



Pacifica School District

375 Reina Del Mar Avenue ★ Pacifica, California ★ 94044
(650) 738-6600 ★ (650) 557-9672 (fax)

Preparing Students for an Evolving World

www.pacificasd.org

MEMORANDUM

Integrated Services and Human Resources

Meeting of:

3/2/16

TO: Wendy S. Tukloff, Ed.D., Superintendent
For Board of Trustees

FROM: Ray Avila, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: 2016-2017 Kindergarten Lottery Review

Background

Kindergarten Lottery

Each February, the District holds a Kindergarten Lottery to place students when there are more requests for a particular school than the school has openings. As of February 12, 2016, the date of the 2016/17 Kindergarten Lottery, 329 kindergarten and 36 transitional kindergarten enrollment cards were received. This time last year, 328 kindergarten and 66 transitional kindergarten enrollment cards were received.

Two sites were involved in a lottery for first choices. Cabrillo School, with 60 kindergarten openings, had 95 first choice requests that included priority placements (siblings plus continuing kindergartners) and new families. Ocean Shore, with 48 kindergarten openings, had 69 first choice requests that included priority placements and new families. Ortega, Sunset Ridge and Vallemar had openings for all priority placements and new families who had requested that site before the lottery.

In order to protect student privacy, the District continued the use of ping-pong balls with numbers matching the numbers on student's enrollment cards. Following District procedure, after drawing for the available Cabrillo and Ocean Shore openings, the remaining numbered balls continued to be drawn to create the waitlists. The cards that corresponded to the numbered ping-pong balls were then sorted by second choice and students were placed at their second then third choice school where space was available.

The District has a current capacity for 336 kindergartners. 6 kindergarten spaces district-wide have been reserved for possible retentions.

Of the 329 kindergarten applicants, 273 students received their first choice school, of which 112 participated in the lottery. 35 students are on the waitlist for Cabrillo, 21 are on the waitlist for Ocean Shore.

The following chart shows the distribution of the 2016/17 kindergarten enrollments:

School	Capacity	Priority Placements (Siblings + Continuing Kdgs)	# openings available for new families (Capacity - Priority)	1st Choice Cards Submitted	Openings Available after placing 1 st choice	Openings Available after placing waitlisted students
Cabrillo	60	35	25	60	0 (waitlist of 35)	0 (waitlist of 35)
Ocean Shore	48	17	31	52	0 (waitlist of 21)	0 (waitlist of 21)
Ortega	84	37	47	31	16	0
Sunset Ridge	84	18	66	25	41	7
Valleamar	60	25	35	29	6	0

Transitional Kindergarten Lottery

Sunset Ridge School is staffed for two transitional kindergarten (TK) classes with a total of 48 openings. Ortega can house one TK class of 24 openings. Ortega had two students placed with priority, leaving 22 openings available and 20 enrollment requests. Sunset Ridge had five students placed with priority, leaving 43 openings available and 9 enrollment requests. All first choice requests were made prior to the lottery occurring.

The following chart shows the results of the 2016/17 Transitional Kindergarten Lottery:

School	Capacity	Priority Placements	# openings available for new families	1st Choice Cards Submitted	Openings available
Ortega	24	2	22	20	2
Sunset Ridge	48	5	43	9	34

Currently, transitional kindergarten is available only to those four-year-olds whose fifth birthday falls September 2nd through December 2nd. The implementation of the transitional kindergarten program has been a developmental process. District staff will continue to monitor and evaluate TK enrollment and be thoughtful of program location, facilities, and community need. TK enrollment guidelines will also be reviewed and revisions made as necessary.