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PURPOSE:

To establish procedures for the effective, consistent and appropriate placement of children for Kindergarten and First Grade.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION:

As a pre-requisite for consideration for admission to the Lincoln Public Schools, a student must establish residency within the Lincoln School District.

Residency shall be established and documented in accordance with the RESIDENCY AND ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS POLICY (**JECB**). Any question of the legality of residency shall be referred to the Superintendent's office for verification, clarification and/or authorization to enroll.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT:

The Lincoln School Committee hereby adopts, without exception, for each child having established and documented residency in Lincoln, Rhode Island General Laws §16-2-27, as amended from time to time, which states that:

§ 16-2-27 Eligibility for attendance – Kindergarten. – Every child who has attained or will have attained five (5) years of age on or before September 1st of any school year shall be eligible to attend kindergarten during all of the days that the kindergartens are in session during the school year.

A child who will celebrate his/her fifth (5th) birthday on or before the state mandated date of September 1st of the year of desired admittance is eligible to be enrolled in Kindergarten.

~~REQUIREMENTS FOR EARLY ADMISSION TO KINDERGARTEN:~~

~~A child who will celebrate his/her fifth (5th) birthday on or before October 1st of the year of desired admittance may be placed in Kindergarten when all of the following criteria are met:-~~

- ~~1. The child's parent(s) or guardian(s) has, on or before May 1st of the year of desired enrollment, notified the Superintendent of Schools IN WRITING of the desire for his/her child's early admission to Kindergarten; and~~
- ~~2. The child has been enrolled in a public pre-school or a center-based pre-school program for at least one (1) year; and~~
- ~~3. The parent(s) or guardian(s) submits record of a physical, vision and hearing assessment completed within six (6) months of the request for early admission. These assessments may be recorded as part of the physical or may be conducted separately; and~~
- ~~4. The child's parent(s)/ guardian(s) agrees to submit his or her child to an appropriate evaluation of academic and social maturity performed by the Lincoln Public Schools, the results of which indicate that the child has a good chance for success in early Kindergarten admission; and~~

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~~5. The Lincoln Public Schools has sufficient Kindergarten classroom space available within the Kindergarten classrooms of the Lincoln Public Schools, which availability shall be on a first come first serve basis, in which to place the child without causing the need for additional staffing.~~

FIRST GRADE ENROLLMENT

The Lincoln School Committee hereby adopts, without exception, for each child having established and documented residency in Lincoln, Rhode Island General Laws §16-2-28, as amended from time to time, which states that:

§16-2-28 Eligibility for attendance – first grade (Effective January 1, 2006) – Every child who has completed or will have completed six (6) years of life on or before September 1st of any school year shall be eligible to attend first grade during all the days that the public schools are in session during the school year. Every child shall be eligible to attend first grade only upon completion of a state recognized or accredited kindergarten program. A child who will celebrate his/her sixth (6th) birthday on or before the state mandated date of September 1st is eligible to be enrolled in First Grade in that school year.

A child that has completed the kindergarten program in a state recognized or accredited kindergarten program during the prior school year shall be eligible to be enrolled in the First Grade in the next school year.

~~REQUIREMENTS FOR EARLY ADMISSION TO FIRST GRADE~~

~~A child entering the Lincoln Public Schools for the first time and celebrating his/her sixth (6th) birthday on or before October 1st of the year of desired admission, may be enrolled in a first grade class when all of the following criteria are met:~~

- ~~1. The child's parent(s) or guardian(s) must notify the Superintendent of Schools — IN WRITING of the desire for his/her child's early admission to First Grade; and~~
- ~~2. The parent(s) or guardian(s) submits record of physical, vision, and hearing assessments completed within six (6) months of the request for early admission. These assessments may be recorded as part of the physical or conducted separately; and~~
- ~~3. The Lincoln Public Schools has sufficient First Grade classroom space available within the First Grade classrooms of the Lincoln Public Schools, which availability shall be on a first come first serve basis, in which to place the child without causing the need for additional staffing.~~

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Students who transfer into the Lincoln Public School District from an accredited school or district and have completed an approved Kindergarten program are exempt from this policy regarding age for attendance in the first grade.

Other Grades – Admission of children to other than kindergarten and first grade shall involve a consideration of both chronological age and the readiness of children to do the work of those grades, except in cases of marked disability.

Legal Reference

Rhode Island General Laws [§§16-2-27, 16-2-28](#) and [16-2-28.1](#)

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Revised Policy Adopted:

TOWN OF LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE, Lincoln, Rhode Island