

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Ohio law (O.R. C. Section 3313.64) provides that our school system shall be open and free to all school residents between five (5) and twenty-two (22) years of age. In addition, provision is also made in O.R.C. Section 3321.01 that a child between five (5) and eighteen (18) years of age is of compulsory school age. Students who do not legally qualify as residents may be required to pay tuition as established by law and Board policy.

A student is considered a resident of the District if he/she resides with a parent, a grandparent with either power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit or a person or government agency with legal custody whose place of residence is within the boundaries of the District.

New entrants at all grade levels are required to present at the time of enrollment a birth certificate or other document as evidence of birth, a certified copy of any child custody order or decree, proof of having received or being in the process of receiving required immunizations to be completed no later than the day of entrance. (see immunizations requirement) and copies of those records pertaining to him/her which are maintained by the school most recently attended.

In addition, students released from the Department of Youth Services (DYS) just prior to requesting admission to the District, may not be admitted until the Superintendent has received all required documents provided by DYS. Forwarded documents are:

1. an updated copy of the student's transcript;
2. a report of the student's behavior in school while in DYS custody;
3. the student's current individualized education program (IEP), if developed, and;
4. a summary of the institutional record of the student's behavior.

DYS has 14 days to send the documents to the Superintendent.

A. Age Requirements

No child is eligible to be admitted to kindergarten or to the first grade unless he is five (5) or six (6) years of age, respectively, on or before the first day of August of the year of admittance. A child who does not meet the age requirement but will be 5 or 6 years old, respectively, prior to January 1 of the school year in which admission is requested, may be admitted by necessary standards, as determined by an educationally accepted standardized testing program available through the school system's office of student (pupil personnel) services. (see procedure 9.01a3) Following the procedure in accordance with a referral, the Superintendent/designee decides whether to admit the child.

In accordance with ORC Section 3321.01(A)(3), the Board adopts August 1, instead of September 30, as the date by which a child must be five (5) years of age to be admitted under Section 3321.02(A)(2) to kindergarten and six (6) years of age to be admitted to first grade. The Board also adopts August 1, instead of September 30, as the date by which a child must be at least six (6) years of age in order to be considered for a waiver under ORC Section 3321.01(D) of the general requirement that kindergarten must be completed before admission to first grade. (See Procedure 9.01a3 – Age Admission to Kindergarten and First Grade Procedure.)

A person over twenty-two (22) years of age who resides in the school district, but has not completed his/her education, may do so tuition free with the permission of the high school principal and superintendent.

B. Screening and Kindergarten Requirements

Prior to November 1 of the school year in which a pupil is enrolled for the first time in either kindergarten or first grade, the pupil must be screened for hearing, vision, speech and communications, health or medical problems, and developmental disorders.

To be admitted to first grade, the pupil's parent or guardian must (1) submit evidence that he/she has successfully completed kindergarten, or (2) received a waiver of mandatory kindergarten from the district's Student Services committee.

C. Immunization Requirements

No pupil at their initial entry or at the beginning of each school year, shall be permitted to remain in school for more than 14 school days unless such pupil has presented written evidence, satisfactory to the person in charge of admission, that the pupil has received or is in the process of receiving immunization against polio myelitis, rubeola, diphtheria, rubella (German Measles), Meningococcal, chicken pox, mumps, Hepatitis B, pertussis, and tetanus by such means of immunization as may be approved by the Ohio Department of Health and according to their schedule. Exceptions to this rule, which are acceptable, are that the pupil has presented (1) a written statement of the parent or guardian objecting to such immunization for good cause including religious convictions or (2) a written statement from a physician certifying that such immunization is medically contradicted, (3) females who have reached puberty are exempt from the rubella (German Measles) requirement, or (4) a pupil who has had natural rubeola, mumps or chicken pox and presents a signed statement from his parents or physician is not required to be immunized against these preventable illnesses. (see O.R.C. Section 3313.671) (5) MMR immunization needs to be administered prior to a student beginning school at the 7th grade level. (6) A dose of MCV4 (meningococcal) must be administered prior to entry into grade 7 and 2 doses are required prior to entry into grade 12.

Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, students must receive the meningococcal vaccine in accordance with the Ohio Department of Health schedule. The Ohio Department of health website provides a chart summarizing the school enrollment immunization requirements for each fall.

D. Admission – Student Attendance Accounting

A pupil, at the time of his/her initial entry to school, shall present to the person in charge of admission a copy of his/her certificate of birth and copies of those records pertaining to him/her maintained by the school that he/she most recently attended. If the student does not present copies of the required documents, the principal shall notify the police department having jurisdiction in the area where the student resides.

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