

GESD News

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Parents can register children for kindergarten At 14 GESD schools beginning Feb. 13

GLENDALE, Ariz. — The Glendale Elementary School District will begin to enroll students for free, full-day kindergarten at 14 of its school the week of Feb. 13-17. GESD schools that provide kindergarten will stay open until 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb 15.

Despite receiving no funding from the state of Arizona, this is the third consecutive year the GESD Governing Board unanimously voted to approve the continuation of free full-day kindergarten. The Board committed to continue the all-day program despite the loss of \$3,527,220 in state funding last year that formerly paid for the program.

“With the high academic standards we expect from our students — particularly the ability to read at grade level by the third grade — the more time students spend in the classroom, the more beneficial it is to their academic progress,” said Superintendent Joe Quintana. “All-day kindergarten is a long-term, academic investment in our children, and in our community.”

Registration for GESD full-day kindergarten runs from Feb 13 through Feb. 17 at 14 schools. Parents can register any child who will be five years of age before Sept. 1 at their local school. In order to register, parents will have to provide the following documents:

- **Verification of residence** — These include lease/rental contracts, escrow/mortgage documents or a utility bill listing the name and address of the parent/guardian.
- **Health records** — Parents must physically provide one of the following: an AZ Lifetime Immunization booklet; a signed and dated Arizona School Immunization Record (ASIR 109R); out-of-state records which have been signed and dated by the school office; doctor or hospital records; Arizona State Immunization Information System (ASIIS); Children’s Health Information Program (CHIP) software, following the requirements of ASIR 109R.
- **Birth certificate or other legal document** — This includes an original birth certificate, original baptismal record, refugee card, passport, Department of Economic Security (DES) or court papers assigning custody. Divorced, separated or other legal guardians are responsible for providing GESD with the necessary legal custody papers. Powers of Attorney need to be notarized and submitted to the school office every six months.

GESD schools offering free, all-day kindergarten are: Bicentennial South, Glenn F. Burton, Coyote Ridge, Desert Garden, Desert Spirit, Discovery, Glendale American, Horizon, Isaac Imes, William C. Jack, Melvin E. Sine, Landmark, Harold W. Smith and Sunset Vista (Bicentennial North, Challenger and Mensendick do not offer kindergarten because they serve students in grades four through eight).

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