



Principal's Guide to WaKIDS in 2021-22 School Year Assessment and P-5 Instruction

What is WaKIDS?

The Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) is a 3-part transition program designed to ensure a successful start to the K-12 experience and connect the school and family.

1. [Family connection](#) welcomes families into the Washington K-12 system at scheduled meetings held the first three days of school (kindergartners do not start school until the Monday after Labor Day) as partners in their child's education.
2. [Whole-child assessment](#) helps kindergarten teachers learn about the skills and strengths of the children in their classrooms so they can meet the needs of each child.
3. [Early learning collaboration](#) aligns practices of early learning professionals and kindergarten teachers through regular professional development opportunities called Preschool to Kindergarten Connections to support smooth transitions for children.

You can watch a [4 minute video about WaKIDS](#) supporting the transition to school and connecting families and teachers to learn the basics. Principals with a specific interest in WaKIDS can take the optional 3 hour self-paced training [WaKIDS for Administrators](#).

WaKIDS data is entered into a software system called [My Teaching Strategies](#) (though some may refer to it by its prior name Teaching Strategies Gold or TSG). The Preschool to Fifth Grade team (P-5) will support classroom administration, but Assessment & Research support the Teaching Strategies system. All student, teacher, and principal account changes in Teaching Strategies are completed by Assessment & Research—please disregard any instructions you may receive from OSPI about managing teacher and student accounts.

Assessment & Research will update teacher and student accounts every Monday, from August 31 through October 31 (the enrollment cutoff date). Teachers do not need to contact anyone to request student transfers. Updates are based on eSchool enrollment data. If a student is not updated to their new class/teacher in Teaching Strategies by the following Monday, there is something wrong with their eSchool record (see below for principal expectations around eSchool records).

Categorical Programs and Assessment & Research will work to provide timely updates as needed via the Principal Packet.

Principal Expectations

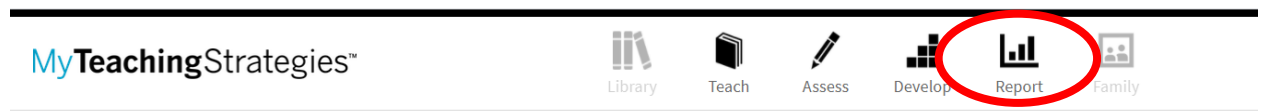
Kindergarten teachers are fully trained separately (online) and expectations for principals around WaKIDS are primarily facilitation and completion assurance.

1. Ensure kindergarteners are entered into eSchool as soon as possible. They must have:
 - a. An assigned teacher
 - b. An SSID number with proper SSID issuance completed in state systems
2. Notify [Anne Arnold](#) right away if there are any possible changes to Kindergarten staffing.
3. Ensure that teachers are making progress on WaKIDS and are successful at completing all data entry by November 12, 2021. (This is a special extension just for 2021-22 from the standard due date of October 31.)
4. Direct teachers with administration questions to [Greta Fleckenstein](#) or [Anne Arnold](#). Direct teachers with My Teaching Strategies questions to [Quiana Hennigan](#).

How to track teacher progress

Log into My Teaching Strategies at: <https://my.teachingstrategies.com/>

1. Click on Report.



2. Click on the “go” button on the Assessment Status report. The report will show you the percent completed for your teachers. This must show as 100% complete before November 12.

