

# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE BOARD POLICY

## STUDENTS

### SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

#### ADMISSION/EARLY ADMISSION

#### **4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN, 5-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN, FIRST GRADE, AND OVER 20 YEARS OF AGE 421.1**

Except as provided in Statute 115.28(8), no child may be admitted to a 4-year-old kindergarten unless he/she is 4 years old on or before September 1, in the year that he or she proposes to enter school.

Except as provided in Statute 115.28(8), no child may be admitted to a 5-year-old kindergarten unless he/she is 5 years old on or before September 1, in the year that he or she proposes to enter school.

Except as provided in Statute 115.28(8), no child may be admitted to the first grade unless he/she is 6 years old on or before October 1, in the year that he or she proposes to enter school and meets the exceptions established within this policy as required by ACT 41.

A resident over 20 years of age may be admitted to school when in the judgment of the School Board, the resident will not interfere with pupils of school age.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction has established guidelines for early admission. By law, each school district establishes policies governing early admission and possible entry into first grade without prior kindergarten attendance. If early admission or placement is permitted, an evaluation must be conducted to determine that the child demonstrates the social, emotional, physical, and mental maturity normally expected for successful participation in the 4-year-old kindergarten, 5-year-old kindergarten program, or admittance into first grade.

#### **Early Admission Policy to Four-Year Old Kindergarten:**

No child will be admitted in four-year old kindergarten unless the child is four on or before September 1st in the year he/she proposes to enter school.

#### **Early Admission Policy to 5-Year-Old-Kindergarten and First Grade:**

1. A written request stating reasons for early admission must be completed by the parent or legal guardian and submitted to the elementary principal on or before April 1st of the preceding school year. A parent interview will be set up with the classroom teacher, the principal, and the school psychologist.
2. The child must turn 5 years of age by October 1, of the school year for consideration for 5-year-old kindergarten. The child must turn 6 years of age by October 1 of the school year for consideration for first grade.
3. The child must demonstrate the social, emotional, physical, and mental maturity normally expected for successful participation in the respective kindergarten program. An individual evaluation of the child's potential will be conducted by the school psychologist.
4. The Early Admission Team, which consists of the elementary principal, the classroom teacher, and the school psychologist, shall reconvene and discuss the results of the evaluation.

5. A written recommendation will be drafted for the school board and for the parents or guardians, based on the evaluation and discussion. Parents/Guardians may request a meeting with the Early Admission Team to discuss the recommendation.
6. The school board has the final authority for deciding whether or not the child is to be admitted to school.
7. The Early Admission Team will communicate in writing the final decision to parents/guardians.

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Updates: February 12, 2018*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading/Approval: March 12, 2018*