

NOTICE / PRESS RELEASE



Westford Public Schools , Westford, MA

Is your child entering kindergarten next year?

Is your child currently attending private kindergarten with the intention of transferring to Westford Public Schools for grade 1?

If so, please attend EARLY REGISTRATION at the Miller, Nabnasset, and Robinson Schools

Tuesday evening, March 1, from 6 to 8 & Wednesday morning, March 2, from 9 to 12 Noon

In accordance with Massachusetts Board of Education regulations, each child must attend school beginning in September of the calendar year in which he/she attains the age of six (6). Each child is required to attend school until reaching the age of sixteen (16).

Parents/Guardians should bring proof of residency (driver's license or utility bill), the registrant's health record, and birth certificate to show eligibility. The following is the entrance age policy (P5101) revised by the School Committee on November 10, 2008:

“Kindergarten – A child who is five (5) years of age, on or before September 1st, is eligible to enter kindergarten. The Superintendent will not waive the age requirement for kindergarten entrance. Parents and legal guardians retain the right to request that their child be assessed for entrance into first grade in the following year.

Grade 1 – A child who is six (6) years of age on or before September 1st is eligible to enter first grade. If space permits, the Superintendent may waive the age requirement for entering first grade. Parents/guardians seeking an exception to the age requirement must,

- Notify the building principal in writing.
- Agree to bear any costs associated with, including the administration of the Westford Public Schools grade readiness assessment process.
- Provide the school with any requested school records.”

A physical examination and a completed “Massachusetts School Health Record” are required before a child enters school. No child shall be admitted to kindergarten without presenting a physician's certificate as proof of complete immunization. Every child must have received five doses of Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus (DPT), four doses of Polio, two Measles, Mumps and Rubella, 3 doses of Hepatitis B and 1 dose of Varicella (chicken pox), unless exempted for medical or religious reasons. They must also show proof of a Lead Screening. We urge you to contact your physician as soon as possible after registration to meet this deadline.

The Massachusetts Department of Education requires the individual screening of kindergarten children for the determination of special needs assistance. To comply with this regulation, all enrolled kindergarten children will be screened in September-October 2011. Plans for this procedure will be shared with you at a later date in an announcement from the school principal and the Director of Pupil Services.