96 | 1.5 FTE | 3.5 FTE | 3 | 106 (4.5 FTE) | 106 (4.5 FTE) | 4 |
| Merion | 89 | 2 FTE | 3 FTE | 3 | 86 (3 FTE) | 86 (3 FTE) | 3 |
| Penn Valley | 104 | 2.5 FTE | 3.5 FTE | 3 | 90 (2.5 FTE) | 90 (2.5 FTE) | 2 |
| Penn Wynne | 115 | 3.0 FTE | 3.0 FTE | 3 | 95 (2 FTE) | 95 (2 FTE) | 2 |
| Specialist Area Teachers | | 1.5 FTE | 4.0 FTE | | 2.5 FTE | 2.5 FTE | |
| TOTAL | 574 | 16.0 FTE | 22.5 FTE | 17 | 17 FTE | 17 FTE | 13 |

*Estimates based on an average class size of 20. As of 11/21/22 enrollment study presentation---New cost estimate is 1.7 million additional

# Facilities Tour Update from 12/9: General Notes

Penn Wynne, Merion, Cynwyd

- Space available at Cynwyd (2 open classrooms).
- No space availability at Merion or Penn Wynne.
- With spaces divided & redivided over the years, spaces are maximized
  - A blank space mentality could be used to reconfigure or reconstruct to gain/maximize space
- Not all classrooms are designed for K-aged students (sinks/bathrooms, furniture, etc)
  - With incremental changes over the year an overarching physical classroom template does not exist: Consider using FDK implementation as opportunity to reset a guiding template that can be adapted to changing cohort and section counts.
- Consider under-utilized space (ex., Tower space at Merion) and what's needed for full-time usage (construction/updates for allowable use)

# Facilities Tour Update from 12/16: General Notes

Program fits at BH, GL, & likely PV
- BH: (1) unused classroom in K hallway; Planned current class locations with eventual FDK in mind
- GL has space for (6) sections - all with bathrooms
- PV has an empty classroom - predicted for upper grade large section numbers next year, but…
- Penn Valley & BH - Investigate small group classes in full size spaces - could possibly be redistributed to create & maximize K spaces (PV had a much larger enrollment at one time and they made it work); PV library space could be reconstructed to house STEM

Bathrooms in classrooms: GL: Current 1st grade/ BH some K rooms / PV Right side classes
- Would need more information to determine degree of additional space that could be created to accommodate PW & ME needs (within or across buildings)

# Facilities Tour Summary

- Space exists at Gladwyne, Cynwyd, Belmont Hills
- Penn Valley could possibly redistribute some small instructional programs to garner additional classrooms
- Penn Wynne and Merion pose the largest challenges for classroom space
- The addition of a full-day program will lead to stress on building capacity
  - Partner school scenarios
  - Larger class sizes due to facilities constraints
  - Specials on a cart

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# Survey Information to Date
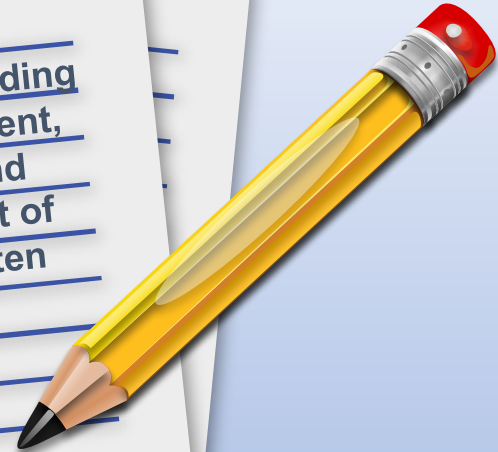
- Survey created by the full-day kindergarten subcommittee and vetted by full committee and Cabinet over several meetings
- Electronic Survey Closed on January 6th
- Distributed through multiple channels including social media, email distribution, Township and community stakeholders
- Dr. Kristina Paul has been hired as a consultant to analyze the results and provide an executive summary and presentation for the Board of School Directors

# Survey Information to Date

## SURVEY PARTICIPATION:

| Answer Choices | % of Responses | Responses |
|---|---|---|
| Have children younger than kindergarten | 16.64% | 712 |
| Have children currently enrolled in K-12 education | 50.98% | 2,181 |
| Have children currently enrolled in K-12 Education and children younger than kindergarten | 19.68% | 842 |
| Have no pre-k/K-12 school aged children | 4.02% | 172 |
| Have no pre-k/K-12 school anged children but have children that graduated from LMSD | 8.67% | 371 |
| TOTAL | | 4,278 |

## DO YOU SUPPORT IMPLEMENTING A FULL DAY K PROGRAM?

| | STRONGLY DISAGREE | DISAGREE | NEUTRAL | AGREE | STRONGLY AGREE | TOTAL | WEIGHTED AVERAGE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Responses | 6.03% 246 | 2.23% 91 | 4.51% 184 | 8.50% 347 | 78.73% 3,212 | 4080 | 4.52 |

# Implications of Data So Far

| Area | Information | Implication for planning |
|------|-------------|--------------------------|
| **Facilities** | Three buildings can house the program. Three buildings will need significant planning and coordination to house FDK | Will require:<br>● Time for facilities planning, construction, costs<br>● Cross-building programming<br>● Development of transportation pathways<br>● Development of procedures for student selection/placement |
| **Enrollment Study** | Will require:<br>• 13-17 classrooms<br>• 17-22.5 classroom teachers<br>• An unknown number of special education & support staff | ● Significant budget impact<br>● May not be feasible over one budget year |
| **Survey** | Large degree of FDK support overall | ● Make recommendation in January<br>● Move from recommending to planning |
| **Timeline** | March recommendation timeline is negatively impacting families | ● Move advisory goal to January |

# Learnings to Date

- Space concerns will not be quickly resolved
  - May need cross building programming for some schools without space
  - Reconfiguration/reconstruction needs time for planning, budgeting, and construction
- Budgetary impact is still being understood and may need a multi-year rollout
- District has committed to a variety of other priorities this year
- Administrative input tells us that a rushed implementation impacts quality of programming and design

# Recommendations

- Information gathered in collaboration with the full-day kindergarten committee shows that successful implementation will not be possible until fall 2024.
- **Recommendation: The Board to authorize the District's Administration to move forward with planning for 2024-25 implementation of universal Full-Day Kindergarten**.
- We also recommend that we investigate the feasibility of a soft roll out such as the expansion of K Plus or something similar in the 2023-2024 school year.

# Timeline Considerations

**January** -
- Electronic Survey closed 1/6/23
  - Survey indicates overall support of FDK
- Community pressure to advance timeline in support of family decision-making
- Public Presentation of status, Administrative recommendation for the start of Full Day Kindergarten
- Follow up presentation on full survey results anticipated in **February**

# Timeline Considerations - Moving Forward

**February - April**
- Review Survey Data
- Create a timeline for possible classroom locations, necessary facilities upgrades, and student assignment procedures

**May**
- Final estimation of ALL staffing

**Fall 2023**
- Programmatic discussions including site visits
- Budget Projections (including staffing, materials/resources, facilities upgrades)

# Questions/Wonderings