



Adopted: 4/21/14

Revised: _____

550R KINDERGARTEN EARLY ADMISSION

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a procedure for requests for early admission into kindergarten.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Minnesota Statute 120A.20 requires kindergarten students to be at least five years of age on or before September 1 unless a school board has established a policy for early entrance. This policy applies to parents/guardians who desire to enroll their child in kindergarten prior to the legal entrance age of five years on or before September 1.

The School District recognizes that children develop physically, emotionally and intellectually at their unique rates, resulting in varying levels of school readiness. An order determination for early entrance into kindergarten has been established by the Board of Education of Independent School District #883, Rockford Minnesota.

III. PROCEDURE

In order to gain early admission to kindergarten, a prospective student must satisfy the following requirements.

- A. All prospective students are required to participate in early childhood screening.
- B. Each child must meet the cut-off birth date of five years on or before September 30 of the year in which admission is requested.
- C. Parents must apply in writing to the elementary principal by May 1. Exceptions will only be made for parents who move into the district after May 1 and prior to August 15 of the year being considered.
- D. The parents/guardians will meet with the principal, school psychologist and a representative of the kindergarten teachers for a formal interview to determine the child's general school readiness. If the child attended a preschool program, a written evaluation from the child's preschool teacher should be included for review. The team will either terminate the process or move to the next step.
- E. A certified staff member will screen the child using the Boehm Concept Test and a kindergarten screening assessment used with students in September upon their entrance into kindergarten. The child will need to score 90% or higher on the Boehm test and know 90% of their letters and numbers. A staff member will also evaluate social skills (separation from parent, attention to task, ability to concentrate, etc.) while working with the child. The team will either terminate the process or move to the next step.



- F. A school psychologist will conduct an individual assessment using the *Wechsler Preschool & Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI 4)*. The psychological assessments will be done outside normal school hours, and parents are responsible for the psychologist's fees. The fees must be paid prior to the assessments and may be reduced for families who qualify for reduced lunches/educational benefits or at no charge for families qualifying for free lunches/education benefits. An intellectual assessment conducted by an outside agency will be considered by the team, but does not fulfill the criteria.
- G. The principal, kindergarten teacher, and school psychologist will meet with the parents/guardians to report the results and present options.
- H. The building principal will make a recommendation to the superintendent based on all of the above information/criteria.
- I. When a decision has been made by the superintendent, the parents will be notified in writing.

A person will not be considered for enrollment at the first grade level, unless the pupil is at least six years of age on September 1 or the calendar year in which the school year for which the pupil seeks admission or has completed kindergarten, except that any school board may establish a policy for admission of selected pupils at an earlier age under Minn. Stat. § 124D.02.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.20 (Admission to Public School)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.02 (School Board Powers; Enrollment)

Cross References: Policy 513 Student Promotion, Retention and Program Design



EARLY ADMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE Rockford Area Schools

Child's Name _____ Birthdate _____

Parents' Names _____ Phone number _____

Address _____

Note: You are cautioned not to regard the items listed in the questionnaire as anything more than an aid to a more complete understanding of your child by us. It is not meant to be a listing of all the desirable characteristics and achievements of high ability children of pre-school age. It is also important that you be completely honest in assessing your child. We would not want to place your child inappropriately.

A. Please state the approximate age of your child when he/she could first do the following things. If he/she does not yet do a certain item put "still learning" or other comments on the line.

Age/Comment

1. Talk in clearly understood words and phrases _____

2. Walk by him/herself _____

3. Walk downstairs one foot per stair _____

4. Dress him/herself completely, including tying shoe laces _____

5. Able to put on all winter clothes _____

6. Cut his/her own food _____

7. Able to play appropriately with children of a similar age _____

8. Take his/her turn willingly _____

9. Show interest in picture books _____

10. Print simple words _____

11. Read _____

Did he/she learn by him/herself _____

If not, who taught him/her? _____

12. Tell time (within a quarter hour) _____

13. Show interest in calendar _____

14. Learn days of the week in order _____

15. Able to stay on task when working in a group of children _____

B. Physically:

16. His/Her weight is: below average _____ average _____ above average _____.



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17. His/Her height is: below average _____ average _____ above average _____.

18. His/Her general physical condition is:
below average _____ average _____ above average _____.

C. Most of the time:

19. He/She plays with many children _____ few children _____ alone _____.

20. His/Her playmates are older _____ the same age _____ younger _____.

21. He/She is more of a leader _____ follower _____.

22. His/Her playmates are already in school _____.

D. What previous group experiences has your child had with students his/her own age? (Sunday school, pre-school, etc.)

E. How does your child handle frustration, anger, separation from parents, etc.? (Please explain)

F. Please write below reasons why you feel your child should start kindergarten early. You may want to include information on some of the following topics. Feel free to comment on any area not mentioned above.

Favorite play activities.

Interest in games and amusements in advance of his/her age.

Originality in play activity.

Competency in drawing, singing and other creative abilities.

Examples of unusual ability to give attention over an extended period of time.

Examples of keen observation and retention of facts.

Examples of vocabulary superior to the average child of same age.



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Examples of sense of humor.

Ability to follow directions without unnecessary delay or prompting.

Parent's/guardian's signature _____

Date _____