

## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** February 24, 2026

**NUMBER:** 26-085

**FR:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Proposed  
Revisions to BP 5111  
Admission; First Reading

### **STRATEGIC PLAN/BOARD GOAL:**

Track 1: Operational Improvements  
*Initiative: Optimize Business Practices*

### **ABSTRACT:**

Board policy revisions require Board approval.

### **ISSUE:**

At issue is to approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BP 5111 Admission and open for public comments.

### **BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board.

This is the first reading of the proposed revisions to BP 5111 Admission within the Students series.

This policy update reflects current statutory rules on when a student may begin school, based on their age at admission. It also includes the statutory provision stating that students who are suspended or expelled are not guaranteed admission.

The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes, recommends approval and to open for public comments.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BP 5111 Admission as presented and open for public comments;
2. Do not approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BP 5111 as presented;
3. Take no final action.

### **ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The administration recommends the Board approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BP 5111 Admission as presented and open for public comments.

## BP 5111 ADMISSION

**Note:** Pursuant to [4 AAC 06.060](#), authority to deny admission to a student is vested with the School Board. The following sample policy authorizes the Superintendent or designee to deny admission to children who don't meet established entrance requirements.

The School Board believes that all children should have the opportunity to receive a free appropriate public education. Staff shall encourage parents/guardians to enroll all school-aged children in school.

The School Board reserves the right to verify the residency or anticipated residency of any student and the validity of any affidavit of guardianship. These admission policies are not intended to be a barrier to the enrollment and retention of homeless children and youth.

The Superintendent or designee shall verify compliance with all entrance requirements established by law or School Board policy.

Students subject to suspension or expulsion under AS 13.03.160 in the District or another district are not guaranteed admission.

(cf. 5112.6 - Education for Homeless Children and [Children in Foster Care Youths](#))

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

(cf. 5116 - School Attendance Boundaries)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

**Note:** A child who is six years of age on or before September 1 following the beginning of the school year, and who is under the age of 20 and has not completed the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, is of school age. [AS 14.03.070](#). The school year begins on July 1 and ends June 30. ~~Pursuant to [AS 14.03.080](#), the School Board may admit children under school age who meet School Board standards of mental, physical, and emotional capacity necessary to perform satisfactorily in school and may admit children under school age to kindergarten, as provided below. In 2003, the legislature amended the early entrance statute for the purpose of clarifying that two-year kindergarten programs are not authorized. Districts with early entry into kindergarten must have an~~

~~educational program prescribing that under school age students advance through the curriculum or grade level by the following school year. This is a programmatic requirement and is not meant to limit individualized student assessment. In 2004, the early entrance statute was again amended to provide School Boards with the option of delegating early entrance decisions to the Superintendent or designee. The School Board may establish a kindergarten class for children who are five on or before September 1 following the beginning of the school year; must admit children under school age who move into the district and who were previously enrolled in public school in another district or state; and may admit students over school age and charge them tuition.~~

A child five years of age on or before September 1 may be admitted to kindergarten.

### ~~Early Admission~~

There is no early admission for pre-kindergarten.

Students in kindergarten and above are eligible for early admission through the acceleration process.

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

The Superintendent or designee is the delegated authority to make early-entrance determinations. The School Board authorizes the admission of students under school age who are at least four years of age at the beginning of the school year, provided they exhibit the mental, physical, and emotional capacity to perform satisfactorily, including advancement through the curriculum or grade level by the following year.

The cutoff date to apply for early admission to kindergarten will be ten (10) school days after school opening.

~~The School Board authorizes the admission of students under school age who exhibit the ability to perform satisfactorily, including advancement through the curriculum or grade level by the following year. The Superintendent or designee is delegated authority to make early entrance determinations.~~ Students under school age who were previously enrolled in public school shall be admitted to school at the grade level determined by the Superintendent or designee. (AS 14.03.080)

Legal Reference:

### ALASKA STATUTES

[14.30.010](#) When attendance compulsory

[14.03.020](#) School year

[14.03.070](#) School age

[14.03.080](#) Right to attend school

[14.30.045](#) Grounds for suspension or denial of admission

[14.03.160](#) Suspension or expulsion of students for possessing weapons

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

[4 AAC 06.055](#) Immunizations required

UNITED STATES CODE

[42 U.S.C. 11432 - 11433](#) McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

~~Revised: July 28, 2004~~

~~June 11, 2018~~

Adopted: April 28, 2004

Revised: July 28, 2004

Revised: June 11, 2018

Revised:

**Northwest Arctic Borough School District**