

As part of its educational program, the Kearsarge Regional School District serves a broad continuum of learners. Our mission is to “provide an equitable and challenging educational opportunity for each learner.” Occasionally, in order to customize the educational experience for some students, it becomes necessary to consider the student’s need for early enrollment. Policy JEB and this related procedure were developed to provide a consistent set of procedures and outcomes to address common expectations when making referrals, recommendations, and decisions about early enrollment.

*(Please note that this policy relates solely to decisions regarding early enrollment of students who are not already matriculated at KRSD. Decisions about student acceleration of learning should follow policy IGA and procedure IGA-R)*

### **Operating Principles for Early Enrollment**

1. Students requiring early enrollment should be expected to achieve, relative to their new grade level peers, at a high level that is generally comparable to their peers’ performance. Such students are typically among the top 10% in a class, and they should be expected to remain in the top 10% throughout their academic careers (Assouline, et al, 2009).
2. Early enrollment should either have a positive impact on social and behavioral adjustment or maintain the student’s same level of (appropriate) social and behavioral adjustment. Early enrollment should not negatively impact social and behavioral adjustment.
3. Recommendations and decisions about early enrollment will be based upon a thorough, team-based review of the factors relevant to early enrollment (e.g. age, interpersonal skills, emotional development, physical development, parental support, educational support, student interest).

### **Referral and Evaluation**

Students being considered for early enrollment must be referred to the building administrator by the parent or legal guardian. The parent will be required by the administrator to schedule and complete a battery of assessments at the parent’s or guardian’s expense. The battery will evaluate the child in the areas of social, emotional, physical, and academic abilities. (See Appendix A)

Results of the evaluation must be presented to the school principal. Upon receipt of the assessment results, the building principal will convene a Child Study Team to include the building principal, psychologist, kindergarten teacher, and other education professionals deemed necessary for a particular student’s case (e.g., occupational therapist or guidance). To qualify as a need for early enrollment, students must earn scores at or above the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile band in all areas of assessment.

The Child Study Team will meet to review the available student information and make a recommendation to the Superintendent or designee for acceptance or denial of early enrollment. The Superintendent or designee will then inform the parent or guardian of his / her decision in writing.

The decision of the Superintendent relating to enrollment will be final.

Appendix A:

**Required Battery of Evaluations for Consideration of Early Enrollment:**

| <b>Area of Assessment</b>                               | <b>Assessed By</b>                     | <b>Recommended Instrument</b>                 |
|---|--|---|
| <b><i>Cognitive Ability</i></b>                         | Psychologist                           | Stanford-Binet 5 <sup>th</sup> Ed.<br>DAS II  |
| <b><i>Social-Emotional / Behavioral Development</i></b> | Psychologist                           | BASC-2,<br>Achenbach Child Behavior Checklist |
| <b><i>Gross Motor Development</i></b>                   | Occupational Therapist<br>Pediatrician | BOT-2 (Long or Short Form)<br>Beery VMI       |
| <b><i>Fine Motor Development</i></b>                    | Occupational Therapist<br>Pediatrician | BOT-2 (Long or Short Form)<br>Beery VMI       |
| <b><i>Physical Health</i></b>                           | Pediatrician                           | Clinical Observation                          |

Law Reference: RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil

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