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TO: Stanwood Camano School District Board of Directors

FROM: Robert Hascall, Executive Director of Special Services

SUBJECT: First Reading - New Policy 2230 Transition Kindergarten Program

DATE: August 20, 2024

TYPE: Board Discussion

This is the first reading of the new Policy 2230 Transition Kindergarten Program. This policy establishes board policy for programming currently in place, which reflects Washington State School Director's Association model policy.

A second reading will occur at the September 3, 2024, board meeting. If you have any questions regarding the policy, please contact me.

Every student is empowered to learn in an inclusive setting
and is prepared for the future of their choice.

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TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

If the Stanwood-Camano school district operates a transitional kindergarten program, it will ensure that the program serves eligible students of all abilities who need additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten and who lack access to other early learning group settings.

The district will consider the best practices pertaining to a transitional kindergarten program as developed in collaboration between the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. The district may blend or co-locate a transition to kindergarten program with other early learning programs.

Eligibility, Recruitment, and Enrollment

The term "screening process and tools" means using one or more instruments or methods of assessing and measuring the ability and need of an individual student.

Children will be eligible to participate in the district's transitional kindergarten program as follows:

1. Based on a screening process and tool as defined above, the district has determined that the child would benefit from additional preparation for kindergarten; and
2. The child's age is at least 4 years old by September 1 of the school year in which they enroll in a transition to kindergarten program.
 - a. The district has discretion to establish individualized exceptions for a student who turned 5 years old between June 1 and September 1 of the year they would be eligible by age to enter kindergarten under WAC 392-335-010 but who demonstrates need for additional preparation for kindergarten through a screening process and tool.

In determining eligibility and admitting students to a transitional kindergarten program, the district will:

1. Give priority to children most in need of additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten, as demonstrated through a screening process and tool.
2. Give priority to children with the lowest family income, not otherwise participating in another local program.
3. Not exclude or establish a policy to prohibit participation of an eligible child due only to the presence of a disability.
4. Not charge tuition or other fees from state-funded eligible students for enrollment in a transitional kindergarten program.

Cross References:

3110 - Qualification of Attendance and Placement

Legal References:

Chapter 28A.300 RCW

WAC 392-425-010

Adoption Date: 09.03.24
Stanwood-Camano School District
Revised Dates: :