SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

No: 201

SECTION: PUPILS TITLE: ADMISSION OF BEGINNERS ADOPTED: MAY 20, 1998

REVISED: MAY 18, 2005; FEBRUARY 17, 2010; JANUARY 11, 2012;

MARCH 21, 2012; APRIL 6, 2022

201. ADMISSION OF BEGINNERS

1. Purpose

The Board shall establish age requirements for the admission of beginners which are consistent with statute, state regulations, and sound educational practice and which ensure the equitable treatment of all eligible children.

2. Authority

The Superintendent or designee shall require that the parent/guardian of each student who registers for entrance to school shall submit proof of age, residency, and required immunizations.

3. Guidelines

Beginners are students entering the lowest grade of the primary school above the kindergarten level. Beginners shall be admitted to school during the first two (2) weeks of the annual school term and thereafter at the district's discretion. A child who is eight (8) years of age shall be admitted to school at any time during the school year.

Admission to Kindergarten

Admission to kindergarten will be granted to children who have obtained the age of five (5) years on or before August 31 of the forthcoming year.

Admission to First Grade

It is the policy of the Shaler Area School District that resident pupils who present birth certification or adequate verification that they are six (6) years of age on or before August 31 of the forthcoming school year shall be admitted to first grade at the opening of the term. Any child who enters first grade and has not attended kindergarten in the Shaler Area School District will be required to have a developmental screening test.

Underage Transfers of Children During the School Year

It shall be the policy of the Shaler Area School District to not accept the early admission of children to Kindergarten. Also, a child who is a Shaler Area resident when they start kindergarten at another private, parochial or charter school that might permit enrollment at an earlier age start than Shaler Area may not enter the Shaler system in Kindergarten during that school year.

It shall be the policy of the Shaler Area School District to consider the acceptance of children who move into the community from another school district into first grade if the child has started school in first grade in another school but is under-age according to the established admission policy of the Shaler Area School District under the following conditions:

- 1. Upon verification of previous grade assignment and proof of satisfactory progress, said child will be placed according to transfer papers.
- 2. If after a trial period of ten (10) school days a transfer student's progress has been judged as unsatisfactory, a parental conference will be held with recommendation made for a more age-appropriate placement. The School District specifically reserves the right to make the final determination for placement.

Transfer Upon Completion of First Grade in Another System

Any child who has completed first grade in another school system will be admitted to second grade without regard to age, upon satisfactory documentation from the sending school system.

4. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall require that each child who registers for entrance to school exhibit his/her birth certificate or similar documentation as proof of age and birthdate and required immunizations. The parent/guardian must also provide proof of residency.

References: School Code - 24 P.S. Sec. 503, 1301, 1304, 1326

State Board of Education Regulations - 22 PA Code Sec. 4.41, 11.12, 11.14, 11.15, 11.16, 11.41

Board Policy - 200, 203