DISTRICT MISSION

It is the mission of the Ephrata Area School District to provide all students a secure learning environment and exemplary academic programs that inspire all students to reach their full potential.

Early Entrance to Kindergarten

ACHIEVING SUCCESS ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.
DISTRICT POLICY

School Board Policy #201: Kindergarten Enrollment

The Board establishes that a child is eligible for admission to kindergarten if the child has attained the age of five (5) years on or before September 1.

The Board may admit to kindergarten a child with a chronological age less than five (5) years before the first day of the school term.

Parents/guardians requesting early age admission must make their request in writing to the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education.

The child must be tested by a certified child psychologist, at the expense of the parent/guardian. Based on the report of the child psychologist and the recommendation of the District school psychologist, the Superintendent will make the final determination on all requests for early admission.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Academic Readiness: The child should be a year or more ahead of children the same age in academic achievement and should have an IQ score of 130 or above.

Social Skills: The child should be able to successfully integrate with older students.

Emotional Competence: The child should have emotional maturity to function well in the classroom environment.

Physical Maturity: The physical maturity of the student should not impede social or emotional relationships with peers.

A decision to pursue early entrance to Kindergarten should weigh all four factors and consider the long term K-12 impact.

REQUEST EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN

Please visit the District website at www.easdpa.org and click on the Early Entrance to Kindergarten link or access the webpage via the QR code above.

• Mail a letter of interest to the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education no later than April 1 (prior to the desired school year of enrollment) at the address listed on the brochure cover.

• Contact a child psychologist for IQ and achievement testing based on District guidelines provided.
  • Submit this report and supporting documentation to the Assistant Superintendent by June 1.

You will be notified in writing if District officials determine your child meets the guidelines for early entrance to Kindergarten

QUESTIONS?
Call the District Office at 717-721-1400
Guidelines: Consideration for Early Entrance to Kindergarten

1. **Academic Readiness**
   Contact a child psychologist for IQ and achievement testing. Testing must comply with the following:

   - Full Scale Intelligence Quotient (IQ) on an individually administered cognitive intelligence test. *The Reynolds Intellectual Assessment Scales (RIAS) will not be accepted.*
     - General Ability Index
     - Verbal Composite Index
     - Perceptual Reasoning Index
     - Working Memory Index
     - Processing Speed Index

   - Individual Achievement Tests in academic areas
     - Reading
     - Mathematics
     - Written Language

   - Visual Motor Skills assessed by an individually administered visual motor assessment.

   - Report should contain scaled scores for all subtests administered in addition to standard scores for all tests.

   - All assessments given must use the most recently published version of that assessment.

2. **Social/Emotional/Physical Readiness**
   Testing by a child psychologist will give us information to determine your child’s academic readiness. However, it is important to also consider your child’s social, emotional, and physical readiness.

   Please provide documentation prepared by someone that knows your child well (preschool teacher, childcare provider, etc.) that outlines your child’s readiness in the following areas:

   - Relationships with peers and older students
   - Ability to follow procedures and directives
   - Emotional regulation
   - Ability to attend to a task over a period of time
   - How your child’s skills compare to students of the same age
   - Any other specifics that will give us information about his/her social, emotional, and physical maturity

3. **General Guidelines**
   - Testing must occur after January 1st of the year that enrollment is desired.
   - This testing is done at the expense of the parent/guardian.
   - Parents must complete the District Information Release form which allows District officials to communicate with the psychologist that completed the testing.
   - Parents must provide credentials of psychologist doing the testing.

All information listed above should be submitted to the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education no later than June 1st. Please contact the District Office (717)721-1400 with any questions.
INFORMATION RELEASE FORM

Date of Request ___________________

Name of Child __________________________________________ Date of Birth _____________

Home Address ____________________________________________

I, the parent / legal guardian of the child named above, give permission for the following records to be released:

- Achievement Results
- Psychological/Psychiatric Reports
- Evaluation Reports (ER)
- Medical Information
- Social Summaries

Records are being requested because I wish for my son or daughter to be granted early entrance to Kindergarten.

Records should be forwarded to:
Ephrata Area School District
ATTN: Dr. Jacy Clugston Hess
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education
803 Oak Boulevard, Ephrata, PA 17522
Fax: (717)-721-1514
E-mail: Jacy_Hess@easdpa.org
Phone: (717)-721-1513

I understand this release is specific to the information listed above. I further understand that I have the right to receive a copy of the information and schedule a District conference to review all results and Kindergarten guidelines.

___________________________________________  ________________  ________________________
Signature of Parent / Legal Guardian            Date                  Phone #