

Entrance Age

A parent enrolling a student in a District school shall bring proof of age in the form of a birth certificate, baptismal record, or other legal documentation.

Children who are four-years of age on or before September 1 of the year in which they propose to enter school shall be enrolled in the four-year-old kindergarten program.

Children who have become five years of age on or before September 1st in the year in which they propose to enter school shall be enrolled in five-year old kindergarten program.

The Wisconsin State Statutes require that a child who is enrolled in five-year-old kindergarten in a public or private school to attend school regularly during the entire full period and for hours that five-year-old kindergarten is in session during the school year, unless the child is exempted by orders of the Superintendent.

Exemption shall not be for the purposes of avoiding or circumventing the compulsory school attendance requirements as established by state statute.

1. If a parent desires to have his or her child attend five-year-old kindergarten not regularly as defined by the normal school hours and adopted school calendar on or before April 30th a parent/guardian with a child who is five years old on or before September 1 of the year they intent on enrolling may apply for irregular attendance for five-year-old kindergarten. The entire process will be completed on or before July 15th.
2. Prior to formal application, the building principal and a five -year old kindergarten teacher will interview the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) to determine the reasons for requesting irregular attendance.

3. Following the parent/guardian interview, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will request formal consideration for irregular attendance to five-year-old kindergarten by submitting a written letter to the superintendent, who in turn will forward a copy to the building principal and Pupil Services Director to initiate the evaluation process.
4. Two five-year-old kindergarten teachers in cooperation with a four-year-old kindergarten teacher shall evaluate the child for potential success as an irregular attendance student. The team recommendation will be forwarded to the parent(s)/guardian(s) and principal. If the parent(s)/guardian(s) would like to pursue an evaluation, the school psychologist will coordinate an evaluation.
5. The criteria for irregular attendance will be based the child's demonstrated intellectual, motor and perceptual skill performance and social and emotional skills.
6. Upon completion of the evaluation, the building principal will be provided with a report and schedule a meeting with the parents to discuss the team's recommendation with the parents regarding irregular attendance.
7. Decisions may be appealed to the Superintendent based upon all presenting evidence; the Superintendent shall make a recommendation within ten work days to the parent(s)/ guardian(s). If the parents so desire they can file an appeal to the Board to be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting regarding their petition for early admission. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be advised of the date of the meeting at which the decision on their request will be made. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will also be informed that they may request a closed session of the Board to discuss their request. The Board shall have final authority for deciding whether or not the child is to be granted irregular attendance for five-year old kindergarten.

West Salem School District
Policy 421

A child is eligible to enter first grade if he/she is six years old on or before September 1st in the year he/she proposed to enter first grade and has successfully completed a 5-year old kindergarten program in a private and or public school unless the student is a new student from a state, country or territory in which completion of 5-year-old kindergarten is not a prerequisite to entering first grade.

The District will admit students to five-year-old kindergarten at an age below the legal age in accordance with state law and established School Board policy.

LEGAL REF: Wisconsin Statutes 118.15(1-6)
118.14
120.12 (25)

CROSS REF.
420 - School Admissions
453.3 - Student Immunizations

APPROVED: April 26, 2004

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