

SWAMPSCOTT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN SURVEY
SPRING 2006



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Currently, the Swampscott Public Schools has a two-thirds kindergarten program, where children attend school on weekdays for three hours and thirty minutes per day.

A proposal is being considered to change Swampscott's kindergarten program to a full day program, where children would attend a full six- hour school day. The program will be funded through the Swampscott Public Schools' budget.

Full day kindergarten allows children and teachers time to explore topics in depth. It also provides for greater continuity of day-to-day activities. In addition, full day kindergarten offers an environment that favors a child-centered, developmentally appropriate approach. This will result in a curriculum rich in both social and academic learning.

Kindly take a few minutes to answer the survey. Place your completed survey in the enclosed envelope and return it to your child's teacher by Monday, May 8th. Your input is extremely important. Thank you in advance for your participation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact (Brenda Cassidy 718-596-8835, Lois Longin 781-5968847, or Carolyn Murphy 781-596-8812).

Sincerely,

The Swampscott Kindergarten Task Force

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Please circle the letter of your answer.

1. Overall, how familiar would you say that you are with the kindergarten program?
 - a. Very familiar
 - b. Somewhat familiar
 - c. Not too familiar
 - d. Not at all familiar

The following are some arguments that have been made in support of extending the kindergarten program to a full day. For each, please indicate by circling the number whether you agree or disagree.

2. Kindergarten should be extended because it will improve the child's preparedness for first grade.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Not sure

3. Kindergarten should be extended because it will provide more time during the day for children to learn at a more relaxed pace.
 - a. Agree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Not sure

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3. Kindergarten should be extended because it will give teachers more time to cover the academic and social-emotional curricula.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Not sure

3. Kindergarten should be extended because it will be more supportive of parents who work during the day.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Not sure

4. Kindergarten should be extended because many children now spend less time in kindergarten than they do in pre-school/daycare.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Not sure

5. Do you favor or oppose changing the kindergarten program from a two thirds day to a full day program?

- a. Favor strongly
- b. Favor somewhat
- c. Oppose somewhat
- d. Oppose strongly

Comments: _____

