

## EARLY ADMISSION PROGRAM

The Board of Education has an adopted policy allowing children in Independent School District 728 to enter kindergarten if their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday is on or before September 1. Although chronological age is generally the factor used to determine eligibility for admission, some parents question whether their younger children may be ready for kindergarten sooner. The Early Admissions Program makes it possible for exceptional children to be considered for early admission if they turn five years of age between September 1 and October 15 and if they make an application prior to June 1st.

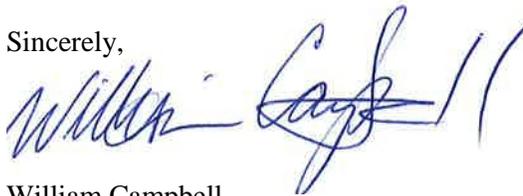
If parents feel that their child's total development is superior to most children of the same age and feel their child can compete with older children, they may apply for early admissions. The early entrant must speak plainly; express themselves well, and be sufficiently outgoing to associate with older children. (They may be competing in school with children who are over a year older than they are.) Philosophically, the school feels it should be able to work with any child when he/she arrives at school (including exceptional children), thus reducing the need for special placement.

If you as a parent feel that your child is exceptional:

1. Complete the attached application and "Do-It-Yourself Assessment Checklist." Responses should indicate the child is exceptional. Answer the questions as completely as possible. Send them to the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services along with a copy of your child's birth certificate. (Please send a copy and not an original.)
2. If the parent wishes to proceed with the early admission procedure, an appointment will be made (usually scheduled in June) for the child to go through a "developmental profile." Parents will incur the cost for this. The 2021-22 cost for this test is \$200.00 and payment needs to be submitted at the time of the application. Results and information from the developmental profile will be used to help determine the best plan for your child. This testing procedure is intended to determine your child's developmental readiness.
3. Dependent upon the information on the application and "Do-It Yourself Assessment Checklist" and the results of the developmental profile, a recommendation by the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services will be made as to whether or not to accept your child as an early entrant. If not accepted, parents (at their own expense) may pursue psychological testing from a certified psychologist. A recommendation by the psychologist regarding the child's readiness for early admission needs to be sent to the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services. Upon completion of the above, a committee from the district (Educational Services Assistant Superintendent, principal, kindergarten teacher and evaluator from #3 above) will reconsider its previous recommendation based on the new information and provide the parents with a decision.

No child will be admitted unless it can be reasonably determined that they are **intellectually superior** and socially competent with older children. In the event that parents question the recommendation regarding their child, they may request a meeting to discuss the recommendation with the Superintendent of Schools. The final decision for determining early admission will rest with the school district.

Sincerely,



William Campbell

Superintendent of Educational Services