

## FIRST GRADE ADMISSION

JEBA

To be admitted to first grade in the School District of Neillsville, a child must be at least six years of age by September 1 of the year he/she proposes to enter first grade and have successfully completed 5-year-old kindergarten.

Admission to first grade under the age of six may be permitted if: (1) the child has successfully completed a 5-year-old kindergarten program or its equivalent, or (2) the child demonstrates the academic and developmental readiness skills expected for successful participation in first grade. Evidence must exist that the child's educational welfare would best be served by placement in first grade.

Exceptions to the entrance age and/or mandatory kindergarten completion requirements shall be granted under the following conditions:

1. The child has successfully completed an educational program for five-year-old children in a private school or licensed daycare center that the school district deems equivalent to public school 5-year-old kindergarten. Documentation of program completion shall be required.
2. The child demonstrates academic and developmental readiness skills expected for successful participation in first grade. Evidence must exist that the child's educational welfare would best be served by placement in first grade.
3. Before either commencing or completing first grade, the child moved into Wisconsin from a state, country, or territory in which completion of 5-year-old kindergarten is not a prerequisite to entering first grade.
4. Before either commencing or completing first grade, the child moved into Wisconsin from a state, country, or territory in which completion of 5-year-old kindergarten is a prerequisite to entering first grade and the child was exempted from the requirement to complete 5-year-old kindergarten in the state, country, or territory from which the child moved.

The decision to grant admission to first grade before the legal entrance age and/or without completion of 5-year-old kindergarten shall be made by the principal. The principal may consult with other school staff as appropriate when making this decision.

If first grade admission is denied under this policy, the child's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the principal's decision to the district administrator. The district administrator shall meet with the child's parent(s) or guardian(s) to discuss the first grade admission request, review relevant student data, and then make a decision regarding the child's first grade admission. The district administrator's decision shall be final.

A child who is of compulsory attendance age (six years old), who has not completed five-year-old kindergarten, and who has not been granted an exemption to the mandatory kindergarten completion requirement, shall be placed in 5-year-old kindergarten or be expected to meet compulsory attendance requirements through other means authorized by state law.

Initial Adoption: 12/20/10

Final Adoption: 1/17/11