



OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Community Schools, Thriving Students*



# Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Curriculum Adoption

**May 11, 2022**

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Dr. Christie Herrera, Executive Director, Early Learning Department

# Ask of the Board

Adoption by the Board of Education of the curricular materials, Creative Curriculum by Teaching Strategies, for all Transitional Kindergarten (TK) programs in OUSD.

# Transitional Kindergarten Curriculum

## School Readiness Success

OUSD's Early Learning Department, including Transitional Kindergarten (TK), will ensure that our youngest students develop the academic and social skills they need to become **lifelong learners, critical thinkers and empowered community members** that begins with an early start.



**The Need for High-Quality  
Transitional Kindergarten Curriculum to  
Support Early Learning**

# OUSD's Early Learning Mission

The Oakland Unified School District Early Childhood education program, which includes Transitional Kindergarten (TK) strives to build a solid foundation of success for all children and their families. We believe early childhood education is a catalyst to high student achievement. We are committed to providing each child in our program access to a high-quality educational experience.

# Transitional Kindergarten Curriculum Considerations

- Culturally responsive & anti-racist content (identity & diversity)
- Family Engagement Focus
- Language/Literacy approaches
- Dual Language approaches
- CA Preschool Foundations Correlation
- CA Kindergarten Curriculum Framework Correlation
- TK Benchmarks Correlation
- Desired Results Correlation
- Play-based approaches
- Social-emotional approaches (trauma responsive lens)

# Transitional Curriculum Selection Process

# OUSD's options for TK Curriculum Adoption: 2022-2023 School Year

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## Creative Curriculum



## PreK On My Way



## Frog Street





## Curriculum Selection Committee Timeline & Process

Date	Topic
January 5th	<a href="#">Staff Showcase</a>
January 12th	Final Teacher Selection
January 19th, 3:30-5:30	<a href="#">Review Creative Curriculum</a>
January 26th, 3:30-5:30	<a href="#">Review PreK On My Way</a>
February 2nd, 3:30-5:30	<a href="#">Review Frog Street</a>
February 16th, 3:30-5:30	<a href="#">Final Questions Discussion</a> Creative Curriculum 3:30 - 4:00 PM PreK On My Way 4:10 - 4:40 PM Frog Street 4:50 - 5:20 PM
February 23rd, 3:30-5:30	<a href="#">Final Discussion</a>
March 1, 2022	<a href="#">Family Engagement</a>
March 16th, 3:30-4:30	<a href="#">Final Follow-up</a>
April 21, 2022	<a href="#">Final Family Follow-up</a>
April 27th	Recommendation to OUSD Board of Education

# TK Curriculum Adoption Committee

- 6 teachers, 2 Early Literacy Tutors, 4 Coaches, 1 Research Associate, and 4 Administrators
- The committee convened 6 times from January to March 2022 and attended three Curriculum Showcase informationals.

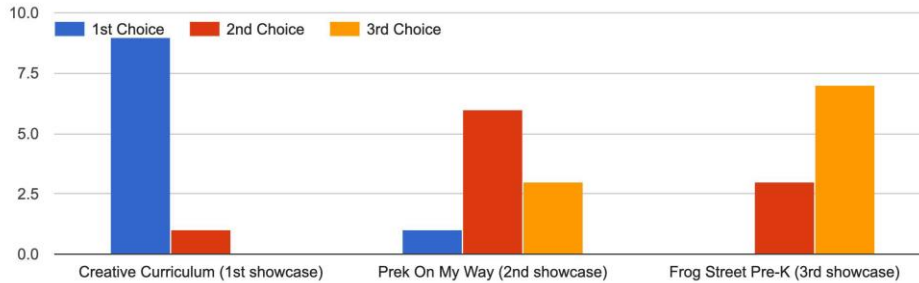
7 - Creative Curriculum

1 - PreK On My Way

0 - Frog Street

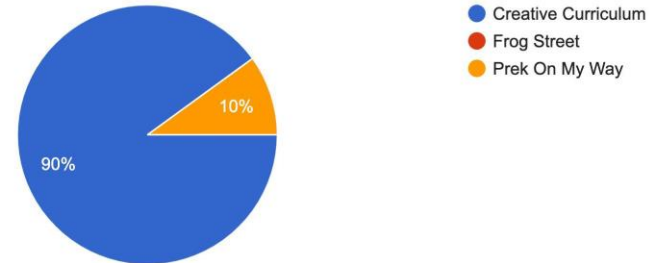
# Summary Data for March 2022

Please rank your preferences in order.



Please select your preferred curriculum.

10 responses



# Final Vote Distribution as of March 2022

## TK Curriculum Selection

 00:02:00 | 1 question | 11 of 11 (100%) participated

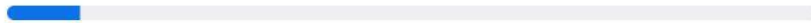
1. Which curriculum do you want? (Single Choice) \*

11/11 (100%) answered

Creative Curriculum (10/11) 91%



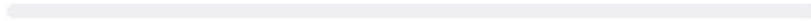
Pre-K On My Way (1/11) 9%



Frog Street (0/11) 0%



Not ready to make a choice (0/11) 0%



# Recommendation Responses for TK Curriculum



# Curriculum Adoption Committee Responses

- Child centered and developmentally appropriate
- The best at supporting the whole child and providing teachers with the necessary tools to meet the needs of our young learners.
- I chose CC because the assessment and learning continuum can be a big step up from how students are tested and monitored.
- Freedom helps instructors choose what to teach based on student needs.
- The curriculum creates the space to start working towards the classroom environments we truly want.
- It focuses on developing the child as a whole person.
- The students can follow what they are interested in and we can support them with CC.
- It is very supportive of an inclusive classroom.
- Instructional cards are well written with a wide spectrum of scaffolding.
- Play has it's own dedicated time that is different than small group time.
- The themes are appropriate and relatable for students.
- It is practical and exciting.
- CC is willing to partner, adapt, and grow with Oakland.
- Opportunity to work and align with Pre-K.
- Alignment with Pre-K allows for a continuum of care.
- CC has overarching themes that allow us to engage our learners in their interests.
- It is highly flexible and allows ease of use.
- Scripts can be adapted to incorporate teacher's diverse styles.

# Family Input



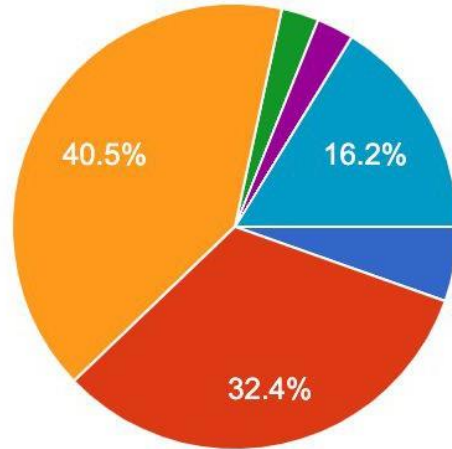
# What are important curriculum considerations for you as a family?

- Lessons around self-esteem and self-validation
- Social emotional development and learning
- Differentiated, inclusive instruction
- Fun and engaging learning
- Children feeling supported
- Learning to read and write
- Confidence building
- Learning basic school rules
- Improved behavior and building independence
- Learning patience and to respect others
- Develop literacy skills
- Play-based learning
- Foundational literacy skills
- Numeracy skills
- Develop/Establish a love of learning
- Learning systems and routines
- Language support
- Importance of being multilingual
- Being engaged
- School as a positive, enjoyable place
- Kindergarten readiness
- Developmentally appropriate
- Considerations of Covid learning loss
- Social skills
- Support for home instruction
- Exposure to diverse cultures and diversity
- Learning to play well with others
- Oral language
- Curiosity
- Science and gardening
- History and cultural awareness
- Promote creativity and learning through play
- Develop friendships and compassion towards others
- Learning to respect others

## What do you appreciate most about curriculum used at your child's school?



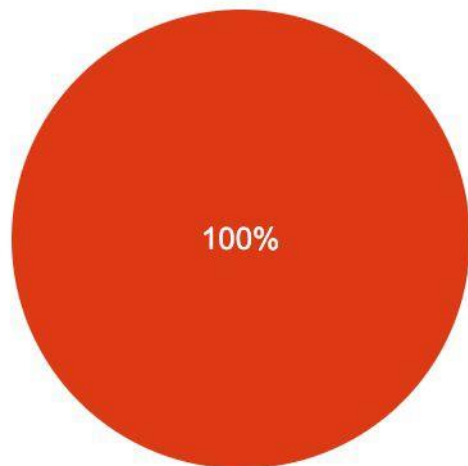
37 responses



- Family engagement connections (Example: home to school connections)
- Social Emotional Development (Examples: self-esteem, self-identity,...)
- Language and Literacy Skills (Example: Learning to read and write)
- Math (Examples: counting, creating patterns, sorting, comparing, addition,...)
- Culturally relevant curriculum (Exempl...)
- Play based learning (facilitated by edu...)

¿Qué es lo que más aprecia del plan de estudios utilizado en la escuela de su hijo?

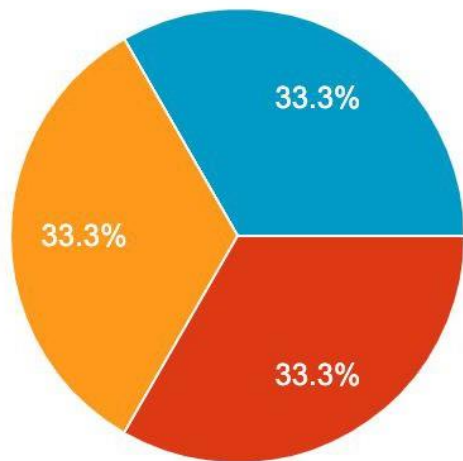
1 response



- Conexiones de participación familiar (Ejemplo: conexiones entre el hogar y...)
- Desarrollo social y emocional (Ejemplos: autoestima, identidad propia, confianz...)
- Habilidades lingüísticas y de alfabetización (ejemplo: aprender a le...)
- Matemáticas (Ejemplos: contar, crear patrones, ordenar, comparar, sumar, r...)
- Currículo culturalmente relevante (Eje...)
- Aprendizaje basado en el juego (facilit...)

## 您最欣赏您孩子学校使用的课程的哪些方面？

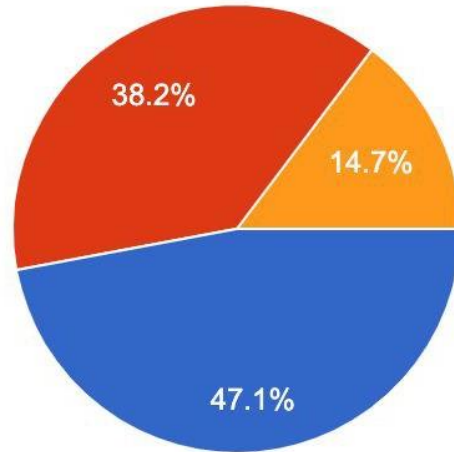
3 responses



- 家庭参与联系（例如：家庭到学校的联系）
- 社交和情感发展（例如：自尊、自我认同、自信）
- 语言和读写能力（例如：学习阅读和写作）
- 数学（例如：计数、创建模式、排序、比较、加法、减法）
- 文化相关课程（例如：肯定、与家庭和...）
- 基于游戏的学习（由教育工作者促进）

## Which curriculum option do you like the most?

34 responses



- Creative Curriculum
- Pre-K On My Way
- Frog Street



# California School District Input

# California School Districts Using Creative Curriculum

- Oakland Unified Pre-K
- Los Angeles Unified
- Fresno Unified
- Baldwin Park Unified
- Cajon Valley Unified
- Anaheim Unified
- Fremont Unified
- Inglewood Unified
- Long Beach Unified
- Sacramento City Unified
- Pasadena Unified
- Colton Joint Unified
- Davis Joint Unified
- El Segundo Unified
- La Virgenes Unified
- Downey Unified
- Elk Grove Unified
- Lawndale Unified
- Riverside Unified
- Madera Unified
- San Juan Unified

# Feedback from other Districts

- **Flexible**
- **Offers lots of tools**
- **Transformative**
- **Serves the student's needs**
- **Long units allow for connections and deeper investigations based on the students needs.**
- **The units are real, relevant, and accessible to students**
- **In conjunction with POLL strategies it is a perfect match**
- **Everything is built in and intentional**
- **The level of parent engagement is out of this world. The long units allow families to have time for them to bring in family contributions and it was truly a celebration at the end of the unit that families got involved and engaged with.**
- **Supports home language and families feel like they are partners in the learning**
- **Engages them in oral language and extends the learning at home with so many home connections that inspired them to try things on their own**
- **Makes discrete skills authentic**



# Coherent Instructional System



# Professional Learning for TK Curriculum Adoption

- **Foundational PDs:** *3 Days*
- **Monthly PDs**
- **Weekly Teacher Collaboration**
- **Leadership PD & Learning Walks**



# Final Recommendation

***TK Curriculum***

Creative Curriculum for TK by  
Teaching Strategies

Grade: TK

# Ask of the Board

- Approve the adoption of Creative Curriculum for TK by Teaching Strategies as the Transitional Kindergarten curriculum for OUSD.





# Quality Schools in Every Neighborhood!



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