



Early Entrance to Kindergarten

The Ohio Department of Education has designated September 30th as the date on which a child must be five years of age to enter kindergarten. The Ohio Department of Education further states that upon request of the parent or guardian, each child who desires kindergarten enrollment but will be five years of age after September 30th but on or before December 31st, shall be evaluated by means of an educationally accepted testing program.

Referrals for consideration for Early Entrance to Kindergarten must be received by Dr. Angie Thompson by June 30th of the school year for which the parent is seeking early entrance.

Like the Ohio Department of Education, the Kings Local School District views early entrance to school as a serious judgment that may affect the child for many years. Judgment is based on the criteria set forth by the State guidelines. In keeping with these guidelines, the child's mental ability, speech and language development, general health, and visual-motor skills will be assessed. All recommendations are made with the goal being to place the child in the very best situation possible to insure that his/her school experience is both pleasant and successful.

The Kings Local School District uses a two-step process for early entrance consideration. First, a screening will inform the team if the child is likely to be a good candidate for early entrance. If so, then the child will continue with the full evaluation process. The team decides, after the full evaluation, whether or not a child is ready emotionally, socially, and intellectually for an early start to school. Each parent should carefully examine the reasons for requesting early entrance. Very few students considered are recommended for an early start. Studies indicate that children who test exceptionally high make the best candidates for early entrance to Kindergarten.

If you wish to request early entrance, call Dr. Angie Thompson at 398-8050 (ext. 10005) or email at athompson@kingslocal.net.