Palos School District 118
8800 W. 119th St. | Palos Park, IL 60464 | 708-448-4800 | www.palos118.org

Kindergarten FAQ

Q.
Will District 118 be offering a full-day tuition option for the 2022-2023 school year?
A.
District 118 is planning and preparing to run our tuition-based full day kindergarten program during the 2022-2023 school year.

Q.
Will the school district still offer a free half-day program?
A.
Yes, the school district is required by law to offer a free half day program.

Q.
Will my child be at an academic disadvantage if I choose to enroll them in the half day program?
A.
Whether parents elect the full-day or half-day program, every kindergarten student will receive the core kindergarten curriculum aligned to the state's kindergarten learning standards. The learning standards mandate what every kindergarten student should know and be able to do by the end of the academic year, regardless of the program they attend.

Q.
What is the difference between the half-day and full-day program?
A.
Students in the full-day program will have additional time to delve deeper into core curriculum content and concepts as well as participate in enrichment activities.

Q.
Will busing still be provided to both half and full-day students.
A.
Yes, transportation will be provided to both half and full-day students.

Q.
If I decide to enroll my child in the half day program, can I pick morning or afternoon?
A.
Parents can share with us their preference for morning or afternoon kindergarten, but there is no guarantee we can accommodate their preference.

Q.

If my child is on a special education IEP or a 504 plan, will they be automatically enrolled in full-day kindergarten?
A.
No.

Q.
If I enroll in the full-day program, can my child participate in the school lunch program?
A.
Yes, full-day kindergarten students can participate in the school lunch program.

Q.
Why can't the school district provide a free full-day program like so many other school districts in the area?
A.
Each school district has its own unique set of financial circumstances. Many school districts have passed operating tax rate increases to fund full-day programs. Some school districts cut existing programs and staff to offset the cost of a full-day program.

Simply put, we do not generate enough in local property taxes to prioritize a free full-day kindergarten program over other options at this time.

Q.
How much is tuition for the full-day kindergarten program?
A.
We anticipate that tuition will remain the same as in previous years, $3,250.

Q.
Is a deposit required to guarantee enrollment in the full-day program and if so when is the deposit due?
A.
June 1, 2022

Q.
If I decide that I no longer want my child enrolled in the full-day program, is the deposit refundable?
A.
Yes, up until June 1, 2022.

Q.
When are tuition payments due?
A.
After the initial deposit of $500, that leaves $2,750. $275 is due at the first of the month for August 2022 through May 2023.

Q.
Can I pay the tuition with cash or check?
A.
No, you must pay with a credit/debit card through the online payment portal.

Q.

Can I withdraw my child from the half-day program and transition to the full-day program after the start of the school year?
A.
Most likely not, only if there is room in the full day classroom.

Q.
What happens if I fall behind on my tuition payments?
A.
Your student will not be allowed to continue in the full day program and will be switched to half day.

Q.
Do full-day kindergarten tuition payments qualify for my dependent care account or as a tax deduction?
A.
No.

Q.
What do I do if I have more questions pertaining to kindergarten?
A.
Parents can contact their home school or the District 118 central office with the nature of their questions and you will be directed to the appropriate person.