

January 20, 2017

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: SURVEY ON PRE-KINDERGARTEN –GRADE 3 CERTIFICATION

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is conducting an anonymous survey to obtain stakeholder feedback about the potential addition of a Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 3 Educator Certification. This would be offered in addition to the existing Early Childhood-Grade 6 Core Subjects certification. Results from the survey will be used to inform agency recommendations to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC). The purpose of this letter is to ask for your participation in a brief, voluntary survey.

About the Survey

Because a strong foundation sets students on a path to academic success and helps prevent the need for remediation later in life, the state has recently made significant investments in high-quality prekindergarten programs. The goal of these initiatives is to ensure that our youngest students are capable of reading and doing mathematics at grade level by third grade. TEA is considering the addition of a Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 3 Educator Certification to help support that goal and is interested in your opinions about this additional certification.

How Will My District Be Involved?

We ask that you extend the invitation to participate by distributing the survey link provided below to the following members of your district:

- Superintendent
- School board members
- Elementary administrators/principals
- Human Resources representatives
- Teachers, particularly Pre-Kindergarten-Grade 3 teachers
- Any other stakeholders in early education at your district

The survey will be available until **February 24, 2017**. Please use the link below to access the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Prek3CertSurvey>

Why Am I Being Asked to Participate?

Your participation will enable TEA to gain a better understanding of stakeholder opinions on an additional Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 3 Educator Certification for SBEC to consider.

Thank you in advance for your assistance. For technical questions regarding accessing or responding to the survey, please contact Anna Talley at 512-463-0922 or Anna.Talley@tea.texas.gov. For questions regarding the purpose of the survey or the use of the survey results, please contact Marnie Glaser at 512-463-8886 or Marnie.Glaser@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Penny Schwinn
Deputy Commissioner of Academics
Texas Education Agency

Martin Winchester
Deputy Commissioner of Educator Support
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