

December 05, 2011

Comment [Editor1]: Please enter the date of submission here.

Dear Editor,

Comment [Editor2]: Please enter the name of the editor-in-chief of your target journal here.

Please find enclosed our manuscript titled “Effects of Full-Day Kindergarten Schooling on Personal Development” as a Review Article for publication in *Educational Research*.

A recent cross-temporal meta-analysis found that attending full-day kindergarten had a positive association with academic achievement compared to half-day kindergarten, equal to about one half standard deviation at the end of the kindergarten year. However, this association disappeared by second grade. Evidence regarding child independence was inconclusive, but was suggestive of a moderately positive association with attendance and academic performance, and a substantial positive association with the child’s self-confidence. However, children may not have a positive attitude toward school in full-day versus half-day kindergarten and may experience more behavior and adjustment issues. In general, the research on full-day kindergarten would benefit from future studies that analyze strong causal data and draw inferences and that aim to study outcomes related to activities of daily living. We suggest that full-day kindergarten should be an option available to all children, but should be exercised after analyzing all variables.

We believe these findings are of primary interest to a wide readership of *Educational Research*, including parents, teachers, pediatricians, and school administrations, because they present a comprehensive overview of the findings that is linked with the recent empirical literature, and addresses the theoretical framework underlying the above findings.

This manuscript has not been published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. All authors have read the manuscript and have approved this submission. The authors report no conflicts of interest. The manuscript has been carefully reviewed by an experienced editor whose first language is English and who specializes in editing papers written by scientists whose native language is not English.

We appreciate your review of this manuscript for publication in *Educational Research*.

Sincerely,

Comment [Editor3]: Please enter all details of the corresponding author here, including name, email address, telephone number, and fax number.