

# All Day Kindergarten

Maxine Johnson Elementary

Fall 2017

## Background Information

Several years ago Idaho adopted the Common Core Standards which outlined more rigorous academically based standards for kindergarten students. Our three hour day is not enough time to provide kindergarten students a fully enriched experience that includes play,

socialization, arts and crafts, imagination, and support for individual needs. As of 2013, 77% of students nationwide participate in full day kindergarten. Nearly every surrounding district provides full day kindergarten or will be implementing it within the next couple of years. Full

day kindergarten programs have already been implemented in Notus, Wilder, Fruitland, Nyssa, Marsing, Payette, West Ada (parents pay). Vallivue will implement in the fall of 2018.

## Benefits of Full Day Kindergarten

- ✓ Full Day Kindergarten boosts student achievement.
- ✓ Full Day Kindergarten improves students' social and emotional skills. Students have more time to focus on developmentally appropriate activities, reflect on activities, and transition between activities.
- ✓ Provides time to incorporate non-academic kindergarten skills. i.e. fine motor development using scissors, imaginative play, socialization.
- ✓ Teachers have more time to work with and get to know students which enhances their learning environment.
- ✓ Research shows 5 year olds are ready for a longer day and that they do better when they have time to learn and explore activities in depth.
- ✓ Surrounding Schools we have contacted/observed report positive outcomes and experiences for kindergarten students as a result of full day kindergarten.

## What a Full Day Will Include

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### Currently part of ½ day

- Small and whole group reading groups
- Math
- Writing
- Love, Attention, & Nurturing
- Specials (PE, Music, Library, Computers)

### Full day will also include new and enhanced

- ❖ Lunch
- ❖ Creative Play & Free Choice Time
- ❖ Rest and Storytime
- ❖ Interventions
- ❖ Art
- ❖ Language Development
- ❖ Social Studies & Science Activities
- ❖ Daily Recess

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