

Great Expectations School

ENROLLMENT POLICY – Approved May 19, 2016

Initial Enrollment:

In collaboration with school staff, the board of directors will establish enrollment deadlines and program, grade level, and classroom capacities annually. Great Expectations School (GES) will enroll any eligible pupil who submits a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds its capacity in any area. In this case, pupils will be accepted by lot, with the following given preference for enrollment before accepting additional pupils by lot (listed in order of priority):

Siblings of an enrolled pupil or foster children of an enrolled pupil's parents.*
Children or foster children of current GES staff.

*By law, "enrolled pupil" includes students who are enrolled via prior lottery selection.

Once enrollment is established for the upcoming term, however, no preferential classroom placements will be made. Under no circumstances will GES limit admission on the basis of intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability.

Students who will turn 5 years old after September 1st of the school year may be admitted to kindergarten at the discretion of the school Director, in collaboration with the kindergarten teacher, the student's parents, and Early Childhood professionals. Such students will be admitted only after all eligible students turning 5 years old prior to September 1st of the school year have been given priority.

Early admission kindergarten candidates will be assessed through a comprehensive evaluation used to determine the kindergarten candidates' cognitive, social, and emotional development and the child's ability to meet kindergarten expectations. This evaluation is valid, reliable, aligned with state kindergarten expectations, and includes a parent report and teacher observations of the child's knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Pupils participating in the lot selection who are not accepted for enrollment will be placed on the Enrollment Waiting List in order of their enrollment priority and lot selection. Eligible pupils who apply for enrollment after the annual application deadline will be placed on the class roster or Enrollment Waiting List in order of their enrollment priority and application date.

Following the application deadline, GES will notify pupils of their application status. Pupils must be enrolled within 14 days of notification of acceptance or forfeit their placement.

Automatic Un-enrollment and Re-enrollment:

In compliance with Minnesota Department of Education policy, a student absent 15 consecutive school days, whether or not excused, will be automatically withdrawn and GES will not receive funding for that pupil until they are re-enrolled. If a pupil is un-enrolled -- either by transfer,

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withdrawal, or automatically due to absence -- a vacancy will be created which will be filled by eligible pupils on the Enrollment Waiting List, according to their priority order on the list.

Students returning within the same fiscal year will be re-enrolled on a space-available basis or be assigned the applicable spot on the Enrollment Waiting List.

Process for Lot Selection:

Drawing will be done for all classrooms together in a random fashion. All students will be drawn and placed in the applicable spot on the class roster or Enrollment Waiting List. Preferences will be given for siblings of students placed on a class roster based on space availability or prior lot selection.