



La Costa Meadows Elementary School

6889 El Fuerte St. Carlsbad CA 92009

(760) 290-2121 FAX (760) 290-2120

Adam D. Klimas, Principal

Dear Future Kindergarten Families,

We are excited to announce that La Costa Meadows Elementary will transition to an extended day kindergarten program for the 2019-2020 school year. The schedule for all kindergarten classrooms is listed below. All classrooms will begin instruction at 8:30 every day. They will have a 20-minute recess and 45-minute lunch. Dismissal will be at 1:55 each day (including Wednesday). Recess will remain on the kindergarten playground. To ensure safety on the smaller playground, we have created two separate schedules to ensure a maximum of three classes are on the playground at once.

Daily Schedule

8:15am - 8:30am- Kinder Arrival and Line-Up

Group 1

8:30am - 10:00am- Instruction (90 min)

10:00am - 10:20am- Recess (20 min)

10:20am - 11:45am- Instruction (85 min)

Group 2

8:30am - 10:20am- Instruction (110 min)

10:20am - 10:40am- Recess (20 min)

10:40am - 11:45am- Instruction (65 min)

11:45am - 12:30pm All Kinders will eat lunch with 1st grade, but will play on the kindergarten playground. (45 min)

12:30pm - 1:55pm Instruction (85 min)

1:55pm Dismissal

Rationale

We believe that moving from a half-day to extended day program will result in several educational, social, and behavioral benefits for all students. Below are several advantages of extended day kindergarten.

- More instructional time. Kindergarten academic expectations increased several years ago. Many standards require kindergarten students to achieve levels previously expected at the end of 1st grade. Kindergarten instructional minutes will now increase at LCM to assist these expectations.
- Breaks in the day will be longer resulting in more time for students to play and interact with their peers.
- More time for the teachers to get to know all students and address their needs.
- Easier transition to 1st-grade routines, procedures, and academic expectations.

Classroom Support

To support student achievement, we will provide instructional aide support during a core academic block each day. At La Costa Meadows, we also encourage parent participation in the educational environment and welcome regular volunteerism in all kindergarten classrooms.

Logistics

We realize this change will cause many of your pick up/drop off and child care plans to change. We have been in communication with the Director of Kids on Campus who will be modifying your schedules to accommodate the extended day such as removing AMK and PMK care. If you are signed up for afternoon care, it will start at 1:55 versus 3:25 and will result in an increase in cost due to the extra time.

Parent Information Session - June 5th at 4:30

You may still have questions and schedules to work out (coordination of pick up with 1st-5th graders who get out later, middle school releases time, etc.). We invite you to a kindergarten information session on Wednesday, June 5, at 4:30 pm. During this meeting, we will review the information from this email in more detail, answer questions, and hopefully, connect you all to work toward carpools and pick up scenarios that are unique to each family. Our Director of KOC will also be in attendance to answer your questions related to before and after school care. I foresee many opportunities for our students with our new extended day schedule and look forward to our partnership. I strongly believe in the ability of this community to come together and create systems that will benefit our children!

Enrollment

To help us properly staff and prepare classes, please confirm your child's participation by turning in your packets by the end of next week (if you haven't done so already). If you have completed your packet, but are not planning on attending La Costa Meadows, please let us know as soon as possible. Lastly, please help us "spread the word" of this change to the community. Historically, some families choose alternatives to La Costa Meadows for private, full-day kindergarten programs. Please let them know we are transitioning to an extended day program and to pick up a packet from the front office if they are interested in attending. Feel free to forward this announcement to anyone who has a kindergarten age student and lives in the La Costa Meadows boundary.

If you have any immediate questions, feel free to email me at adam.klimas@smusd.org.

Thank you and welcome to La Costa Meadows Elementary School!

Adam Klimas, Principal

Julie Stephens, Assistant Principal

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Dear Transitional Kindergarten Families,

Due to the transition of our kindergarten program from half-day to extended day, we are moving the TK program from PM 11:50-3:25 to AM 8:30-12:05 to be in line with the extended day program. At this point our KOC enrollment for TK students is very low. As a result, KOC will not be offering after school care for TK students at this time. We realize this may be an inconvenience for some families, but believe the opportunity for extended day kindergarten will be a great benefit for La Costa Meadows students and the community.

Thank you,

Adam Klimas, Principal

Julie Stephens, Assistant Principal