



fresno county office of education

Jim A. Yovino
Superintendent

Dear Kindergarten Teacher:

Thank you for participating in the Fresno County Kindergarten Student Entrance Profile (KSEP) study. In the 2012-13 school year four Fresno County districts began using the KSEP, and today there is four years of data on the readiness factors of children entering kindergarten. In 2015, 38% of children in Fresno were ready to enter Kindergarten. This single metric captured county-wide allows us to:

- Understand where to direct more resources and track their impact.
- Participate in important county-wide initiatives with partners pursuing a collective impact for the most at-risk youth.
- Assist teachers in understanding which students are at-risk and should receive more careful observation and monitoring throughout the year.

The KSEP is a 13-item screening tool designed to assess a child's school readiness through observational ratings of 6 social-emotional and 7 school-ready knowledge items in the areas of:

- Cognitive/academic/language ability.
- Social-emotional development and behaviors.
- Persistence and ability to focus.

As the 2016-2017 KSEP observational period approaches, these are some important reminders:

- Observations should be conducted for at least three weeks.
- Credentialed classroom teachers (teacher of record) should conduct the observations and record the ratings.
- Transitional kindergarten students *should* be included in the assessment.
- Children can exhibit their ability in any language.
- Ratings should be recorded between weeks 4 and 5, with final ratings completed at the end of week 5.
- District-wide ratings should be reported to the district testing advisor on or before Week 6.

To begin classroom observations, download a blank rating form from the KSEP website at, www.fcoe.org/ksep and review the following steps for evaluating students:

- Read through the 13 KSEP items.
- Observe children over a three week period during normal classroom and schoolyard activities.
- Make notes periodically during your observations.
- Record final ratings that best describe the child.

Thanks to your individual work, we can strengthen and support systems that improve academic success and better prepare all Fresno County children for success in school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher, Administrator
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