

**Admission, Physical Examination, Immunization, and Visual Evaluation**Admission RequirementsMinimum Age:

A child shall be eligible for admission into kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if the child is five years of age or will be five years of age on or before July 31 of the calendar year in which the school year for which the child is seeking admission begins.

The Board of Education may admit a child who will reach the age of five years on or after August 1 and on or before October 15 of such school year if the parent or guardian requests such entrance and provides an affidavit stating that (i) the child attended kindergarten in another jurisdiction in the current school year; (ii) the family anticipates a relocation to another jurisdiction that would allow admission within the current year; or (iii) the child has demonstrated through a recognized assessment procedure approved by the School Board that the child is capable of carrying the work of kindergarten.

Early Enrollment Assessment

Early kindergarten enrollment exceptions may be made for younger children who are intellectually advanced. At a minimum, eligibility for the exception shall be based upon an analysis of the child's (1) mental ability, (2) emotional/social development, (3) pre academic skills, and (4) fine motor skills.

The kindergarten early entrance assessment procedures are designed to identify and place those children in kindergarten who:

- a. will turn 5 years of age between August 1 and October 15;
- b. are deemed by parents or guardians as being intellectually advanced and likely to benefit from advanced grade placement; and
- c. are selected on the basis of testing by professionals trained and certified to administer the assessments that will produce evidence of strength in:
  1. mental ability defined as scoring 84<sup>th</sup> percentile or above on a standardized assessment of cognitive ability, such as the Wechsler Pre Primary Scale of Intelligence III, or the Stanford-Binet V;
  2. a test of emotional/social development such as the Behavior Assessment System for Children, Second Edition (BASC-2);
  3. 75th percentile or greater on a test of pre academic skills such as the Woodcock Johnson III, and
  4. a test of fine motor ability, scoring 75th percentile or above on a standardized measurement such as the Beery VMI.

The decision regarding early entrance to kindergarten requires careful consideration of all factors that affect kindergarten success with final determination to be made based on the recommendation of the District Evaluation Team. The academic, social, and emotional readiness, as well as the student's

physical development and well-being, must be weighed with institutional factors also considered. Sound decision making in the area of early entrance to kindergarten is dependent upon reliable information regarding a student's readiness and a thoughtful balancing of the myriad of factors implicated by the decision. Parents will be notified in writing of the results of the Early Kindergarten Entrance assessment and the determination of the District Evaluation Team in a timely fashion; notification should occur within three weeks after the assessments are completed.

Families who seek early admission of their child into kindergarten must obtain an *Early Entrance to Kindergarten Application* from the School District Administrative office located at 14511 Heywood Street in Waverly. The application will require appropriate forms to be completed, which may include the assessment request, a reference letter and parent/guardian questionnaire.

To allow the assessment to be completed in a timely manner during the summer prior to the fall enrollment, the appropriate forms must be completed and returned to the District Office no later than May 25th of the spring before fall enrollment. Fees for the assessment are the responsibility of the child's family payable to the School District. If fee payment causes a hardship, assistance may be requested at the School District Office.

Decisions regarding early kindergarten entrance must include consideration of the above criteria regardless of race, color, gender, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, age, disability, or sexual orientation of children and/or their families. Institutional factors, such as capacity, may also be considered.

#### Graduates:

A student who has received a high school diploma or received a General Equivalency Diploma shall not be eligible for admission or continued enrollment.

#### Age 21:

A student shall not be admitted or continued in enrollment after the end of the school year in which the student reaches the age of 21. The school year for this purpose ends at the last day of instruction for graduating seniors.

#### Birth Certificate, Physical, and Immunization:

The parents or legal guardian shall furnish:

- (1) A certified copy of the student's birth certificate issued by the state in which the child was born, prior to admission of a child for the first time. Other reliable proof of the child's identity and age, accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate, may be used in lieu of a birth certificate. An affidavit is defined as a notarized statement by an individual who can verify the reason a copy of the birth certificate cannot be produced.

- (2) Evidence of a physical examination by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, within six months prior to the entrance of the child into the beginner grade and the seventh grade or, in the case of a transfer from out of state, to any other grade, unless the parent or guardian submits a written statement refusing a physical examination.
- (3) Evidence of protection against measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus, and other diseases as required by applicable law, by immunization, prior to enrollment, unless the parent or legal guardian submits a written statement refusing immunization or meets other exceptions established by law.

Visual Evaluation:

Students enrolling in kindergarten (or the beginning grade) or students transferring to any grade in the district from out of state shall also have a visual examination, including tests for amblyopia, strabismus, and internal and external eye health, and visual acuity. The visual examination must be completed within six months prior to entrance and proof of such evaluation shall be provided to the school district.

A certificate of health, or other form, stating the results of the visual evaluation and signed by a physician assistant, or advance practice registered nurse shall be on file at the attendance center.

The student's parent or guardian shall be notified in writing of their right to submit a written statement refusing such visual examination for the student and shall be provided with a telephone number or other contact information to assist the parent or guardian in receiving information regarding free or reduced-cost visual evaluations for low-income families who qualify.

Each school year the district will provide for inspections of all students for defective sight and hearing, dental defects and any other conditions as specified by the Department of Health and Human Services, according to a schedule prescribed by the Department. Parents will be promptly notified of any condition requiring professional attention.

A child shall not be required to submit to an inspection required by this policy if his or her parent or guardian provides school authorities with a statement signed by a physician, a physician assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse practicing under and in accordance with his or her respective credentialing act or other qualified provider as identified by the Department's applicable rules and regulations, stating that such child has undergone such required inspection within the past six months. A child shall submit to any required inspection for which such a statement is not received.

Any student enrolling during the school year after these inspections will have such an inspection made immediately upon entrance. Any student showing symptoms of any contagious or infectious disease shall be sent home by the principal as soon as practicable.

Policy Adopted: 11/07/11

SCHOOL DISTRICT 145  
WAVERLY, NEBRASKA