

San Leandro Unified School District is pleased to announce that the school district is offering a new program called “transitional kindergarten” in the 2012-2013 school year fall for children turning 5 years old between November 2 and December 2.

This kindergarten readiness program will be a bridge between preschool and kindergarten and will give children whose birthdays fall late in the year an opportunity to learn important academic and social skills in a hands-on way that supports their development.

“Transitional kindergarten is a wonderful new option that will allow families to give their children the gift of time to develop at their own pace and continue building the social, emotional and academic skills that will help them succeed in elementary school,” said Superintendent Cindy Cathey, adding that many of the skills children were once taught in first grade are now expected in kindergarten.

“In February we thought the program would not be funded, but just learned that we will be able to offer this program, after all,” said Cathey. “We are excited about this wonderful opportunity to offer ‘young fives’ a head start with the intent that it is the first year of a two year kindergarten program.”

Although the transitional kindergarten program is going to be offered at two sites (McKinley

## Younger Kindergarteners Can Enter a New Two-Year Program

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Elementary and Wilson Elementary) this upcoming school year, it is open to all eligible children in the district. Transitional kindergarten is free and part of public school education

The district is holding two informational meetings so families can learn more about the program and how to enroll on Wednesday, May 16, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at McKinley Elementary School, 2150 East 14th Street; and on Thursday, May 17 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Wilson Elementary School, 1300 Williams Street.

For more information, call Assistant Superintendent Debbie Wong at 667-3509 or email her at [dwong@www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us](mailto:dwong@www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us).