**Extended Day Kindergarten Option for U-46**

School District U-46 is excited to introduce an Extended Day Kindergarten (EDK) option for incoming kindergarten students for the 2013-2014 school year. This tuition-based program will be a choice for families, and located at satellite sites on the East and West side of the district during this pilot year.

Below are some **Frequently Asked Questions** to provide families with more information.

**What is the length of the Extended Day Kindergarten?**

Either 8:00 am – 2:00 pm or 8:30 am – 2:30 pm depending on the school hours of the school site

**Will Half-Day Kindergarten still be offered?**

Yes. A high quality half-day kindergarten program will continue to be offered where students receive best practice instruction in core curriculum, including reading, writing, math, science and social studies.

**Will Dual Language Kindergarten be available in Extended Day Kindergarten?**

Yes, depending on the interest.

**What is the class size for the Extended Day Kindergarten Program?**

20 students and one teacher

**Will there still be a Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) Intervention program?**

Yes. Students from Title 1 schools who are identified with lower literacy skills during the kindergarten screening may be invited to the FDK Intervention program at satellite sites.

**What is the length of the Half-Day Kindergarten program?**

8:00 am-10:30 am or 8:30 am–11:00 am for morning session; 11:30 am–2:00 pm or 12:00 pm–2:30 pm for afternoon session depending on the school’s hours

**What are the benefits of Extended Day Kindergarten?**

* More time for educational experiences in all areas of child development: motor, language, literacy, social and self-regulation
* Extended opportunities for interacting with other children, developing social and emotional skills
* Provides more time to address individual strengths and needs
* Allows for more exploration and continuity of day to day activities
* Increased opportunities to develop a child’s first language, and to learn and practice English
* Increased student achievement

**Will there be time for students to rest in Extended Day Kindergarten?**

Yes, though research shows that most students’ need for rest diminishes after the first few weeks of school.

**What is the cost of Extended Day Kindergarten?**

$96 non-refundable application fee that will be applied to the fall school fees (fee will need to be paid after notification of spot in EDK program is given to parent; end of March, 2013)

$100 for August. $300 per month for 9 months, September- May.

**What if interested parents cannot afford the fee?**

Students who qualify for Free Lunch will pay $70 per month, $25 for August.

Students who qualify for Reduced Lunch will pay $145 month, $50 for August.

Parents may still choose the Half-Day Kindergarten option at their home school.

**Where will the Extended Day Kindergarten classes be offered?**

2 classrooms on the west side of Elgin (site to-be- determined), 2 classrooms at Prairieview Elementary in Bartlett

**What if the demand for EDK exceeds the spots available?**

A lottery will be conducted from interested families that have submitted the EDK interest form by March 15, 2013. Families will be notified of their acceptance status by March 22, 2013.

**What about bus transportation?**

Bus transportation will only be provided if the EDK site is a student’s home school and the student lives over 1.5 miles from the school. This is consistent with the current practice.

**Will there be SAFE (before and after school care) at the EDK site?**

Yes. There will be an hourly rate for kindergarten students.

**What happens if I miss payment(s) of the Extended Day Kindergarten fee?**

Missed payments may result in students transferring to a Half-Day class at their home school.

**Who do I contact if I have questions?**

Raquel Robelo at 847-888-5000 ext. 6991 or raquelrobelo@u-46.org

**How do I apply?**

Parents fill out the Extended Day Kindergarten Interest Form. Forms are available on the district website, or from any elementary school office. Fax the completed interest form to Raquel Robelo at 847-608-2778 by March 15, 2013. You may also drop off the form in person or mail to:

School District U-46

Raquel Robelo, Early Learner Dept.

355 E. Chicago St.

Elgin IL 60120