**Albert Gallatin Area School District**

**Early Childhood**

**Administrative Procedure**

**Philosophy**

The objective of the Pre-kindergarten Educating Program in the Albert Gallatin Area School District is to provide the opportunity for all children to successfully enter school. Ensuring readiness for all children requires preparing children for kindergarten; preparing kindergarten for children; and facilitating the transition between preschool programs, home, and kindergarten. The Pre-kindergarten Education Program strives to provide high quality experiences that address all aspects of child development, including social, emotional, and intellectual growth. Efforts will be placed on affording all children the opportunity to succeed in kindergarten.

**Screening and Assessment**

A screening and assessment process, including vision, hearing, speech, and academic readiness will be conducted at kindergarten registration. Students who may need more instruction (readiness skills) will be identified prior to kindergarten. A comprehensive evaluation tool will be used to assess each child. All students will be offered participation in the District Summer School Program. The principal, and parent will discuss the evaluation results of testing. The principal is responsible to compile all written data collected on each student during registration (speech, vision, etc.)

**Summer School Guidelines**

Summer School in the district will be available to any student who will be attending school in the fall in grades K – 2. Summer school will be strongly recommended for all kindergarten students attending in the fall.

**Summer School Services**

Services provided during the Pre-kindergarten Summer School Program will focus on a developmentally appropriate curriculum, which will meet the readiness needs of each child. A planned course will be followed.

**Early Admission Criteria**

 School district psychologist will review with family what the district’s criteria for early admission entails. A psychologist will then conduct a comprehensive evaluation of intellectual functioning and the Bracken School Readiness Composite. The psychologist report will be reviewed by the district psychologist and guidance department to determine child’s eligibility via the districts’ Early Entrance Matrix.

The Child must be five (5) by November 30 of school year. Child three (3) months or less from the age limit is required to earn 4 points on the district’s Early Entrance Matrix, which takes into account both intellectual ability and school readiness skills.

**Early Entrance to Kindergarten Matrix**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Point Value | Full Scale Standard Score (IQ) | Bracken School Readiness Composite (Standard Score) |
| 3 | 125 + | 125 + |
| 2 | 120-124 | 120-124 |
| 1 | 115-119 | 115-119 |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ = Score

\*A Score of 4 or more is needed to be accepted for Early Entrance to Kindergarten.