



DUNELAND SCHOOL CORPORATION

KINDERGARTEN

Waiver of the August 1st Age Requirements 2021-2022 School Year

Indiana Code 20-33-2-7 continues to require a student to be at least five years of age on August 1 of the school year to participate in a Kindergarten program at a school corporation. Likewise, the Duneland School Corporation (DSC) Policy 5112 requires that a child entering kindergarten must be five (5) years of age on or before August 1, 2021, to qualify for entrance to kindergarten for the 2021-2022 school year.

However, DSC's Policy 5112 also permits a parent or legal guardian to request a waiver of the August 1 date if the child's fifth birthday falls between August 2 and September 30, 2021.

To apply for a waiver of the established age requirements, the following provisions must be followed. Students must successfully meet all of the provisions for early entrance as established by the Duneland School Corporation.

- A. **Birth Date:** The child's fifth birthday must fall on or between August 2 and September 30, 2021.
- B. **Complete request [form](#) on or before May 31, 2021**
- C. **School personnel will contact you to schedule an appointment with you and your child for kindergarten readiness screenings.**
- D. **Completion of Burks' Behavior Rating Scale:**
 - a. Upon receipt of the parent's request for early kindergarten entrance, the parents/guardians will be mailed two (2) copies of Burks' Behavior Rating Scale.
 - i. One copy of Burks' Behavior Rating Scale should be completed by at least one parent. If applicable, the second copy should be completed by a nursery school teacher, a daycare teacher, a preschool teacher, or babysitter. It is important that the person who completes this scale has experience with your child in an instructional setting.
 - ii. The completed Burks' Behavior Rating Scales are to be mailed or delivered to the Director of Teaching and Learning, K-6 at the Administration Building located at 601 W Morgan Avenue, Chesterton, IN 46304, as soon as possible in order to continue the process for early enrollment.
- E. **Please bring a copy of the child's birth certificate to your child's kindergarten readiness screening.**

- F. **Administration of Screenings:** In addition to the Burks' Behavior Rating Scales, the child will work one-on-one with a certified teacher or school counselor to take screenings listed below. These screenings will be administered at one of the elementary school buildings or Duneland Administration Building. You will be contacted to arrange a testing date and time.
- a. Administration of screenings takes approximately one hour and the child must separate from the parent(s) in order to take the test.
 - b. Each child will only be tested one time; therefore, it is important that you make sure that your child has had adequate food and rest, and is feeling well on the day of testing.
 - c. Results from this test will be forwarded to the Director of Teaching and Learning, K-6
 - i. **Kindergarten Sign Up Assessments**
 1. **Brigance Early Childhood Screen III:** The screening tool evaluates the key predictors of school success by addressing the domains of Physical Development, Language Development, Academic Skills/Cognitive Development, and Self-help and Social-Emotional Skills.
 2. **Minnesota Executive Functioning System:** Screens a child's neuro-cognitive skills needed for successful learning and performance in school, at work, and in life. They include cognitive flexibility, working memory, and inhibitory control.
 - ii. **Draw a Picture:** Drawing a picture assists with conversation and the 'interview.'
 - iii. **Interview:**
 1. **Parent-School:** School personnel will have an interview session with the parent/guardian; through conversation, school personnel will become acquainted with the parents/guardians to learn about the child.
 2. **Educator-Child:** As part of the assessment session, the educator will interview the child. Through conversation and simple activity, the educator will informally evaluate the child's level of maturity, social skills, fine motor skills, auditory and visual perception, and language skills.
- G. **Determination:** After the necessary data has been obtained, the decision whether or not to approve the appeal and enroll the child in the kindergarten program will be made by the Director of Teaching and Learning, K-6, with consultation from the principal and the certified test administrator.
- H. **Official Notification:**
- a. If the waiver is approved, the Director of Teaching and Learning, K-6 will inform the parents by letter and indicate how to proceed to enroll their child in kindergarten this fall.
 - b. If the waiver is not approved, the Director of Teaching and Learning, K-6 will inform the parents by letter to explain the reasons why their child will not be eligible and to inform them of the enrollment procedures when their child meets the age requirement.

- c. The admission and the continued matriculation of a child enrolled in kindergarten as an “early entrance” student will be subject to a staff review any time during the first grading period. Continuation in the program will be determined by the Director of Teaching and Learning, K-6 with consultation from the teacher and the building Principal.

I. Final Appeal:

- a. The parents/guardians may appeal to the Superintendent in writing within ten (10) days. The Superintendent’s ruling on the request for a waiver to the kindergarten entrance procedure will be final.

The Superintendent or designee may deny any waiver requested based on enrollment factors such as school capacity.