

Early Admission to Five-Year-Old Kindergarten and First Grade

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1. On or before April 30th a parent/guardian with a child who is four (4), or five (5) years old on or before September 1 and who will turn five (5) or six (6) no later than October 31 of the year they intend on enrolling may apply for early admission to five-year-old kindergarten or first grade. The entire process will be completed on or before July 15th.
2. Prior to formal application, the building principal and other appropriate staff will interview the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) to determine the reasons for requesting early admission, the process and criteria for selection for early entrance.
3. Following the parent/guardian interview, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will request formal consideration for early admission to five-year-old kindergarten or first grade 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. The principal, School Psychologist, and appropriate staff shall evaluate the child for potential success as an "early entrance" student. The team recommendation will be forwarded to the parent(s)/guardian(s) and principal.
5. The criteria for early admission will be based on whether or not the child demonstrates: intellectual, motor and perceptual skill performance two standard deviations above the mean and social and emotional skills appropriate for entrance to five-year-old kindergarten or first grade.
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 early admission.
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

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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 early admission to five-year old kindergarten or first grade.

8. Once the student is enrolled, the placement may be reviewed after a trial period of a maximum of 30 school days. A final placement will be made by the team at that time.
9. Students who wish to enroll in the School District of West Salem under Open Enrollment and wish to be accepted under the early admission policy must first meet the early admission policy of their resident district before early admission to the School District of West Salem will be considered.

CROSS REFERENCE: 2009 Assembly Bill 119, Act 41

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