

## **Students**

### **Early Kindergarten Admission**

#### **I. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for allowing an early admission to the school district for a student who has not met the established age requirement.

#### **II. General Statement of Policy**

All children in Minnesota are required to begin attending school by the age of seven. Children are not required by statute to complete kindergarten before beginning first grade. The district recommends that children attend kindergarten before entering first grade.

#### **III. Procedure**

- A. Children who are five years of age on or before September 1 of the school year may enroll in kindergarten. The district will begin the registration process for kindergarten in November of the prior school year. The registration process will define school enrollment options and kindergarten programming options available to kindergarten families.
- B. Children who are five years of age on September 2 through October 31 of the calendar school year may enroll in kindergarten at their attendance area school only, if they meet the district's early admission to kindergarten assessment requirements outlined below. The elementary choice programs are not available to early admission children.
  - 1. The district will conduct a meeting for families considering early admission into kindergarten to explain the early admission requirements.
  - 2. Families seeking early admission into kindergarten must submit a letter of request for admission to the school district by May 15 of the year prior to admission.
  - 3. The district will meet with the families and review assessment requirements. The expenses related to these assessments are the responsibility of the families.

4. The assessment requirements must include an assessment of:

- a. cognitive functioning and readiness skills for academics
- b. social and emotional characteristics
- c. motor skills

The assessment shall be completed by a suggested list of psychologists.

- 5. A written summary of the assessment shall be submitted to the school district by May 15 of the year prior to admission.
- 6. The school district will have an early admission kindergarten team review the assessment. The team shall include a kindergarten teacher, a building principal, a school psychologist, and the special services director.
- 7. The team shall decide if the child is approved for early admission. The decision of the team is final and will be placed in writing for the family.
- 8. The family will register for kindergarten at the Welcome Center, 5701 Normandale Road, Edina, Minnesota.

Policy  
adopted: 5/19/08

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 273  
Edina, Minnesota