

Guidelines for Early Admission

The South Shore School District will permit early admissions to kindergarten and first grade in exceptional cases in accordance with the following procedures:

1. An application shall be made by the parent(s)/guardian to the district administrator.
2. A personal interview shall be held to determine the parent(s)/guardian's reason for requesting entrance prior to the legal age.
3. An evaluation of the child's potential to benefit from early admission to school shall be required. The evaluation shall consider emotional stability, social and mental maturity and physical health. The individual evaluation shall be conducted by a certified school psychologist in conjunction with other student service workers. The evaluation shall be at no cost to the parent(s)/guardian.

The South Shore School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, age, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, or other basis prohibited under state or federal law.

4. Upon completion of the evaluation in step (3), a conference shall be held with the parent(s)/guardian to consider appropriateness for early entrance into school.
5. The Board shall have the final authority for deciding whether or not the child is to be admitted to kindergarten or first grade in accordance with the following conditions and standards:

Kindergarten

- a. The child is superior in the full range of abilities and needs including social, emotional, physical and mental maturity.
- b. The child has been evaluated by an individualized education program team (IEP team) and determined not to have a disability but would benefit from an early intervention program; or
- c. The child successfully completed a four year old public school kindergarten program during the previous school year.

First Grade

- a. The child was admitted to and successfully completed kindergarten;
- b. The child successfully completed a program for five year old children which the school district deems equivalent to kindergarten; or
- c. The child does not meet the conditions above but as a result of the individual evaluation conducted by the school district, the child is considered to be capable of performing appropriately in first grade and the child's educational welfare would appear to be best served by placement in first grade.

APPROVED: September 10, 1979

REVISED: July 13, 1989
 March 16, 2011
 July 20, 2016