

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WAUZEKA-STEUBEN**

**ADMISSION INTO FIRST GRADE**

No child may be admitted to first grade unless s/he is six (5) years old on or before the first day of September in the year the child proposed to enter first grade and has completed the District's Five-Year-Old Kindergarten Program. A child may also be admitted to first grade without having completed five-year-old kindergarten if s/he has met the conditions and standards for admission to first grade or exemption from kindergarten outlined by District Standards.

The building principal in charge of first grade and a first grade admissions team will determine whether or not a child meets guidelines for admissions for first grade. A child who has **not** completed the District five-year-old kindergarten program may be admitted to first grade if he/she meets any of the following requirements:

1. Standards for District admissions to first grade/exemptions from kindergarten:
  - a. Successful completion of a public school five-year-old program or a five-year-old program that the district admissions team deems equivalent to the district offered five-year-old program.
  - b. Upon District assessment, the child demonstrates academic and developmental readiness skills expected for successful participation in first grade.
  - c. Before either commencing or completing first grade, the child moved to Wisconsin from a state, country or territory in which completion of five-year-old Kindergarten is not a prerequisite to entering first grade.
  - d. Before either commencing or completing first grade, the child moved to Wisconsin from a state, country or territory in which completion of five-year-old Kindergarten is a prerequisite to entering first grade and the child was exempt from the requirement to complete five-year-old kindergarten in the state, country, territory from which the child moved.
2. Conditions:
  - a. The child was admitted to and successfully completed Kindergarten under S.115.28 (8); or
  - b. The child successfully completed a program for five-year-old children which the District deems equivalent to Kindergarten; or
  - c. The child demonstrates the social, emotional, physical and mental maturity normally expected for successful participation in first grade.
3. Procedures:
  - a. Application shall be made by the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) to the local district administrator.
  - b. A personal interview shall be held to determine the parent(s)/legal guardian(s)'s reasons for requesting entrance prior to the legal age.

- c. An evaluation of the child's potential to benefit from early admission to school shall be required. A behavioral observation and academic screening will be completed by district personnel to assess: academic skills, emotional stability, social and mental maturity, and physical health. The individual evaluation shall be conducted by a certified school psychologist in conjunction with other pupil service workers. The evaluation shall be at no cost to the parent(s)/legal guardian(s).
  - d. After the evaluation has been completed, the results will be discussed between the staff involved in the evaluation and school administrators. At that time a decision will be made about whether early admission to first grade will be granted. A conference shall be held with the parent(s)/legal guardian(s), notifying them of the results of the evaluation and the subsequent decision.
4. Parent(s)/Legal guardian(s) who wish to appeal the decision may appeal directly to the Board of Education. The Board of Education of the School District of Wauzeka-Steuben has the final authority for deciding whether or not the child is to be admitted to first grade in accordance with the conditions and standards outlined in the above procedures.

**Legal References:** Wisconsin State Statutes §§ Sections 118.13, 118.14, 120.12(25), 118.33(6)(cm)

**Cross References:** Policies 342.1 Programs for Students with Disabilities, 411 Equal Educational Opportunities

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**Date Reviewed:**