



Trout Core Knowledge Kindergarten Choices



Half-Day Kindergarten

Morning 8:25 - 11:15 OR Afternoon 12:15 - 3:05

This choice offers approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes of classroom instructional time, 15 minutes of recess (several times a week as daily schedule allows), and a 45 minute special (art, music, PE, media) four times per week.



All-Day Kindergarten

8:25 - 3:05

This choice offers approximately 4 hours of classroom instructional time, 50 minutes lunch/recess, 15 minute recesses (several times a week as daily schedule allows), a 45 minute special (four or five times a week, depending on how the contract-required planning time of 225 minutes per week for the full time teacher is covered.), and 15-30 minutes of daily “quiet time” (at teacher’s discretion).



The extra classroom instructional time will be used to complement the existing Core Knowledge Kindergarten Curriculum. It will not encroach on any first grade curriculum material, or add any other subjects not covered in the half-day kindergarten program.



Frequently Asked Questions

⇒ *What does the all-day program cost?*

Full-day programs are \$2,100 per year. The first payment is due at time of registration; the remainder is due in 9 monthly installments from August 1 – April 1. Payments are made directly to Poudre School District.



⇒ *How will enrollment placement decisions be made?*

The following information is based on a discussion on November 25, 2008, with Kevin Hahn, PSD Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools.



- Parents of students selected for enrollment according to PSD Policy JFBA will be offered a spot in Kindergarten at Traut.
- If they accept, they will be granted their preference for All Day Kindergarten (ADK) or Half Day Kindergarten (HDK) until space is no longer available in one of the options. If one of the options is full, then the parents must accept the other option (even if it is the for-pay ADK option) or decline enrollment, as we are a choice school. In accepting a non-preferred option, parents may ask to be put on a first-come, first-served waiting list for the option they would prefer.
- To hold a place on the ADK list, the first \$210 payment is required. This payment will be held until enrollment in full-day Kindergarten is confirmed. This is a common practice in PSD schools.
- If there are insufficient students to fill two ADK rooms there will be only one ADK room. Per SBMC decision, there can be no more than two ADK rooms. Parents who wish to have ADK who start filling a second ADK room will be informed that, in the end, they may have to take a HDK slot if there are not enough students to fill that second room.
- We will continue our already established practice to determine if a student is AM or PM in the HDK. Likewise, ADK teachers could create their separate class lists.

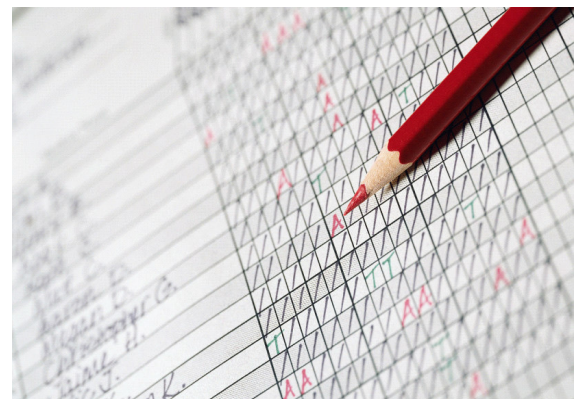
⇒ *If my child attends the half-day program, will he/she be less prepared academically for first grade than the all-day students?*

Traut's standards for the existing half-day program consistently and adequately prepare students for first grade, by covering the entire scope and sequence of the Core Knowledge Kindergarten Curriculum. Students will have more time to engage in the curriculum if they attend the full day program.



⇒ *In the all-day program, will the Kindergarten Core curriculum be taught in the mornings so I can have the flexibility of picking up my child at lunchtime when the need arises?*

No. Teaching of the Core Knowledge Curriculum happens in an integrated fashion and each part of the day is full of learning. For that reason, just as in the other grades, if your student must leave at any time of day for an appointment or family need, your child will need to complete the work when they return. The full-day kindergarten will follow all other school policies, including the absence policy.



⇒ *How do I know if my child is ready to be at school all day?*

School readiness is the ability to cope with the school environment, physically, socially, emotionally, as well as academically, without undue stress or strain. It allows for learning with enough energy left over for the child to develop into a well-rounded person.

There are many developmental areas which can be considered to determine if your child is ready for all-day kindergarten, such as:



- does my child still nap?
- has my child been exposed to lengthy structured times, away from parents, such as preschool or daycare?
- does my child experience separation anxiety?
- does my child tend to all of her/his restroom needs independently?
- does my child have a late summer/early fall birthday? (maturity)

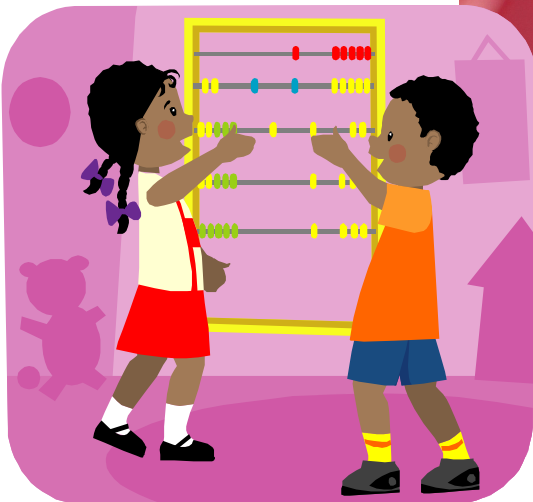


It is important to note that you are the best judge of which program will best meet your child's needs. Please use these questions as you consider your child's readiness for kindergarten.

⇒ *Is there more "playtime" in the full-day program?*



Every activity that is done in kindergarten can be tied back to an academic, social or emotional skill. Activities that may seem like play are purposefully structured to enrich your child's educational experience.



⇒ *Which program is best for your family?*



Neither the half-day nor the all-day option is better than the other; they are just differently structured to accommodate the needs of all students and their families. No single option is best for every child. Parents, as their child's first and most important teachers, know their child's needs and are the best suited to determine which option meets those needs._

Advantages of Full-Day Kindergarten

- Full school day
- More relaxed pace to curriculum delivery with increased opportunities to complement concepts at school
- Teachers are afforded more time to get to know each child
- May allow for more social and emotional development
- Fewer transitions for children needing before or after school care
- For English Language Learners, it provides more immersion time

Advantages of Half-Day Kindergarten

- Half school day
- More opportunities for enrichment at home
- Students receive a graduated entry into full school days
- No extra financial commitment
- Children have the opportunity for more quality time with parents