

Wabasha-Kellogg Public Schools Policy

503-1 STUDENT ENTRANCE/STUDENT AGE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to professional staff and parent's regarding a student's age as it pertains to entry into kindergarten or first grade.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The School District expects all students who enroll in the district to be at least five (5) years of age on September 1 of said year to start kindergarten, or at least six (6) years of age on September 1 of said year to start first grade or have successfully completed kindergarten.

The School District also expects children who are entering kindergarten or first grade for the first time to present a birth certificate or other legal proof of age. At other levels, official transfer papers from other districts may serve as proof of age, if age is given.

Prior to initial enrollment in the district every child shall submit to the principal or designee a statement regarding health standards as prescribed in Minn. Stat. § 123.70.

III. EARLY ADMISSION TO KINDERGARTEN

A. The purpose of early admittance is to enable children who could substantially profit from the experience, to be enrolled in kindergarten earlier than normally possible.

The parent of a child whose fifth birthday falls between September 1 and October 31 inclusive may request early admission of that child to kindergarten under the conditions described herein.

1. The parent initiates the request with the elementary principal. All requests shall be in by April 15 and parents will be notified of acceptance or rejection by June 15.
2. A child identified at the pre-school screening, may be referred to the administration who will contact the parents regarding their interest in pursuing steps 3 and 4.
3. The elementary principal will arrange a pretest interview involving the principal, the parent, the child and other School District staff with knowledge about the student and the potential for an early entrance into kindergarten. The primary purpose of the interview is to assemble data about the child such as birthdate, pre-school experience, and other

information which might be needed in order to arrive at an eventual decision.

4. When steps 1 or 2 and 3 have been met, arrangements shall then be made for an evaluation by qualified personnel. Evaluation shall determine the child's maturity, ability, and general readiness for kindergarten and may include but not be limited to the cognitive area, social-emotional behavior area, and sensory motor skills. Expenses incurred from testing to be paid by the parent(s) requesting early admission.
- B. Upon completion of the evaluations, a report including objective and subjective components shall be submitted to the elementary principal. The elementary principal, in turn, will study the data, interpret and report the findings to the parent, and relate his/her decision on acceptance or rejection of the child for early admittance.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120.06; 123.35, subd. 9
Minn. Stat. § 123.70

Cross References: