



January 17, 2023


TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Approval of Revisions to the School Entrance Age Policy

Recommendation: That the School Committee approve the revisions to the School Entrance Age Policy as detailed in the attached document.

Description: This is a first reading of revisions to the School Entrance Age Policy.

Supporting Data: The School Entrance Age Policy

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Victoria L. Greer, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools

**File: JEB - SCHOOL ENTRANCE AGE**

1. Cambridge Public Schools will ~~continue to~~ admit children for preschool who are 4 3 years by April 1st and ~~and 5 months~~ and 4 years at the start of school in September.
2. Cambridge Public Schools will admit children for kindergarten who are 5 years old by August 31st prior to the September that the student enters kindergarten.
- ~~2.3.~~ Cambridge Public Schools will admit children for first grade who are 6 years old by ~~implement a change in the entrance age for first grade to six years old by~~ August 31st prior to the September that the student enters grade one.
- ~~3.4.~~ The Cambridge Public Schools will pilot implement a ~~separate pre-kindergarten~~ program that is "research based" and provides language rich language educational experiences for children ~~who are at least 4 years and 5 months old by the September they enter school~~ entering preschool and kindergarten who meet the above criteria. ~~In schools implementing this pilot, children would not repeat kindergarten. They would spend a year in the Pre-K room if they were under five years old at the start of school and then proceed to Kindergarten the next fall. Students who are enrolled in schools not implementing the Pilot Pre-K Program will be provided the current Junior Kindergarten program in their Kindergarten classroom.~~
- ~~4.5.~~ The Cambridge Public Schools, ~~in collaboration with our families and community, will work to ensure that all children will be given opportunities to participate in quality early childhood programs.~~ Will provide opportunities to choose to attend a high quality preschool program within the Cambridge Public Schools as part of the Universal Preschool mixed delivery preschool model for the City of Cambridge.
- ~~5.~~ ~~Teachers of current pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grade 1 classes will be given professional development opportunities in implementing best practices in early childhood education.~~
6. The Cambridge Public Schools will move toward and maintain National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation in all ~~of JK~~ Preschool and Kindergarten programs.
- ~~7.~~ ~~The Cambridge Department of Early Elementary Education in collaboration with CPS The Zero to Eight Council (formerly the Early Childhood Advisory Council) will continue to study~~

~~the issues of accessibility to and quality of preschool/pre-school programs for all of Cambridge's three and four year olds.~~

~~*Adopted: May 21, 2002*~~

~~*Suggested revisions presented to the School Committee: January 17, 2023*~~