

**K-3 OVERRIDE**

# Importance of Full Day Kindergarten

- The standards that kindergarten children are expected to master are increasing, making it difficult to accomplish in a half day program
- The curriculum is much more complex than in past years
- Full day kindergarten gives us the time to teach the curriculum in a respectful way to the young child

# Importance of Full Day Kindergarten

- Instruction can be expertly constructed to positively meet student needs and developmental levels
- Research shows that children benefit from more time on task
- Educational opportunities are for all students not just those who can afford to pay

# Benefits for our Children

- Better preparation for first grade
- More opportunity for remediation
- More opportunity for extensions and enrichment of the curriculum
- More students become beginning readers because there is more time to work with those students throughout the day

# Benefits for our Children

- Students are more relaxed and patient
- Students demonstrate greater self-confidence
- Improvement of social skills
- Most students are stronger academically than the half-day students

# Benefits for our Children

- Students have consistency with one certified teacher all day
- Teachers know their students better and can best meet their needs throughout the day
- Teachers have more time to present the curriculum in a variety of ways
- Teachers have time to thoroughly teach concepts

# What Does the Research Say?

Research studies confirm that attendance in full-day kindergarten results in academic and social benefits for students, at least in the primary grades (Cryan et al., 1992; Karweit, 1992). Cryan compared similar half-day and full-day programs in a statewide longitudinal study.

## Findings:

- A positive relationship between participation in full day kindergarten and later school performance.

- Full day kindergarteners exhibited more independent learning, classroom involvement, productivity in work with peers, and reflectiveness than half-day kindergarteners.
- Full day students were more likely to approach the teacher and they expressed less withdrawal, anger, shyness and blaming behavior than half-day kindergarteners.
- Children in full day programs exhibited more positive behaviors than did pupils in half day or alternate-day programs.

# Recommended Uses

- Free full day Kindergarten with certified teachers
- Class size reduction for a kindergarten ratio to approximately 21-1 as a District wide average
- Addition of instructional assistants for Kindergarten and first grade

# Recommended Uses

- In the event that free full day Kindergarten is funded by the State of Arizona, the K-3 Override funding would be used to lower class size in grades 1, 2, and 3
- There is room for full day Kindergarten at all sites

# Arizona Statute §15-482

- Authorizes special programs to improve academics
- Limited to grades Kindergarten through third grade
- The statutes authorize an increase in the K-8 Revenue Control Limit (RCL) of up to 5%. This is paid from property tax
- Once the 5% RCL is reached, this will not allow the use of Plant Fund 500 for M&O expenses

- For SUSD this is approximately \$3,200,000 (based on no ADM loss from last year). This amount will be finalized based on the 100<sup>th</sup> day ADM.
- The \$3,200,000 would add four cents to the tax rate. This would cost a home owner \$16.39 per year or \$1.37 per month without growth in assessed value of property.

- The actual payment would be less than this year with a growth in assessed valuation of 9%. A reduction of eleven (11) cents is predicted for next year's tax rate with the passage of the 2004 bond issue. The additional four (4) cents for the K-3 Override would mean a decrease in the tax rate of seven (7) cents.