

Policies of the Board of Education

Series 400: Students

PROCEDURES FOR EARLY ADMISSION TO FIRST GRADE

421-Rule (2)

- A. Pursuant to state law and Board policy, the following procedures shall be adhered to in all requests for first grade admission without completing five-year old kindergarten:
1. Application shall be made by the parent, in writing by May 1, to the superintendent.
 2. Children who will turn 6 years of age after October 15 of the school year they wish to begin first grade shall not be considered for early admission.
 3. The school principal, director of student services, or designee shall hold a personal interview with the parents/guardians to determine reasons for requesting entrance prior to completing five-year old kindergarten.
 4. An evaluation of the child's potential to benefit from early admission to first grade shall be required. District non-EEN referral and permission forms shall be issued and signed to allow such evaluation.
 5. Evaluation shall consider the child's emotional and social maturity, academic, cognitive or intellectual functioning. Individual evaluation shall be conducted by the school psychologist in conjunction with other student services personnel as appointed by the director of student services.
 6. The evaluation shall be at no cost to the parents/guardians. It shall be completed by August 1st.
 7. After the evaluation is completed, a conference will be held with the parents/guardians to consider the appropriateness of first grade admission without completion of five-year old kindergarten. A written report of the evaluation with a recommendation shall be made available to the parents/guardians.
 8. All information regarding early entrance candidates shall be considered by the early entrance review committee which shall make specific recommendations to the superintendent and to the Board for consideration at the regular August Board meeting.

9. Children who completed a home-base kindergarten program will be evaluated to determine the appropriate placement consistent with Board Policy 420 School Admission and 420-Rule Transfer Student Admission Rule.
 10. The Board shall have final authority for deciding whether a child is admitted early to first grade without completion of five-year old kindergarten in accordance with the conditions and standards in B.
- B. Pursuant to state law, the following conditions and standards are prescribed for early admission to first grade without completion of five-year old kindergarten.
1. The child successfully completed a program for five year old children which the District deems equivalent to five-year old kindergarten during the preceding school year. Successful completion of a five-year old kindergarten program would be treated as a transfer to the District for first grade and not require Board approval; or
 2. The child does not meet conditions above but who, as a result of the evaluation prescribed in Section A (4) is considered capable of and whose educational welfare would be best served by placement in first grade.
 - i. The child's abilities and needs including social, emotional, academic, fine motor, and cognitive maturity are determined through the evaluation to be at or above the 98th percentile; or
 - ii. The child has been evaluated by a IEP team and would benefit from a first grade placement;
 3. The child moved into this state from a state, country, or territory in which completion of five-year old kindergarten is a prerequisite for entering first grade and the child was exempted from the requirement to complete five-year old kindergarten in that state, country, or territory.
 4. The child moved into this state from a state, country, or territory in which completion of five-year old kindergarten is not a prerequisite to entering first grade.
- C. Open Enrollment students are not eligible for early admittance to First Grade.

421-Rule (2) continued

Legal Ref.: 118.14 Wis. Statutes
120.12(25)

Cross Ref.: 421, Entrance Age
421-Rule (1) Procedures for Early Admission to Kindergarten
420, School Admission
420-Rule, Transfer Student Admission Procedures

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Waunakee Community School District