

## **Admissions and Attendance**

### **Rationale**

The concept of school readiness, based upon chronological age, may lead to several incorrect assumptions: one that says that all children manifest similar maturation rates, and that all children share common experiences that prepare them for formal classroom work.

Readiness is an individual matter that is reflected in student behavior based upon the child's desire to learn, learned skills, background of experience, and his physical well being. Therefore, chronological age limitations may restrict the academic progress of those children possessing the necessary mental, social, emotional, and physical readiness for formal classroom work.

### **Kindergarten Processes and Procedures**

Students whose fifth birthday falls before the established District entrance deadline may be enrolled in school district kindergarten programs. Parents/Guardians of children whose fifth birthday falls after the September 1 deadline, but before October 1 may request early kindergarten admission providing there is room due to enrollment numbers in the kindergarten classroom. Provision is herewith made for application for early admission by parents/guardians of children who are, in terms of their general development, truly superior. The following procedures will be undertaken:

1. The parents/guardians make regular application by June 1<sup>st</sup> for student admission to kindergarten and at that time confer with the building principal so the procedures and the policy for early admission to kindergarten may be explained. The principal will discuss the rationale for early admission to kindergarten with parents/guardians who request early admission and initial screening will be administered by the principal, or designee, of a school readiness survey instrument. If the child receives a score which indicates truly exceptional or superior ability, that child will be considered for early entrance testing. The child will be evaluated by qualified school district personnel with standardized tests and informal measures. This will include measures of academic, physical, emotional, and social development.
2. The evaluation results will be relayed to the building principal.
3. The principal will review the evaluation results and will conference with parents/guardians relative to early entrance recommendations.
4. In the event that the recommendation is for placement in the kindergarten program, the child will be assigned to a kindergarten class on a trial basis.
5. Within six weeks after initial early entrance placement in kindergarten, the principal will meet with the student's parents/guardians, and based upon the various test data, informal inventories and the teacher's observation, the principal will make a final determination regarding regular enrollment of those children having completed this trial period.
6. Parents/guardians may seek review of the decision of the building principal by contacting the assistant superintendent of schools at the Central Services Building, (360) 457-8575.

### **First Grade Processes and Procedures**

Students whose sixth birthday falls before the established district entrance deadline may be enrolled in district first grade programs.

Parents/guardians of children whose sixth birthday falls after the deadline date may request early first grade admission. Provision is herewith made for application for early admission by

parents/guardians of children who are, in terms of their general development, truly superior. The following procedures will be undertaken:

1. Parents/guardians requesting early entry to first grade for their child will be referred to the School Administration Building. There, they will be given a copy of the Policy and Procedures for Early Entry and a Request form for Screening for Early Entry to First grade.
2. A copy of the completed request form will be forwarded to the appropriate principal. The principal will set an appointment after mid-August. At that time, the rationale for early entry will be reviewed. The child will be evaluated by qualified school district personnel with standardized tests and informal measures. This will include measures of academic, physical, emotional, and social development.
3. The evaluation results will be relayed to the building principal.
4. The principal will review the evaluation results and will conference with parents relative to early entrance recommendations.
5. In the event that the recommendation is for placement in the first grade program, the child will be assigned to a first grade class on a trial basis.
6. Within six weeks after initial early entrance placement in first grade, the principal will meet with the student's parents/guardians, and based upon the various test data, informal inventories and the teacher's observation, the principal will make a final determination regarding regular enrollment of those children having completed this trial period.
7. Parents/Guardians may seek review of the decision of the building administrator by contacting the assistant superintendent of schools at the Central Services Building, (360) 457-8575.

#### **Admission of Students Aged Twenty-One or Older**

1. The student will petition the principal for admission.
2. The petition shall identify the student's name, age, address and grade level or program of study.
3. If approved, the petition shall specify the tuition fee to be paid, shall be signed by the student and the principal and shall constitute the written agreement required by law. It shall be retained as a public document and made available to the Superintendent of Public Instruction upon request.
4. The tuition fee shall be calculated in the same way the Superintendent of Public Instruction determines the cost of educating a student in the district, except that a handicapped student who turns twenty-one during the school year shall only pay that amount of money deemed as "excess cost."

**Date: 10/10/2005**

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