

Educating all students, preparing & inspiring them to achieve their full potential

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Arlington (April 14, 2015) -** Full-time kindergarten for all students coming next year!

Washington state is planning on providing full-time kindergarten for all students across the state by the 2017-18 school year, but Arlington Public Schools recently made a decision to provide full-time kindergarten at each of our elementary schools beginning in the 2015-16 year at no cost to our parents. Over the past four years, the district has offered a tuition-based full-time kindergarten program for parents who wanted to participate. The tuition was used to cover the additional cost above what the state was funding in the part-time program.

The district is excited about what this means to our families and to the success of our students. Developing a love for learning at an early age improves academic success throughout a child's life. Not only does this provide an educational environment in one location for students, it is also more convenient for single parent families and those who have two working parents.

Director of Early Learning, Terri Bookey, stated "Full day kindergarten will provide all students the time they need to learn through a wider variety of experiences."

Families can still request a reduced schedule through the school office when they register their child should they desire this option; however, parents will be responsible for mid-day transportation. Parents can talk with the school principal if they have any questions or concerns.

We invite parents and guardians to go to the office of their neighborhood elementary school to complete a registration packet. To check on which school a student should attend, please contact the Transportation Department at 360-435-3307.

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