



Fleming Administration Building  
18501 Waltham  
Detroit, Michigan 48205  
313.347.8923

## Memorandum

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**To:** Principals of Prekindergarten Programs  
**From:** Alycia Meriweather, Interim Superintendent *AM*  
**Date:** March 16, 2016  
**RE: KINDERGARTEN WAIVER INFORMATION**

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The State Legislature recently amended the Revised School Code (MCL 380.1147), changing the enrollment age for kindergarten students. Beginning with the 2015-16 school year and moving forward, all students must be age 5 by September 1 of the current school year in order to enroll in kindergarten. However, if a student will be age 5 between September 2 and December 1 of the current school year and the parent notifies (completes a waiver) the district/PSA that they are enrolling their child in kindergarten and provides proof of age, they may enroll their child. This process will stay in place until there is a change in legislation.

**Note:** Parents with a child missing the “cut-off” are being offered the option of signing a waiver.

### Parent Waiver Option

If the child is not eligible for enrollment per the guidelines specified above and will be five years old by December 1<sup>st</sup>, the child’s parent or legal guardian can apply for a waiver to enroll their student in school.

- When in receipt of a waiver, principals can make recommendations to the child’s parent or legal guardian, as to the child’s readiness for school, and whether or not the child should be enrolled early.
- Regardless of a district’s recommendation, the parent or legal guardian retains the sole discretion to enroll their child.

Accompanying this email are the required forms for the enrollment process. Should you have any questions, please contact Student Information for additional support.

*/gfc*  
*Attachments (2)*

xc: *Wilma Taylor-Costen*  
*Anita Totty*  
*Network Leaders*

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Kindergarten Waiver Request for 2016-2017 School Year

According to Michigan Law (MCL 380.1147), if a child residing in **City of Detroit** is not five years of age on September 1, 2016, but will be five years of age not later than December 1, 2016, the parent or legal guardian of that child may enroll the child in kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year if the parent or legal guardian notifies the school district in writing not later than June 1, 2016, that he or she intends to enroll the child in kindergarten. If a child becomes a resident of the **City of Detroit** after June 1, the child's parent or legal guardian may enroll the child in kindergarten for that school year if the parent or legal guardian submits this written notification not later than August 1, 2016 under this subsection.

A school district that receives this written notification may make a recommendation to the parent or legal guardian as to whether the child is not ready to enroll in kindergarten due to the child's age or other factors. Regardless of the district recommendation, the parent or legal guardian retains the sole discretion to determine whether or not to enroll the child in kindergarten if the student is five years of age not later than December 1, 2016.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Verification of Age:** (Check one)  Birth Certificate  Government Record  Hospital Record  
 Court Record  Citizenship Paper  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Specify)

**Evidence of School Readiness (provided by parent):**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian's Printed Name** **Parent/Guardian's Signature** **Date**

### Detroit Public Schools Recommendation

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree with the recommendation of the parent(s) to enroll in Kindergarten.  
*Principal Name*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, recommend kindergarten begin in September 2016 for the following reasons:  
*Principal Name*

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Principal's Signature** **Date**



# Detroit Public Schools Foundation for Early Learners

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Dear Parent/Guardian;

I \_\_\_\_\_ am hereby formally requesting a waiver that will allow my  
(Name)

Child to be enrolled into Kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year. My child was enrolled in the  
DPS Prekindergarten class listed below for the 2015-2016 school year.

**(Please Print)**

Child's Name	School	PreK Program GSRP or Title I	Child's Birthdate Must turn 5 between Sept. 1 – Dec. 1, 2016

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Signature \_\_\_\_\_