



Need Based All-Day Kindergarten

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Introduction

- ▶ Mother of three children ages 8, 7, 4
- ▶ Taught 9 years at A.H. Bush Elementary in Idaho Falls School District 91
- ▶ Idaho State University adjunct faculty member for three years teaching Social Studies Methods and Student Teaching Seminar.
- ▶ Currently teaching at the Idaho Home Learning Academy as the Student Success Team Lead for the past 5 years.

Research on All-Day Kindergarten

Pros

- ▶ Less anger, shyness and blaming in full day kinder according to large study

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED382410.pdf>

- ▶ More self-confidence, independence and cooperation in full day kinder

<https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED248036>

- ▶ **More confidence and social skills in full-day kinder** but also more behavior problems and negativity towards school, according to meta-analysis

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.3102/0034654309359185>

Cons

- ▶ Less self-control and worse interpersonal skills, more behavior problems with full-day kinder in large study

<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.205.8391&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

- ▶ Overall class behavior worse in full-day kinder, individual behavior unrelated, according to large study

<https://psycnet.apa.org/record/2004-20511-002>

- ▶ **Many children are not developmentally ready to read in kindergarten, yet the Common Core State Standards require them to do just that. This is leading to inappropriate classroom practices.**

https://deyproject.files.wordpress.com/2015/01/readinginkindergarten_online-1.pdf

Research on All-Day Kindergarten

Pros

- ▶ More improvements in literacy and math with full-day kinder, according to large study

<https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/498994>

- ▶ Learning gains are equal to a month of additional schooling with full-day kinder, according to large study

<https://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ759575>

- ▶ Literacy outcomes better in full-day kindergarten, but effects are greater in smaller classes

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0885200607000580>

Cons

- ▶ Higher achievement found in full-day kinder disappears by the end of first grade

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.3200/JOER.99.5.260-270>

- ▶ Benefits of full-day kinder mostly disappear by third grade in large study

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/247351974_Recent_Research_on_All-Day_Kindergarten

- ▶ Higher test scores in third grade after full-day kinder, no relation to scores in fourth in large study

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED488915.pdf>

Malad Elementary Fluid All-Day Kindergarten Structure

- ▶ All students attend one session of regular kindergarten
- ▶ 10 of approx. 60 students invited, based on need, to an extended day session and taught through play-based learning by a certified teacher. This makes student an all-day kindergarten student.
- ▶ Extended day starts 2 to 3 weeks after school year starts and teachers have time to get to know the students.
- ▶ 10 lowest students, without behavior problems, invited first. They've found students with behavior problems need to get used to the ½ day session before being added to extended day. Once a student reaches proficiency, they are moved out of extended day and another child takes their place.
- ▶ So far this year, 12 students have taken part in the program. So only two students were deemed on-grade level and moved out. Last year 15 students took part in the program.

Malad Elementary Kinder Istation Scores

READING

Students Proficient or Advanced

	Fall	Spring
2018-19	59%	88%
2019-20	53%	80%
2020-21	48%	86%
2021-22	48%	89%*

*February 2022 Scores

MATH

Students Proficient or Advanced

	Fall	Spring
2018-19	Test not taken	Test not taken
2019-20	58%	90%
2020-21	76%	98%
2021-22	65%	87%*

*February 2022 Scores

Things to consider

- ▶ Can the legislature fund a program that meets the needs of only the students who need the help?
- ▶ Can legislation be written that not only provides funding for all-day kindergarten, but also protects a ½ day option? A ½ day option that would be more than having students leave an all-day class at lunch.
- ▶ Rural school districts often have students who ride the bus for up to an hour each way. Is having a five year old put in a 9 ½ -10 hour school day justifiable?
- ▶ Yes, kids can adapt to an all-day school day, but at what cost?