

Early Entrance to Kindergarten Policy  
Nett Lake School District

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

- a. will turn 5 years of age between September 1 and October 15;
- b. are deemed by parents or guardians as being intellectually advanced and liked to benefit from advanced grade placement;

Parents interested in applying for early admission for their child should:

1. Obtain an Early Entrance to Kindergarten packet from the School Secretary.
2. Complete the required forms and attach a reference letter from someone who is well acquainted with your child but not related to any family member. The person writing the letter should know your child well enough that they can speak with some expertise about your child's attributes and abilities. The reference letter should indicate whether this person recommends your child be schooled with children who will be a year older than he/she is; if yes, what evidence would this person provide about your child that speaks to his/her mental ability, fine and gross motor ability, visual and auditory discrimination, emotional/social development, and communication skills. Suggestions for this reference are a preschool teacher, a day-care provider, or a physician.
3. Return the forms and the letter of reference to the Nett Lake School by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. The parent will schedule an evaluation for the child with a licensed psychologist of their choice at no cost to the school district.
5. The parent selected psychologist will provide a written report of findings and recommendations to the Superintendent.
6. Children who meet the assessment and other criteria may enroll for a six-week trial period to determine the appropriateness of the placement. During the trial period, the student's cognitive abilities, motor development, as well as social and emotional maturity will be observed and compared with previous assessment findings. A staffing with the parent will be held to review the appropriateness of the placement. The Title I teacher, Special Education teacher, and Classroom teacher will determine the appropriateness of the placement and may either continue the placement or change the placement to a more appropriate setting.
7. Parents who disagree with the findings of the school staff may appeal the decision in writing to the Superintendent who will have the final decision.

Required Criteria

1. Mental age—assessed to be within the very superior range (I.Q. 130+), using standardized instrument, e.g., Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scale, Differential

- Abilities Scales or Wechsler Preschool Primary Scales of Intelligence (latest norms).
2. Superior fine and gross motor coordination as determined by an adaptive measure, e.g., Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales.
  3. Superior social maturity to be in the superior range/99<sup>th</sup> percentile on an adaptive behavior measure, e.g., Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales, Scales of Independent Behavior, ABAS (latest norms).
  4. Completion of health forms, physical and required immunizations.
  5. Completion of Early Childhood Screening.
  6. Recommendation by psychologist who completed the evaluation by August 15<sup>th</sup>.